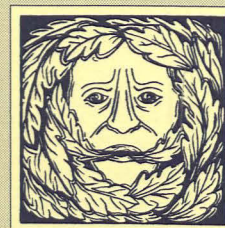


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ON LAND AT GOLL GRANGE,  
COWBIT,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(CGG 02)**

Conservation  
Services  
24 MAR 2003  
Highways & Planning  
Directorate



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
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SERVICES

EVENT LI4206  
MON 22093  
SOURCES LI 8720 , LI 8721

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ON LAND AT GOLL GRANGE,  
COWBIT,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(CGG 02)**

**Work Undertaken For  
Lincolnshire County Council**  
under the supervision of



January 2003

Report Compiled by  
Paul Cope-Faulkner BA (Hons) AIFA

National Grid Reference: TF 2688 1681  
City and County Museum Accession No: 2002.502

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT SERVICES**



A.P.S. Report No. 6/03

CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Plates

1. SUMMARY.....	1
2. INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.1 DEFINITION OF AN EVALUATION .....	1
2.2 PLANNING BACKGROUND.....	1
2.3 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY .....	2
2.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING.....	2
3. AIMS.....	3
4. METHODS.....	3
5. RESULTS.....	3
6. DISCUSSION.....	8
7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE.....	10
8. CONCLUSIONS.....	11
9. PUBLICATION.....	11
10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	11
11. PERSONNEL.....	11
12. BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	11
13. ABBREVIATIONS.....	12

Appendices

1	Context Descriptions
2	The Finds by <i>Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey, Barbara Precious and Gary Taylor</i>
3	An Evaluation of Plant Macrofossils, Mollusc Shells and other remains from Goll Grange, Cowbit, Lincolnshire by <i>Val Fryer</i>
4	A Note on the Two Monolith Samples from Goll Grange, Cowbit by <i>James Rackham</i>
5	Extract from the <i>Criteria for the scheduling of Ancient Monuments</i>
6	Glossary
7	The Archive

**List of Figures**

- Figure 1      General location plan
- Figure 2      Site location plan
- Figure 3      Trench location plan
- Figure 4      Trench 1: Plan
- Figure 5      Trench 1: Sections
- Figure 6      Trench 2: Plan
- Figure 7      Trench 2: Sections
- Figure 8      Trench 3: Plan
- Figure 9      Trench 3: Sections
- Figure 10     Trench 4: Plan and Sections
- Figure 11     Trench 5: Plan
- Figure 12     Trench 5: Sections
- Figure 13     Trench 5: Sections
- Figure 14     Trench 5: Borehole profile
- Figure 15     Trench 6: Plan
- Figure 16     Trench 6: Sections

**List of Plates**

- Plate 1        Aerial view of Goll Grange showing the site and earthwork features in the vicinity
- Plate 2        View of the more southern mound before excavation
- Plate 3        View across the northern mound towards Trench 2
- Plate 4        Trench 1 after cleaning
- Plate 5        Trench 1 Section 1, showing the general sequence of natural deposits

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION ON LAND AT GOLL GRANGE, COWBIT

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- Plate 6 Trench 2 after cleaning
- Plate 7 Trench 2 Section 7, showing the general sequence of deposits
- Plate 8 Trench 3 after cleaning
- Plate 9 Trench 3 Section 10 showing the natural deposits with peat
- Plate 10 Trench 3, undated pit (303)
- Plate 11 Trench 4 after cleaning
- Plate 12 Trench 4, Section 9 showing the dumped layers
- Plate 13 The western end of Trench 5 after cleaning
- Plate 14 Trench 5, Section 27 showing the natural deposits with peat layers overlain by dumped silts
- Plate 15 Trench 5, post-medieval pit (505)
- Plate 16 Trench 5, post-medieval pits (511) and (513)
- Plate 17 Trench 5, undated posthole (503)
- Plate 18 Trench 6 after cleaning

## 1. SUMMARY

*An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the supposed site of Goll Grange, Cowbit, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological implications of part of a new road scheme between Spalding and Peterborough.*

*The site lies within an area dominated by Iron Age (800 BC- AD 50) and Romano-British (AD50-410) salterns, established on the levees of former courses of the Welland. Romano-British settlement is also known in the vicinity.*

*Cowbit was established during the medieval (AD 1066-1540) period, initially as a hamlet of Spalding, and founded on fen-banks constructed to reclaim the low-lying fen. Spalding established a grange, Goll Grange, in the vicinity during the late 13<sup>th</sup> century and this was probably located immediately east of the Wheat Mere Drain which forms the eastern boundary to the site.*

*Evaluation of two mounds, originally purported to be the site of the grange, identified a well preserved natural landscape which shows the transition from marine to freshwater sediments and the existence of a number of channels or inlets and extensive peat covering of the former land surface. Dumped upon the natural deposits were extensive layers of silt, which formed the two mounds. The function of these dumped silts is unclear, although may represent nothing more than upcast from cleaning out the Wheat Mere Drain. Cut into the silt mounds were a number of undated and post-medieval pits with a posthole. Undated ditches were also identified.*

*Although Romano-British pottery was recovered it was retrieved as unstratified material and is likely to have been derived from adjacent settlement. Most finds were*

*dateable to the post-medieval period and include locally made pottery, brick and a small quantity of metalwork, including a Nuremburg jetton of 16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> century date. A small quantity of animal bone was also recovered.*

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Definition of an Evaluation

*An archaeological evaluation is defined as 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present Field Evaluation defines their character and extent, and relative quality; and it enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (IFA 1999).*

### 2.2 Planning Background

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by Babtie Group on behalf of the Highways and Planning Directorate, Lincolnshire County Council, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on the supposed site of Goll Grange, Cowbit, Lincolnshire. This was in order to determine the archaeological resource affected by a proposed new road scheme (A1073 improvements) between Spalding and Peterborough. This work represents a targeted site and evaluation of the entire route south of Crowland has been considered elsewhere (eg. Hall 2002). The evaluation was undertaken between the 25<sup>th</sup> November and 6<sup>th</sup> December 2002 in accordance with a specification prepared by Babtie Group.

### 2.3 Topography and Geology

Cowbit is located 5km south of Spalding and 26km northeast of Stamford in the administrative district of South Holland, and within the Fenland of south Lincolnshire (Fig. 1).

The site of the evaluation is located 140m southeast of the village centre as defined by the parish church of St. Mary (Fig. 2). Located at National Grid Reference TF 2688 1681, the site lies at approximately 2m OD on generally level ground on the west side of the Wheat Mere Drain.

Local soils at the site are of the Stockwith Series, typically silty over clayey calcareous alluvial gley soils (Robson 1990, 28). These soils are developed on a sequence of freshwater and marine alluvium and peat (Shennan and Alderton 1994, 268). These in turn overlie a drift geology of gravel and a solid geology of Jurassic Oxford Clay (BGS 1992).

### 2.4 Archaeological Setting

There is little evidence for earlier prehistoric remains in the Cowbit area as the land surface is now buried by later alluvium (peats, silts, clays *etc.*). By the time of the Middle Iron Age, salterns (salt producing sites) appear to have been established on the levees of the Welland principally to the north and northwest of the site (Hayes and Lane 1992, 177).

Salt-making continued into the Romano-British period, although more to the east and north than previously due to peat encroachment from the southwest. Associated with these salterns were extensive areas of settlement, one of which was identified adjacent to the site (*ibid.*, 178). Further Romano-British settlement has previously been recognised adjacent to the Wheat Mere Drain in Weston (Phillips 1970, 281).

Cowbit appears to have been established as a hamlet of Spalding in either the late 12<sup>th</sup> or early 13<sup>th</sup> century and derives its name from where the cows could bite, indicating there was pasture in the locality (Hallam 1965, 24). The village sits astride New Fendyke, constructed to reclaim the low-lying fen and in existence by 1186-9 (*ibid.*). By 1205, a second fen-bank, Goldyke, had been constructed south of the site (*ibid.*, 26). The eastern boundary of the site, Wheat Mere Drain, is first mentioned in the mid 13<sup>th</sup> century where it is referred to as the *Wykemere Drain* (Hallam 1953, 9).

Between New Fendyke and Goldyke, Spalding established a grange, Goll Grange, in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century (Hayes and Lane 1992, 179). The site of the grange had been equated with the two earthwork mounds which were investigated as part of this work (Hallam 1953, 2). However, investigations by the Fenland Survey suggested that it was unlikely that the grange was located here and placed it further east in Weston parish where a farmer recorded large stones when the field was first ploughed (Hayes and Lane 1992, 180). This is to some degree supported by the fact that the Wheat Mere Drain was in existence prior to the establishment of the grange and would form a barrier in the layout of the estate. Also east of the Wheat Mere Drain were earthwork remains of dyings (Plate 1) part of the grange's field system. The 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey plan of 1890 records that the northern boundary of the site was wider than at present and had a southern arm of a ditch extending into the site, suggesting that the site was once ditched around.

Prior to this investigation, geophysical survey was undertaken across the site by Pre-Construct Geophysics in 2002. This identified weak linear anomalies, possibly representing ditches or gullies, and a

possible rectangular building located on the northwest side of the southern mound.

### 3. AIMS

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to gather sufficient information for the archaeological curator to formulate appropriate policies for the management of the archaeological resources, if present, on the site. The objectives of the investigation were to establish the type, chronology, density, spatial arrangement and extent of any archaeological remains present. A set of criteria, issued by the Secretary of State (DoE 1990), provided an outline for assessing the significance of the archaeology at the site. These were used to determine state of preservation, period, type, rarity, diversity and vulnerability of the deposits encountered and their relationship to the general area.

### 4. METHODS

A total of six trenches was opened by machine. The position of the trenches was determined by the presence of geophysical anomalies, cropmarks and standing earthworks. The trench positions were surveyed in relation to the Ordnance Survey grid.

The trenches were excavated to a maximum depth of 1.2m, the maximum safe depth of un-shored trenches as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive. Once machine excavation was completed, the sides of the trenches were cleaned and rendered vertical. Selected deposits were then excavated by hand to determine their nature and to retrieve artefactual material.

All trenches were regularly scanned by metal detector throughout the excavation. Spoil generated by the excavations were

also intermittently scanned by metal detector.

Environmental sampling was undertaken at the discretion of the site supervisor in accordance with guidelines established by Murphy and Wiltshire (1994). The methodology for the subsequent processing of the environmental samples is outlined in the relevant environmental reports.

Each deposit exposed during the evaluation was allocated a unique reference number (context number) with an individual written description. All contexts and their descriptions appear as Appendix 1. A photographic record was compiled using both colour slides and black and white print formats. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and plans at a scale of 1:20. Recording of deposits encountered was undertaken according to standard Archaeological Project Services practice.

Following excavation, all records were checked and ordered to ensure that they constituted a complete Level II archive and a stratigraphic matrix of all identified deposits was produced. Artefacts recovered from excavated deposits were examined and a period date assigned where possible (Appendix 2). Phasing was based on artefact dating and the nature of the deposits and recognisable relationships between them.

### 5. RESULTS

Following post-excavation analysis four phases were identified;

- Phase 1     Natural deposits
- Phase 2     Undated deposits
- Phase 3     Post-medieval deposits
- Phase 4     Modern deposits



Archaeological deposits are listed below and described. The numbers in brackets are the context numbers assigned in the field. All phases are described in trench order.

**Phase 1 Natural deposits**

*Trench 1*

The earliest deposits encountered at the southwestern end of Trench 1 were layers of brownish grey clay (101 and 121) which measured a combined thickness of 0.64m (Fig. 5, Section 1). These were overlain by bluish grey clay (102) and another deposit of brownish grey clay (103) before being intermittently sealed by a layer of greyish brown silty clay (104).

At the northeastern end of this trench, the base of the natural sequence is provided by a layer of bluish grey clay (113) and mid grey and light brown silty clay (111). These deposits were then sealed by a yellowish brown clayey silt (112) above which was a layer of yellowish brown finely laminated sandy silt (116) whose upper surface was recorded as undulating (Fig 5, Sections 3 and 4). Within the hollows of (116) were deposits of brownish grey clay (114) or silty clay (125).

Appearing intermittently throughout the trench, particularly in the hollows (c. 1.24m OD) within (116), were layers of humified peat (105, 110, 126) occasionally mixed with brownish grey clay (120) where it was at a sufficient elevation to have dried out after formation (generally above 1.6m OD).

Overlying the humified peat, again within the hollows and principally in the northeastern end of the trench, were natural deposits of yellow clayey silt (109), yellowish grey silt (115), brownish grey silty clay (124), grey clayey silt (122), brown sandy silt (123) and yellow sandy silt (108).

*Trench 2*

The earliest natural deposits encountered in the base of Trench 2 (Fig. 6) comprise grey clay (202 and 216), greyish blue silty clay (205) and mixed grey and yellow clay (206).

Overlying these clayey layers was an intermittent deposit of loose black decayed peat/humic clay (203 and 204) measuring no more than 100mm thick and at a height of 1.1m OD.

Above these layers were natural deposits of mixed blue and red clay (201), blue clay (213), brown sandy silt (207), yellow silt (214) and grey silty clay (215).

*Trench 3*

The earliest deposit recorded in Trench 3, located in the base of the sondage at the southern end of the trench, was a layer of light grey clay (327) that was over 0.25m thick. This was cut by a linear natural channel (305), probably a natural creek. This channel was longer than 1.8m, wider than 1.74m and 0.38m deep (Fig. 9, Section 10). A single fill of greenish grey silty clay (326) was recorded. Overlying the channel was a 100mm thick layer comprising yellowish brown sandy silt (325).

Towards the northern end of the trench the earliest deposits encountered comprised reddish brown silty clay (312 and 315) which were overlain by a stiff mid grey clay (310).

Overlying the clay (310) and the sandy silt (325) was an extensive deposit of grey clay (309) which became increasingly bluish as it approached the southern end of the trench (324 and 322) where it also dipped down over the natural channel (305). Bluish grey silty clay (308) and bluish grey clay (314) were also recorded overlying (309) mid-way along and at the northern

end of the trench (Fig. 9, Sections 12, 15 and 16).

Developed upon these deposits was a widespread layer of humified peat (307, 313, 321, 323 and 338) that ranged from 60mm to 0.15m in thickness and between 1.2m and 1.4m OD.

Located at the southern end of the trench and infilling the line of the natural channel (305) was a series of deposits. The earliest was grey silty clay (320), overlain by brown sandy silt (319), mottled grey clay (318) and grey clay (317).

#### *Trench 4*

A sequence of natural deposits was recorded in two auger holes located towards the northeastern end of the trench. The more centrally placed revealed brown sand (416) overlain by bluish grey clay (415) and black clayey silt (414). The second auger hole recorded a grey clay with peat layer (419) that was sealed beneath black clayey silt (418) and grey silty sand (417).

At the southwest end of the trench, the earliest deposit encountered was bluish grey silt (407). Above this was a 40mm thick deposit of black humic peat (406) which had subsequently been overlain by dark grey clay (405). This was further sealed by grey clay (404) that extended 7.5m into the trench whereupon it sloped sharply down, perhaps into a former channel, and became darker in colour (408). A possible second channel was indicated in the corner of the trench where these deposits abruptly stopped.

#### *Trench 5*

At the base of the deeper excavation undertaken at the western end of Trench 5 was a layer of brown sandy silt (527) that was 0.2m thick (Fig. 12, Sections 26 and 27). This was overlain by a 0.2m thick deposit of bluish grey silty clay (526) upon

which a blackish grey clayey silt with humified peat (525) had developed. Infilling an apparent hollow within the peat were two natural deposits of grey silty clay (535) and yellow clayey silt mixed with grey silty clay (538).

The peat rich deposit (525) continued to the west where it was identified within a sequence of auger holes (551, 554, 556, 559, 562 and 567) and recorded as undulating between 1.81m and 1.51m OD (Fig. 14). Within the auger holes, the peat overlay deposits of brownish grey clay (552), grey organic silty clay (553), grey clay (555, 557), grey clayey silt (560), greyish blue clay (561), brown sandy silt (563) and grey clayey silt with peat (564).

Probable natural deposits were also encountered in auger holes undertaken at the base of the western sondage (Fig. 12, Section 27). These ranged from grey sandy silt (571), grey clay (572), grey clayey silt with peat (573), grey clayey silt (575), grey silty clay with shell (577), grey organic silty clay (578), brown peaty clay (579 and 581), reddish brown silty clay (580) and grey silty clay (582).

At the eastern end of Trench 5, in the north-south return, the natural deposits comprised grey silty clay (540), greyish yellow silty clay (541) and brown sandy silt (543). These were overlain by light grey silt containing chalk fragments (529) and grey silt (528), the extent of which can be seen in plan (Fig. 11).

#### *Trench 6*

The earliest deposits encountered in the base of Trench 6 comprised grey silts (603 and 605) which were overlain by intermittent deposits of grey clays (601, 604, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 614 and 629) and brown silt (602). Above these was a grey silt (619) layer or a grey silty clay (625).

Developed upon these natural deposits was an intermittent and variable humified peat layer, ranging from black clayey peat (618 and 623) to a grey silty clay with peat (620) measuring no more than 100mm thick and between 2.3m and 2.5m OD. Above these were deposits of brown silty clay (616, 617, 622 and 627).

## Phase 2 Undated deposits

### *Trench 1*

Overlying the desiccated natural peat deposit (120) was a layer of grey silty clay (119) that was 0.15m thick. This was in turn overlain by yellowish brown silt (117) and grey silt (118). These deposits form the northern extent of the northerly mound.

### *Trench 2*

Located at the west end of Trench 2 was a series of dumped deposits equating to the mound. The lowest comprised a yellow clayey silt (212) which was overlain by greyish white silt (211), then grey clayey silt (210) and sealed by brown clayey silt (209). These deposits had a combined thickness of 0.42m (Fig. 7, Section 5).

### *Trench 3*

Located 7.4m north of the southern terminus of this trench was an east-west aligned linear feature (336), possibly a ditch, which was cut through the peat (307 and 338). This was over 1.8m long by 1.48m wide and 0.35m deep (Fig. 9, Section 1) and was filled with mottled grey clayey silt (335). This ditch was overlain on its northern side by a subsoil of brown clayey silt (337).

Cutting this ditch to the south was a second east-west aligned linear feature (334). This was over 0.66m wide and 0.23m deep with a single fill of greyish brown silt (333). A third ditch (330) was located 0.8m south and was over 1.4m wide by 0.29m deep with a single fill of brown silt (329).

Cutting both ditches (330 and 334) was a further ditch (332). Also aligned east-west, this was 0.94m wide and 0.3m deep and contained two fills, a lower of grey and light brown silt (331) and an upper of brown clayey silt (328).

Located south of this group of ditches was a dumped deposit comprising yellowish brown sandy silt (316), derived from the southern mound. This was 0.33m thick (over the natural channel) and gradually thinned out to the north.

Cut into the dumped deposit was a sub-rectangular pit (303). This was 0.8m long, over 0.4m wide and 0.57m deep (Fig. 9, Section 11). Two fills were recorded, a primary of grey clay mixed with brown and grey silt (304) and an upper fill of grey and brown sandy silt (302). Sampling of the primary fill identified charcoal and molluscs indicative of open country.

### *Trench 4*

Situated directly above the grey clay (404) was a 40-100mm thick layer of grey peaty clay (403 and 412), possibly representing a former buried soil. Charcoal, brick/tile fragments and open country molluscs were recovered from a sample of this deposit. This was overlain by dumped deposits comprising yellowish brown sandy silt (402 and 410), present throughout the trench, as well as grey clayey silt (411) and brown sandy silt (413). These deposits formed part of the southern mound and had a combined thickness of up to 2m.

### *Trench 5*

Overlying the natural peat (525) were two layers, a lower of brownish grey clayey silt (524) above which was brown and grey clayey silt (523), becoming a mixed grey silty clay and clayey silt (536) to the north (Fig. 12, Section 26). Of possible natural origin, these deposits were disturbed and may, therefore, represent upcast from excavation of a feature (Appendix 4).

Cut through these layers was a north-south aligned linear feature (532) that was over 5.2m wide and at least 0.85m deep. No function could be ascertained for this feature, although it may have developed from a natural channel.

Auger holes revealed that this channel was initially filled with dumped deposits of brownish grey sandy silt (542), bluish grey clay (568), greenish grey sandy silt (569), grey sandy silt (570 and 574) and greyish brown silty clay (576). This was overlain by an extensive dumped fill of light brown and reddish brown sandy silt (531) over which was a light brown sandy silt (530).

Overlying the final fill (530) of the channel to its west was a dumped layer of light brown silt (534) above which was a mixed brown sandy silt and bluish grey clay (533) layer that was 0.24m thick.

The eastern side of the channel was sealed beneath a dumped deposit of brown sandy silt (519 and 522) which measured up to 1.2m thick and accounted for much of the mound material in Trench 5. Other dumped deposits forming the mound include yellowish brown sandy silt (518) overlain by brown sandy silt (517) and grey silty clay (516) with greyish brown silty clay (515) above.

Cut into these mound deposits was a number of features of which three remain undated. An undated posthole (503) was located in the centre of the trench and was 0.25m long and wide and 0.21m deep (Fig. 13, Section 21). This was filled with brownish grey silty sand (502).

Located c. 1.5m northwest of the posthole was a pit (521), visible in section only (Fig. 13, Section 20). This pit was 0.5m wide by 0.16m deep and contained a single fill of brownish grey clayey silt (520).

The most easterly of the features was also identified as a pit (509). This was 1.07m

long, over 0.34m wide and 0.3m deep (Fig. 13, Section 18). Contained within the pit was a fill of light brown sandy silt (508).

#### *Trench 6*

No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

### **Phase 3 Post-medieval deposits**

#### *Trench 1*

No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

#### *Trench 2*

No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

#### *Trench 3*

No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

#### *Trench 4*

No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

#### *Trench 5*

Also cut into the mound deposits in this trench, along with the three undated features, was a further five pits. Located immediately to the west of the undated pit (521) was pit (513) which was 0.8m long, by over 0.2m wide and 0.22m deep (Fig. 13, Section 20). This was filled with brownish grey clayey silt (512). Medieval or early post-medieval brick fragments were retrieved from the fill.

Adjacent to this pit was a sub-circular pit (511) which was 0.58m long by over 0.24m wide and 0.18m deep. This was also filled with brownish grey clayey silt (510).

Located to the south of these pits was pit (505). This was 1.1m long by over 0.58m wide and 0.23m deep (Fig. 13, Section 19). A single fill of brownish grey clayey silt (504) was identified and produced

handmade brick of medieval/post-medieval date.

The final pit (507) lay 4m east of pit (505). This was 0.4m long by over 0.36m wide, with a possible posthole (514) cut on its western side. Both these features were filled with light grey sandy silt (506) from which post-medieval brick was retrieved.

#### *Trench 6*

No deposits of this phase were identified in this trench.

### **Phase 4 Recent deposits**

#### *Trench 1*

Overlying all deposits in Trench 1 was a 0.5m thick topsoil of brownish grey clayey silt (100).

#### *Trench 2*

Sealing all archaeological and natural deposits in trench 2 was a topsoil of brownish grey clayey silt (208) that was 0.36m thick.

#### *Trench 3*

Topsoil recorded within Trench 3 comprised a 0.3m thick greyish brown clayey silt (311).

#### *Trench 4*

Above the undated dumped deposits (410 and 413) was a 0.42m thick topsoil comprising brownish grey sandy clay (401).

#### *Trench 5*

Overlying all deposits in Trench 5 was a topsoil comprising greyish brown silty sand (501) on top of the southern mound and becoming a brown silty clay (539) westwards off the mound. This varied between 0.3m and 0.37m thick.

#### *Trench 6*

A topsoil of mid brown silty clay (615, 621 and 626) was identified as sealing all natural deposits in Trench 6.

## **6. DISCUSSION**

Natural deposits (Phase 1) comprise a sequence beginning with clays, silty clays, sandy silts and clayey silts. These earlier layers are associated with marine sedimentation in an intertidal depositional environment becoming an upper saltmarsh environment higher in the sequence (Appendix 4). Changes in the topography across the intertidal zone are apparent and take the form of hollows and an undulating surface along with natural channels identified in Trench 3.

Developed upon these marine sediments are peat deposits. It is assumed throughout this report that the peat, peat rich or decayed peat layers within each of the trenches is broadly contemporary across the site. The peat development also indicates that the area was freshwater or brackish, indicating that the sea was possibly retreating at this time. Isolated sand lenses within the peat suggest that the area was still subject to marine incursions, perhaps from nearby channels such as has previously been identified to the northwest of the site (Hayes and Lane 1992, 176).

No date for this peat layer was obtained during this evaluation, although it is possibly Iron Age. An upper peat deposit was identified in boreholes from Cowbit Wash at 0.96m to 1.27m OD and was subsequently dated to 830-790 BC (Shennan and Alderton 1994, 272; Appendix 1). The height of the peat encountered during this investigation lay in a range from below 1.4m to above 2m OD.

Examination of the peat layers has shown that in Trench 5 the peat had degraded into a grey sandy silt (Appendix 4) which was also noted elsewhere. Where this occurs is always at a point that the peat layers are slightly more elevated.

In Trench 3, the organic peat layer is overlain by silts which may indicate a freshwater depositional environment or, perhaps, a return to brackish or marine conditions.

Undated deposits (Phase 2) comprise largely the extensive dumped materials in Trenches 1 to 5, which were absent from Trench 6. These dumped deposits had formed both the northern and southern mound and had effectively preserved the natural landscape beneath. The origin and function of these mounds is unclear, although the sediments suggest they come from below the natural sequence described above. This would then indicate deep excavation in the vicinity, and the creation of the Wheat Mere Drain is a likely candidate for this action. Why these mounds were formed has not been ascertained as usually upcast from the excavation of drains was spread alongside, as can be noted in the fields to the north and south of the site. The formation of such mounds must also have been more labour intensive and suggest a definite purpose behind their construction. Possible functions include windmill mounds or raised areas to protect livestock from flooding, the latter having never been identified in the fens previously.

A number of undated features was also identified during the evaluation. These comprised three east-west aligned ditches and a pit in Trench 3 and, in Trench 5, a posthole and two pits which were found along with a north-south aligned channel, of possible natural origin. These remain undated due to a paucity of artefactual material. The three ditches are all in close proximity and suggest they were recut, thus preserving their drainage or boundary function.

Post-medieval features (Phase 3) are restricted to Trench 5. They are similar to undated features from this trench and all

are cut into the mound deposits. As such, this indicates probably contemporaneity. These features have all been dated by brick and tile fragments which are medieval or early post-medieval in date.

No features were identified that could be assigned to the medieval period or the existence of a grange. This supports the idea suggested by Hayes and Lane (1992, 180) that the site of Goll Grange lay to the east of the Wheat Mere Drain in Weston parish.

The features identified during this survey appear not to relate to the cropmarks and geophysical survey results as depicted in Figure 3. The only exception is the possible line of ditches in Trench 3 which cropmarks previously identified.

The earliest finds retrieved from this investigation were four fragments of Romano-British pottery. These are dateable from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries and were probably derived from known adjacent sites, perhaps when the mounds were being constructed at an indeterminate but probable post-Roman time. Post-medieval finds include locally made Bourne ware, a Nuremburg jetton and the handmade brick and tile fragments (which may also be medieval in date). There are insufficient finds to suggest habitation at the site and it is likely that this material derived from manuring scatters.

Four environmental samples were taken and processed during the evaluation. Samples from features were generally uninformative and only mollusc shells indicated the local environment. Two monoliths were also collected and were informative as to the nature of deposition of natural deposits.

## 7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For assessment of significance the *Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments* has been used (DoE 1990, Annex; See Appendix 5).

### Period

Although undated features may be of the medieval period, most deposits encountered are post-medieval and later.

### Rarity

None of the deposits encountered during the evaluation are considered to be rare, although they are unusual in that the mounds have preserved a buried natural landscape. Furthermore, the function of both mounds has not been ascertained. As such, they are not regionally or nationally significant although locally are more important.

### Documentation

Records of archaeological sites and finds made in the Cowbit area are maintained by the Lincolnshire Sites and Monuments Record.

There is some contemporary historical documentation for Goll Grange, although only published material (notably Hallam 1953) was examined as part of this project.

This report is the first to consider the archaeological remains identified at the site. However, there has been a more widespread assessment of the site undertaken as part of the Fenland Survey (Hayes and Lane 1992).

### Group value

Remains of two mounds and associated features were identified during the evaluation. It is uncertain how these relate to known archaeological remains, including Goll Grange, in the vicinity. As a

consequence, these have low to moderate group value.

### Survival/Condition

The deposits and features revealed during the investigation appeared to have survived in moderately good condition. A succession of natural deposits were well preserved beneath the two mounds. Organic deposits also survived in good condition due to waterlogging.

### Fragility/Vulnerability

The construction of the Spalding to Eye road scheme is likely to impact into all phase deposits. Consequently, archaeological remains present are vulnerable, though few were identified.

### Diversity

The two mounds are of uncertain function, but are comparable in nature. Several ditches and pits were revealed and are probably agricultural in purpose. As a result, functional diversity is low.

### Potential

Potential for archaeological remains of dates prior to the post-medieval period is considered low. However, the potential for other post-medieval remains in the area is low to moderate.

Environmental samples retrieved during this investigation include charred plant remains and snails. This material survived in generally good condition although is limited in quantity. Pollen has not been identified but, if present, would have some potential for aiding the understanding the past environment during the period in which the mounds were being utilized.

It is also probable that foraminifera survive within the monolith samples taken at the site. Examination of these may assist in determining the sedimentary depositional environment and provide clarifying evidence of the sequence identified in this

report. The peat preserved in the monolith has potential for scientific dating which would be useful for comparative studies with other peat layers in the Cowbit area and in providing a *terminus ante quem* for the mounds.

## 8. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the assumed site of Goll Grange, Cowbit, because the likelihood existed of medieval remains being present.

A sequence of natural deposits was identified which illustrated the transition from direct marine influence to freshwater or brackish environment at the site. The sequence of deposits was well preserved beneath two undated mounds that possible derive from the excavation of the Wheat Mere Drain, along the eastern edge of the site. The function of these mounds has not been ascertained. Into the mounds were cut further undated and also post-medieval features, comprising pits, ditches and a posthole.

No remains were identified that could be securely identified with the medieval Goll Grange and it is probable that this lay east of the Wheat Mere Drain, in the neighbouring parish of Weston.

Romano-British pottery was the earliest artefactual material retrieved during this investigation. It is likely that this material derived from adjacent settlement of this period. Post-medieval brick, tile and pottery were also recovered as was a small quantity of animal bone.

## 9. PUBLICATION

Though this investigation does not merit full publication, a short note will be submitted to the editors of the relevant

volume of 'Lincolnshire History and Archaeology' summarising the results of the evaluation.

## 10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archaeological Project Services would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr D. Johnston of Babtie Group who commissioned the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council. Access to the site was kindly permitted by Mr Drury. Maps and plans were supplied by Babtie Group. The project was coordinated by Dale Trimble and this report was edited by Gary Taylor and Tom Lane. Dave Start kindly permitted access to the library and the relevant parish files maintained by Heritage Lincolnshire.

## 11. PERSONNEL

Project Coordinator: Dale Trimble  
 Site Supervisor: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
 Site Staff: Mike Bamforth, Paul Flintoff, Chris Moulis  
 Surveying: Rachael Hall  
 Metal Detecting: Kevin Elfleet  
 Finds Processing: Denise Buckley  
 Illustration: Paul Cope-Faulkner  
 Photographic Reproduction: Sue Unsworth  
 Post-Excavation Analysis: Paul Cope-Faulkner

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*Lindsey Survey*, The Lincoln Record Society 19

BGS British Geological Survey

DoE Department of the Environment

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IFA Institute of Field Archaeologists

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### 13. ABBREVIATIONS

APS Archaeological Project Services

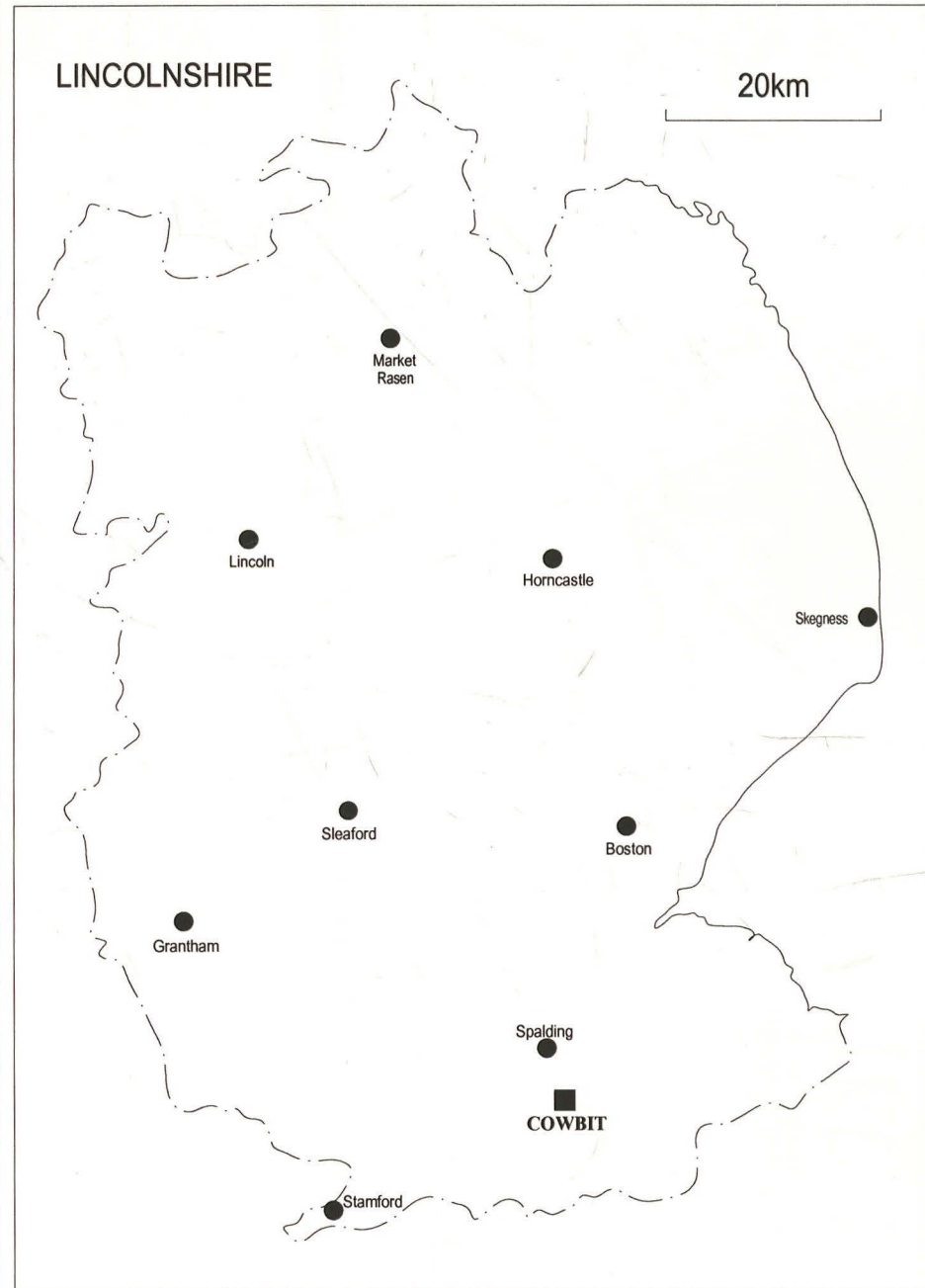
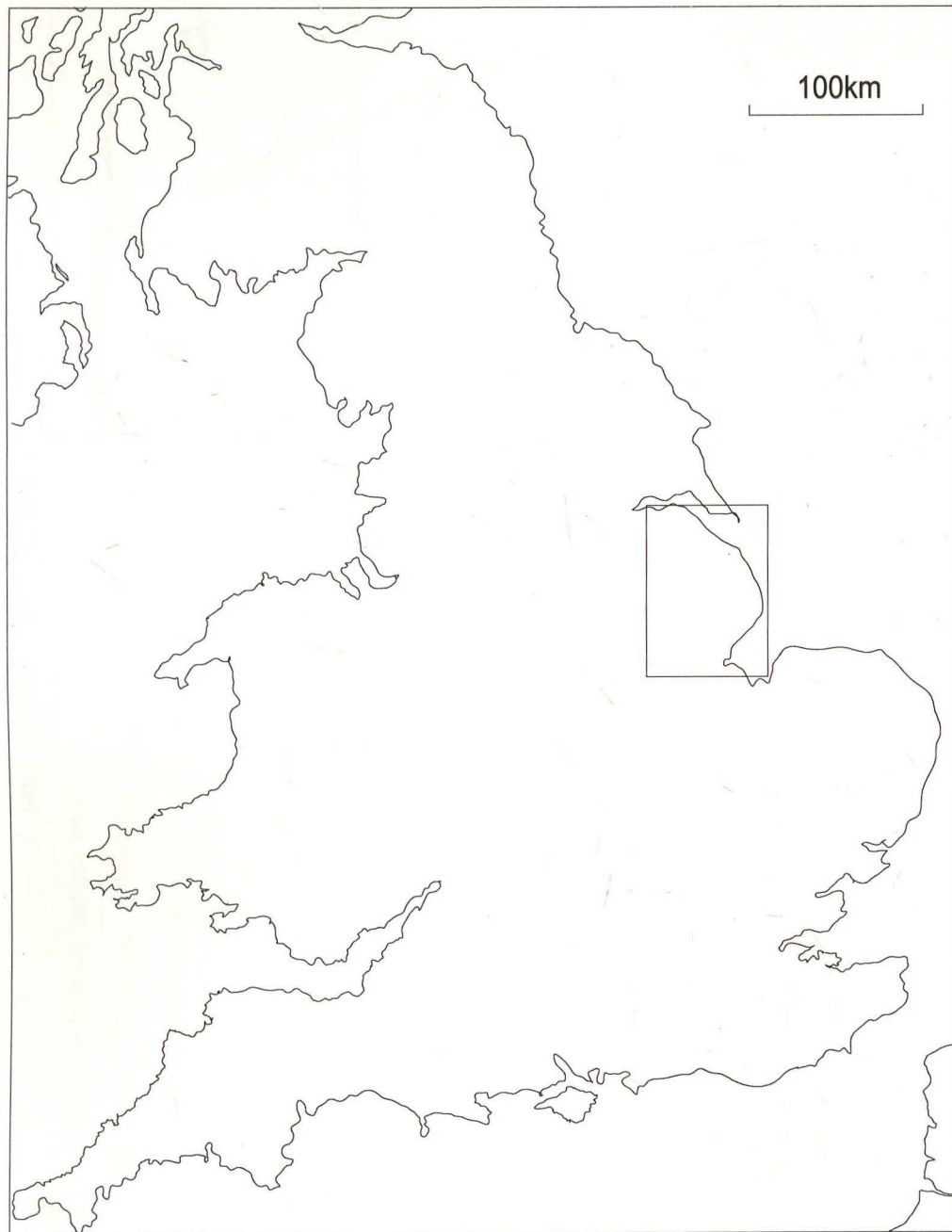


Figure 1 - General Location Plan

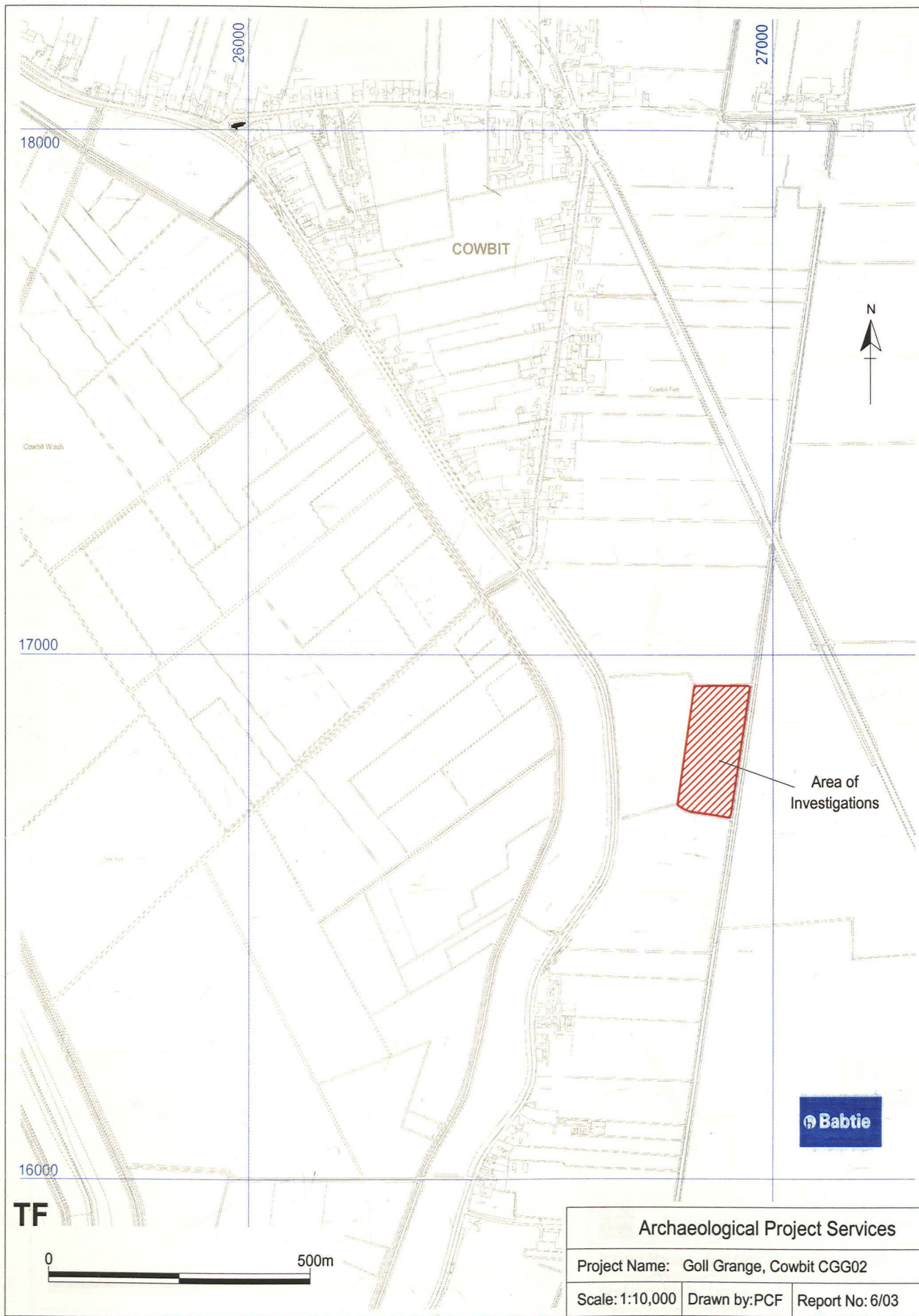


Figure 2 - Site location plan

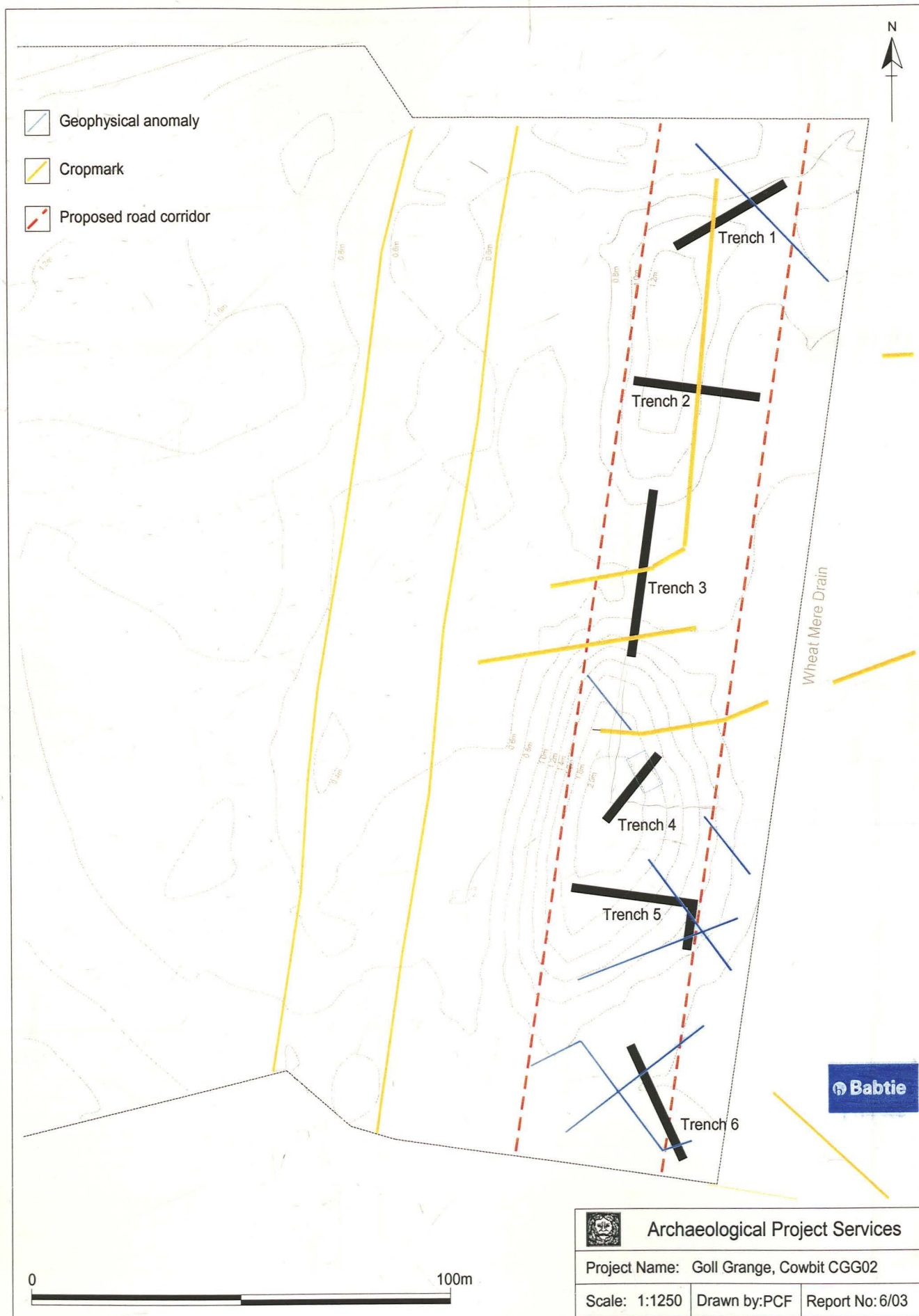
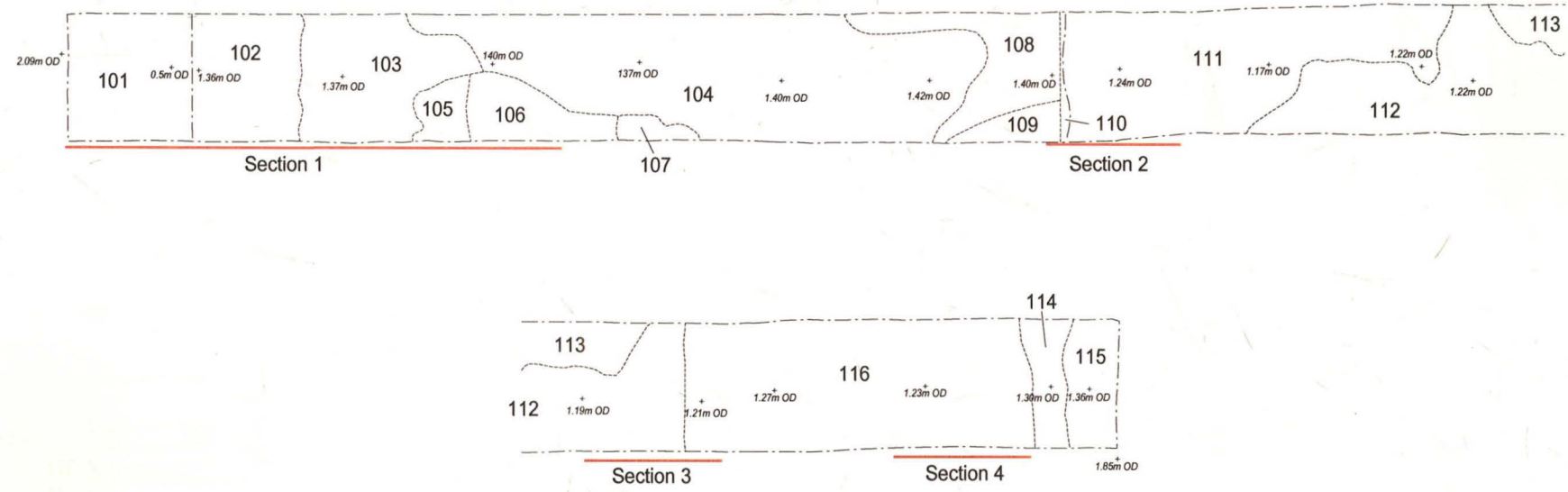


Figure 3 - Trench location plan




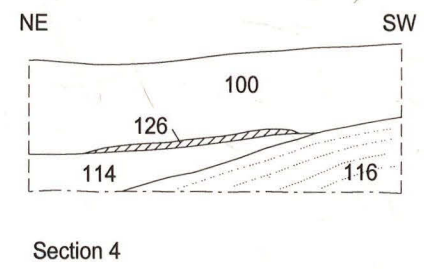
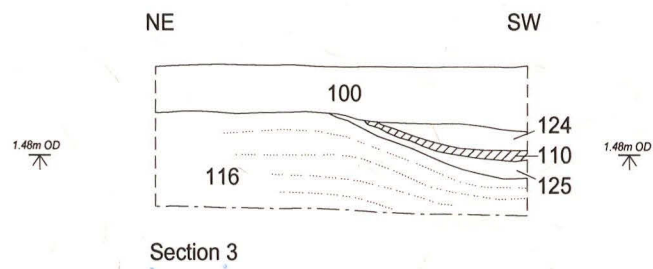
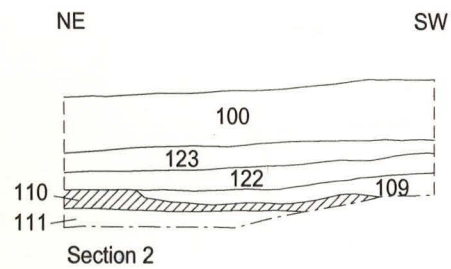
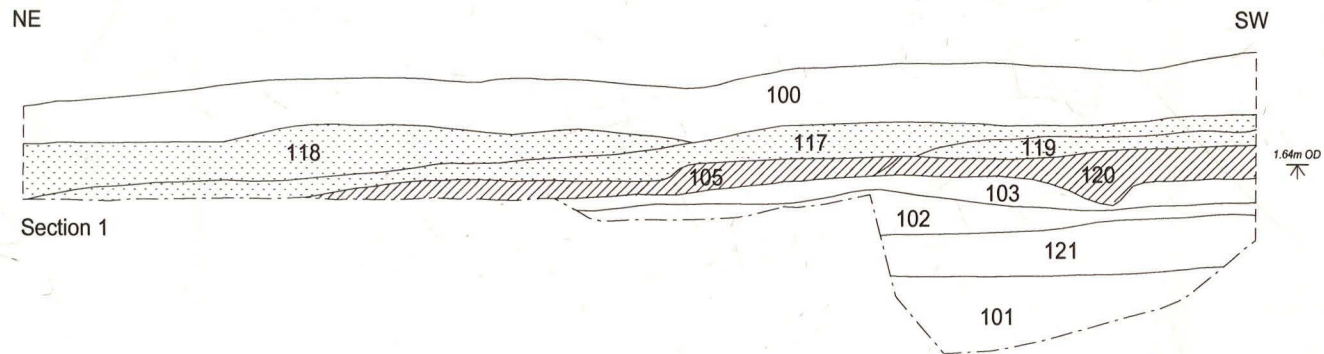


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Project Name: Goll Grange, Cowbit CGG02		
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Figure 4 - Trench 1: Plan



-  Peat rich/humic clay deposits
-  Dumped deposits




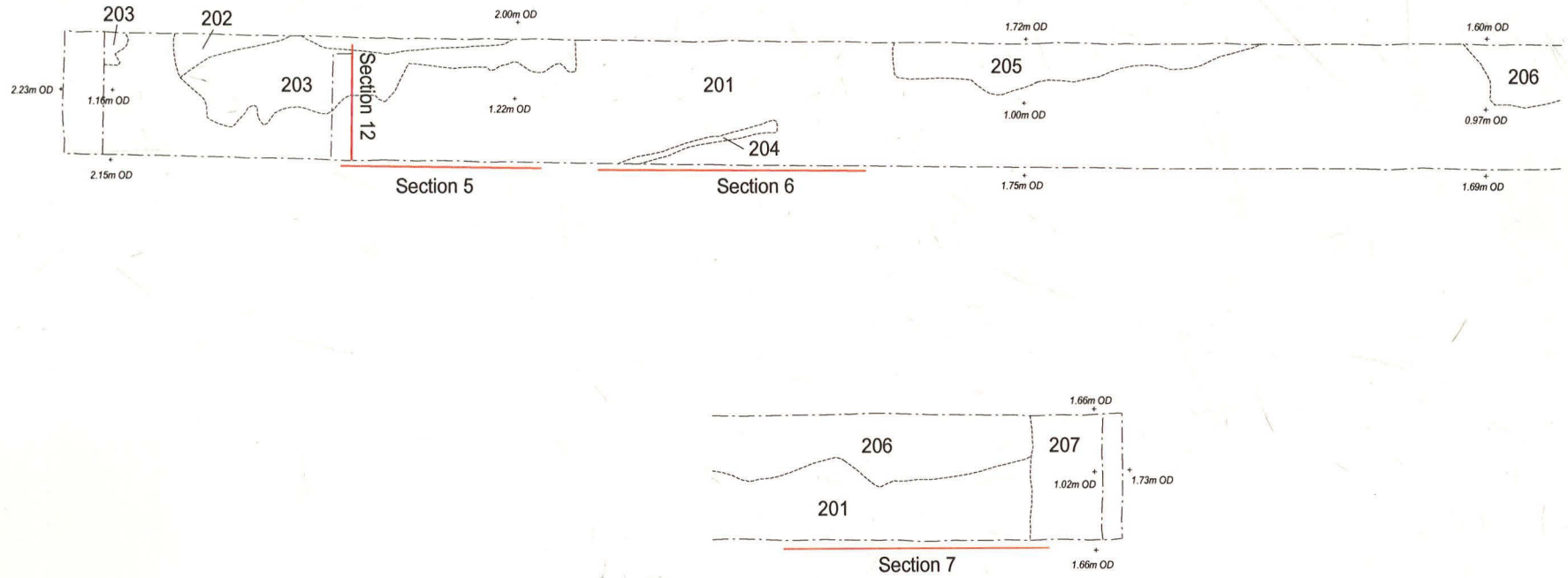
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Figure 5 - Trench 1: Sections




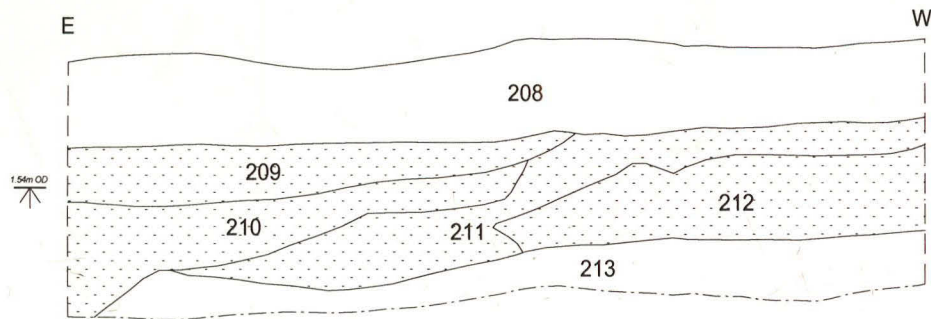
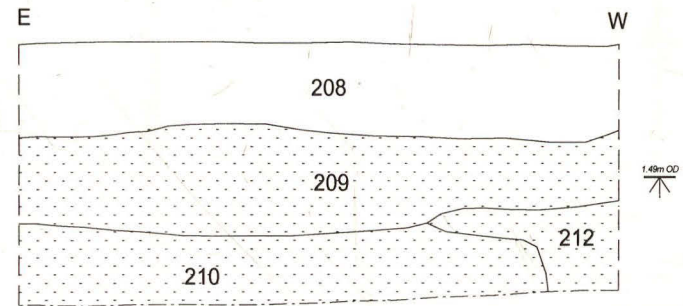
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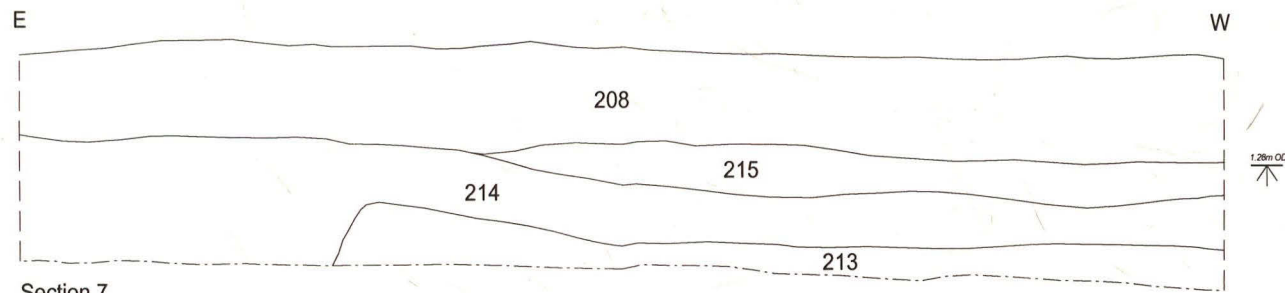
Figure 6 - Trench 2: Plan



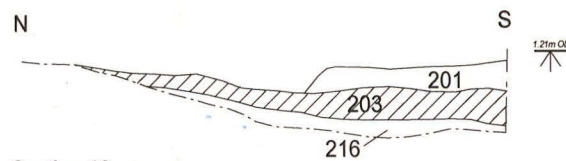
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

Section 6



Section 7



Section 12

-  Peat rich/humic clay deposits
-  Dumped deposits



Archaeological Project Services

Project Name: Goll Grange, Cowbit CGG02

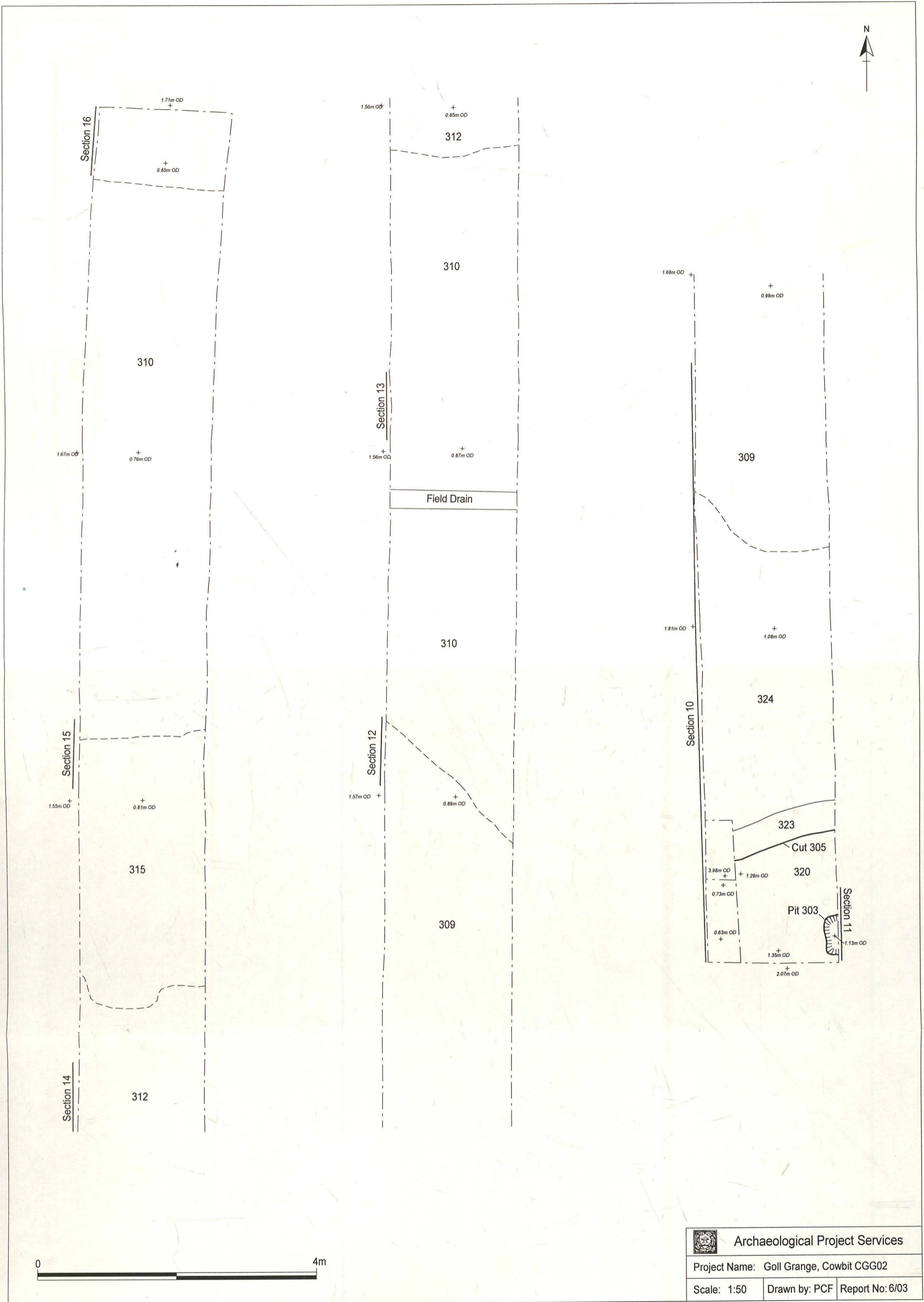
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Report No: 6/03

Figure 7 - Trench 2: Sections






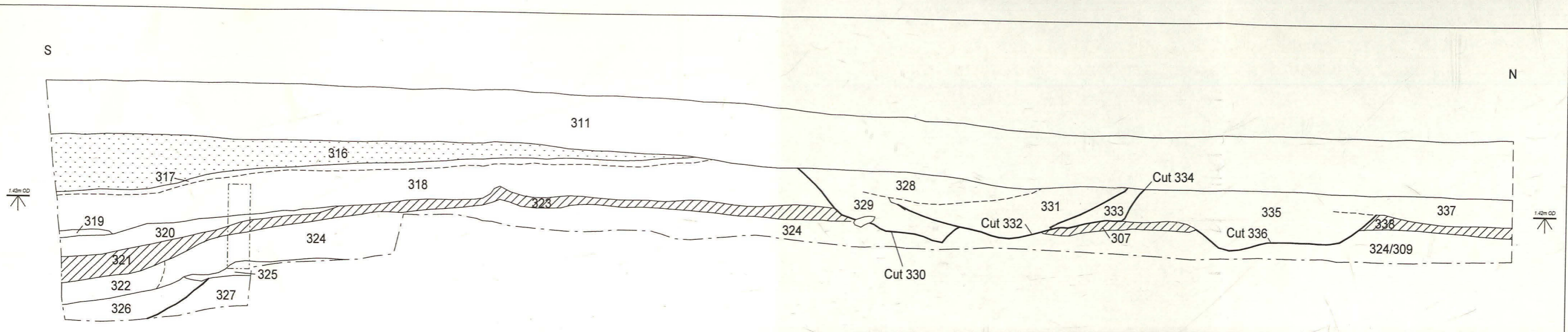
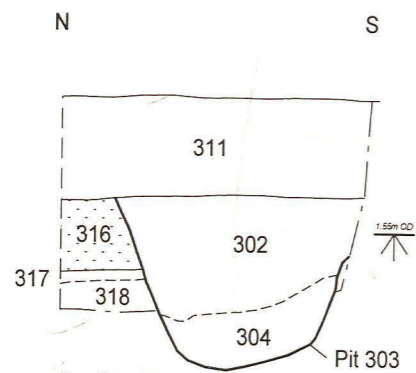
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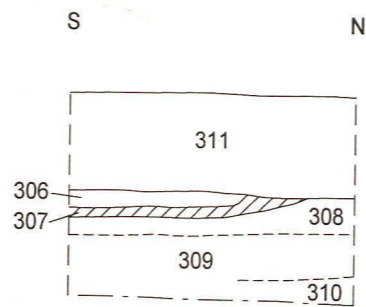
Figure 8 - Trench 3: Plan



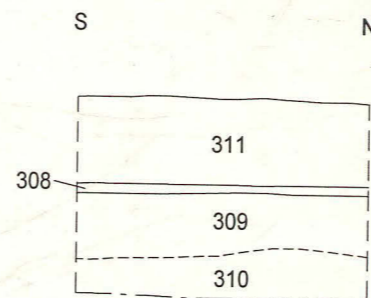
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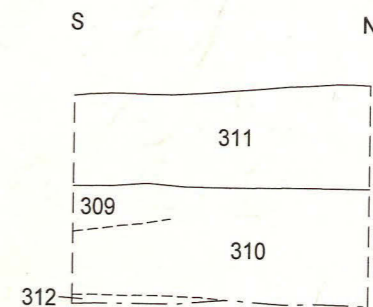
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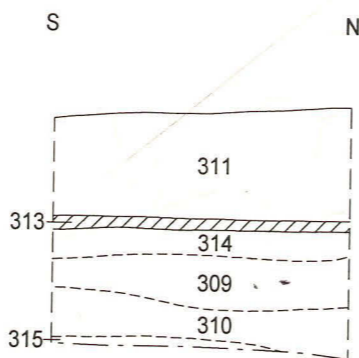
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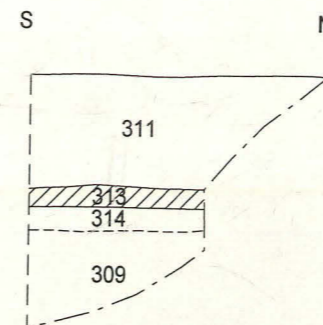
Section 13



Section 14



Section 15



Section 16

- Peat rich/humic clay deposits
- Dumped deposits



Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Goll Grange, Cowbit CGG02		
Scale: 1:25	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 6/03

Figure 9 - Trench 3: Sections

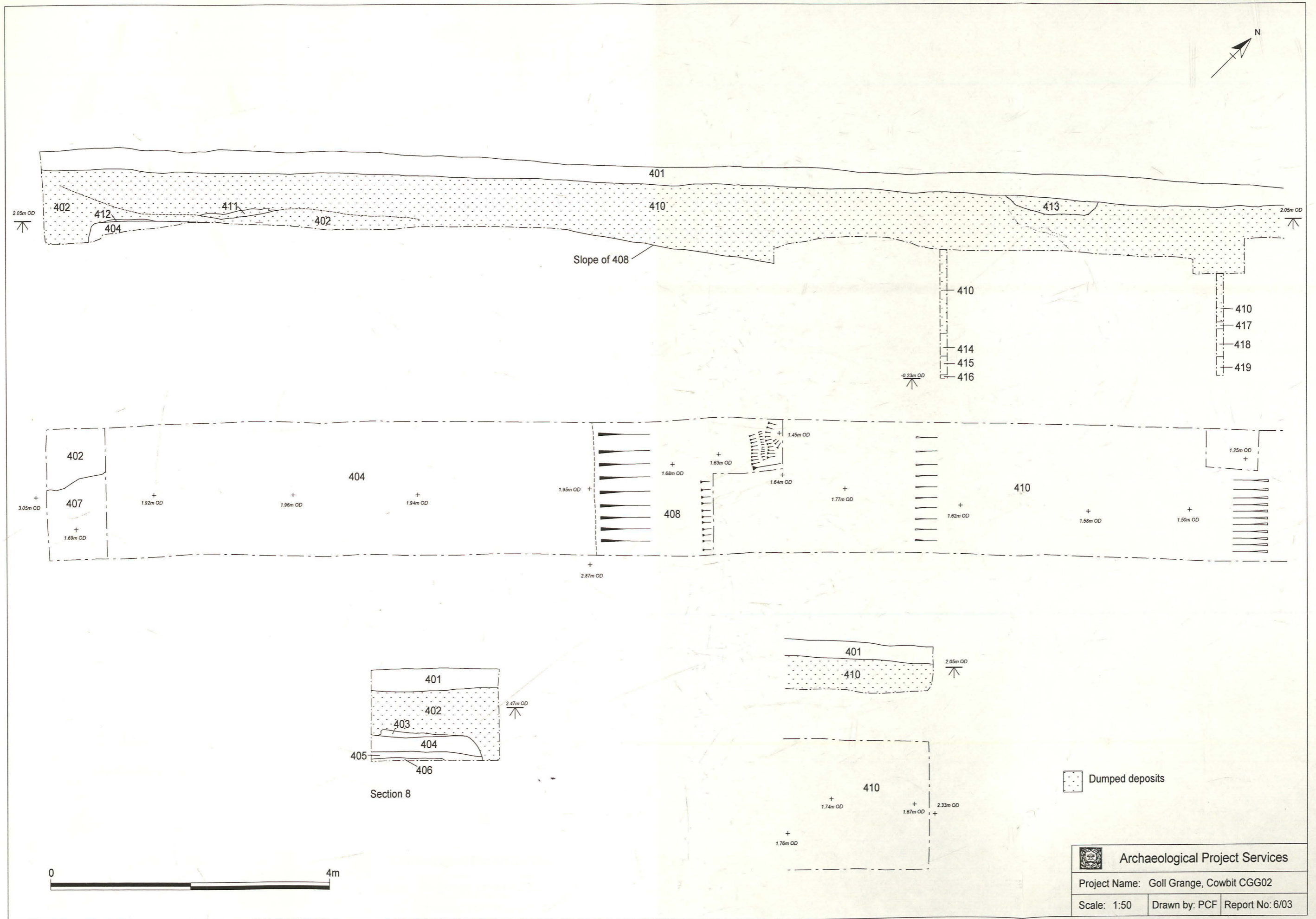



Figure 10 - Trench 4: Plans and sections

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Scale: 1:50	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 6/03

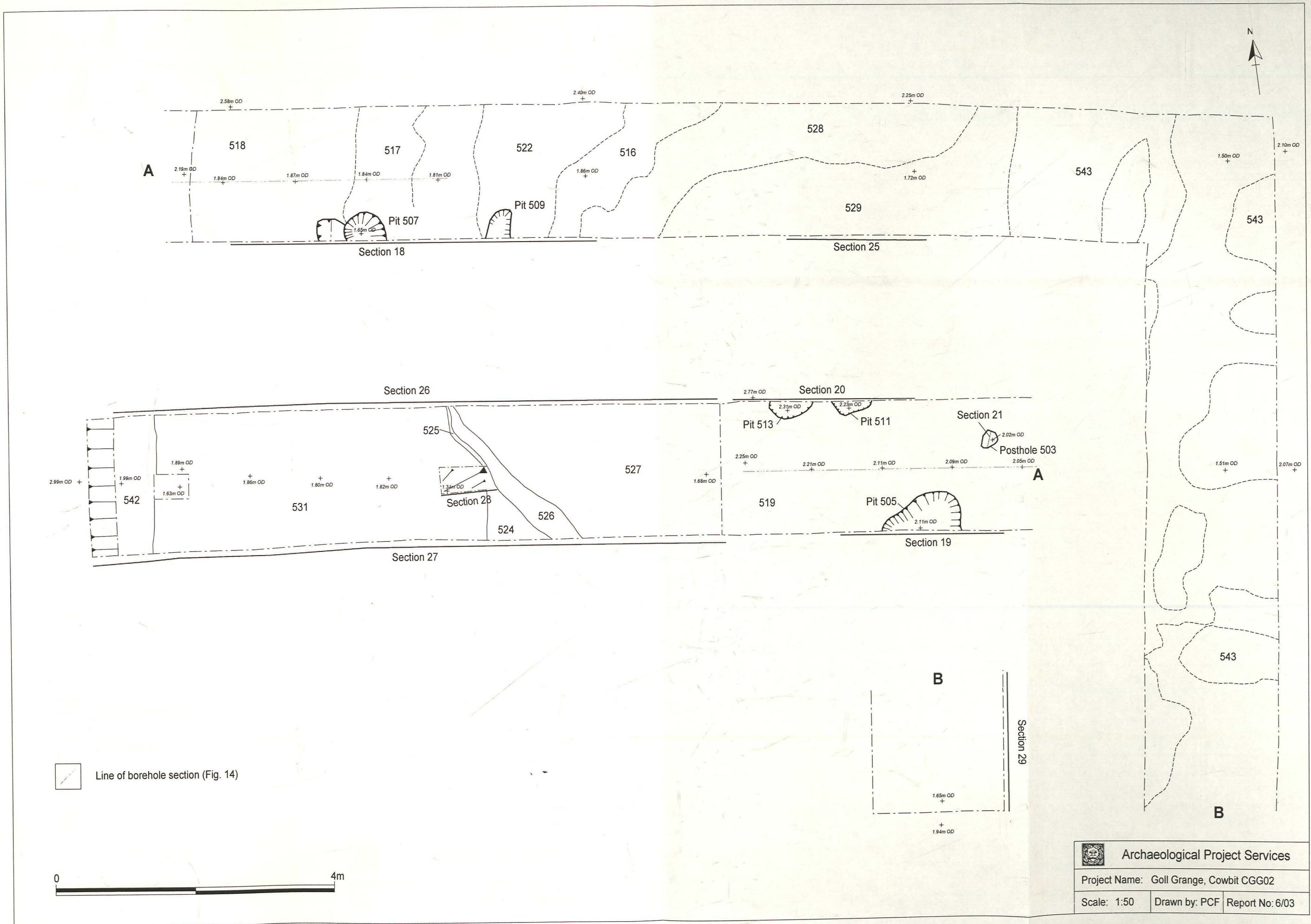


Figure 11 - Trench 5: Plan

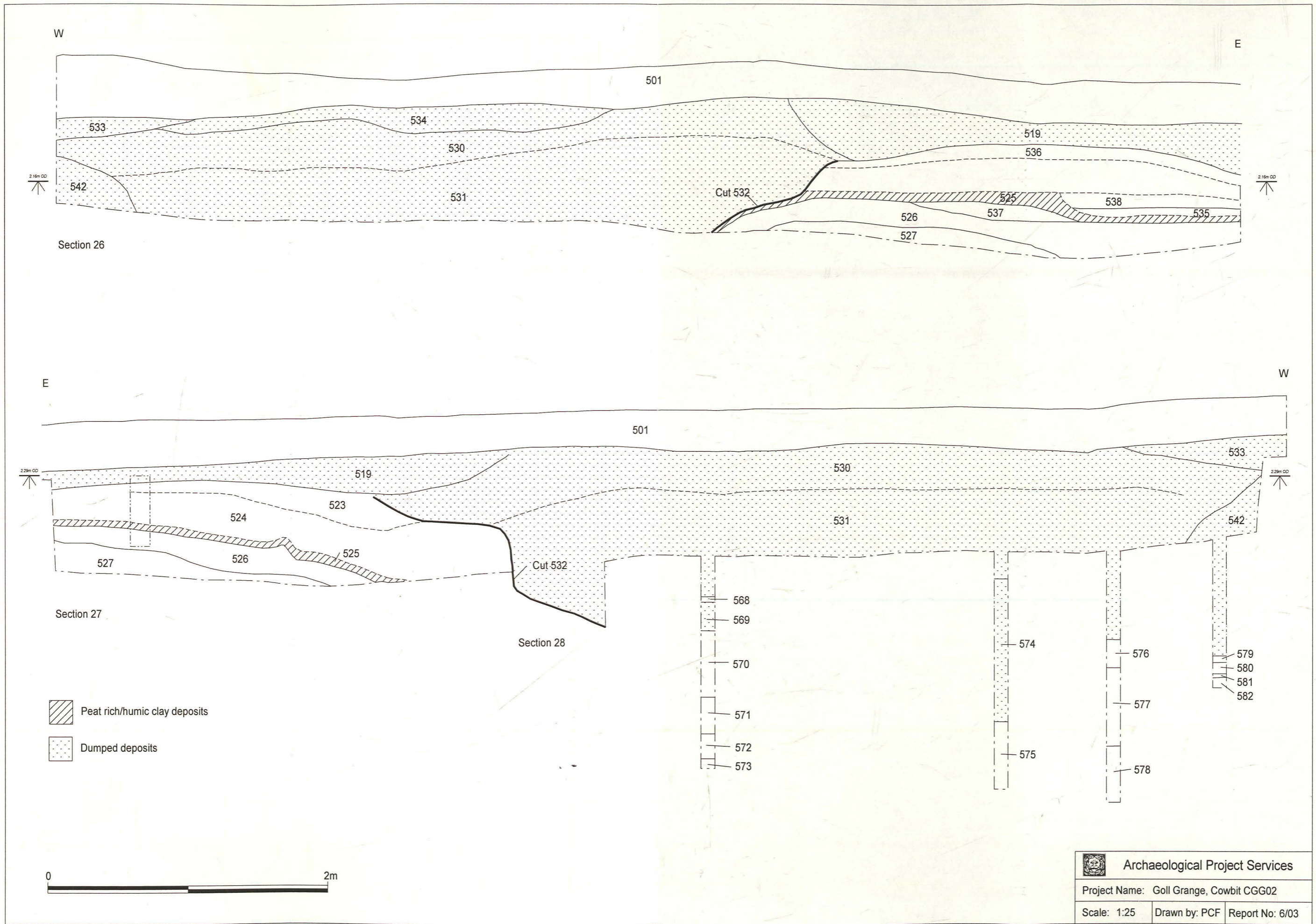


Figure 12 - Trench 5: Sections

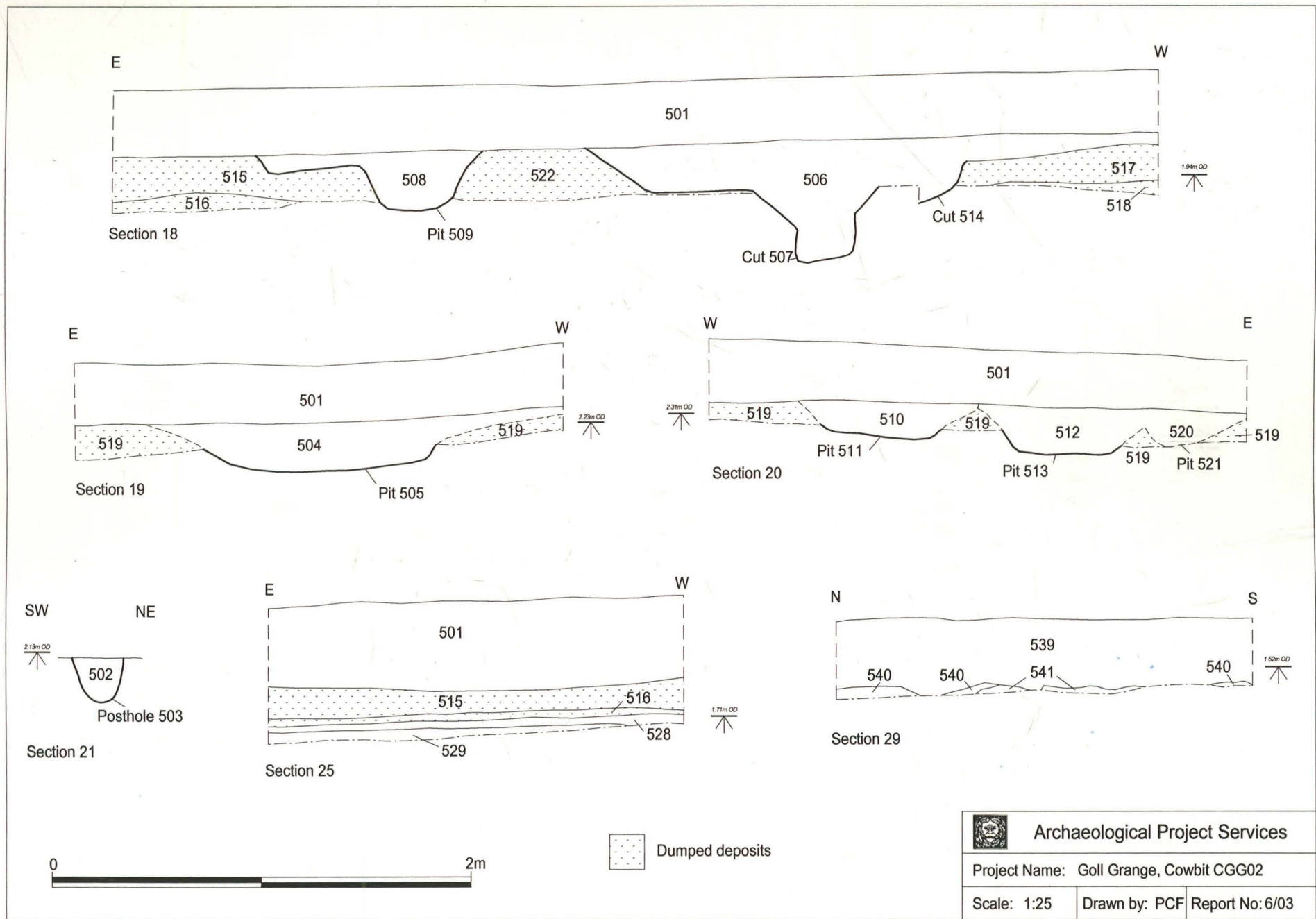
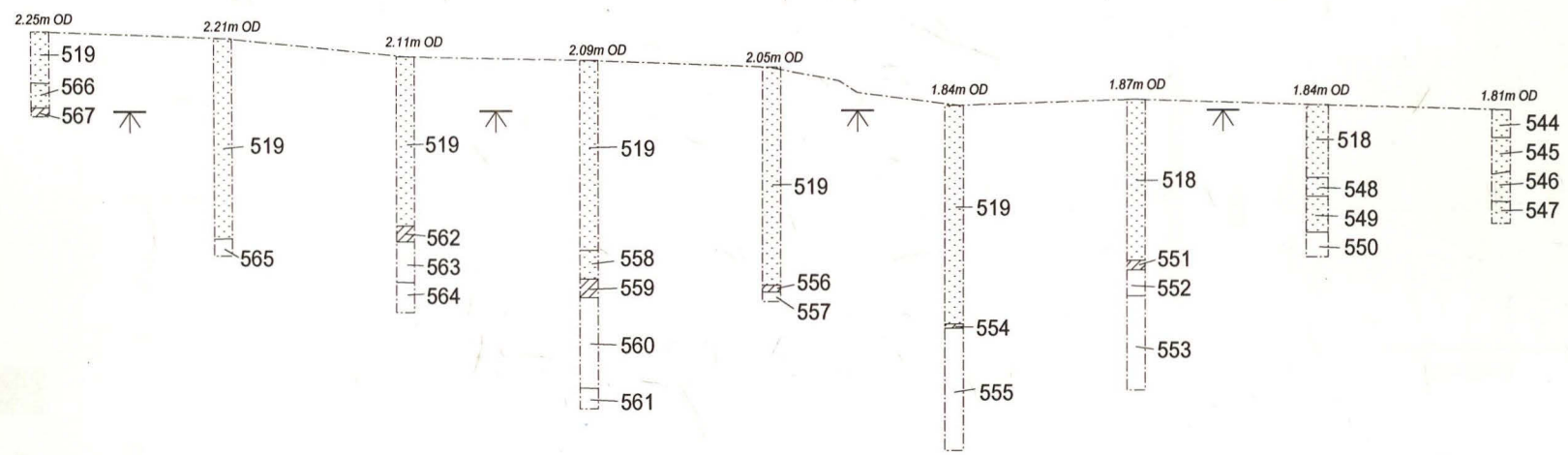




Figure 13 - Trench 5: Sections

W

E



-  Peat rich/humic clay deposits
-  Dumped deposits

Datum line is 1.81m OD




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Project Name: Goll Grange, Cowbit CGG02			
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Figure 14 - Trench 5: Borehole profile

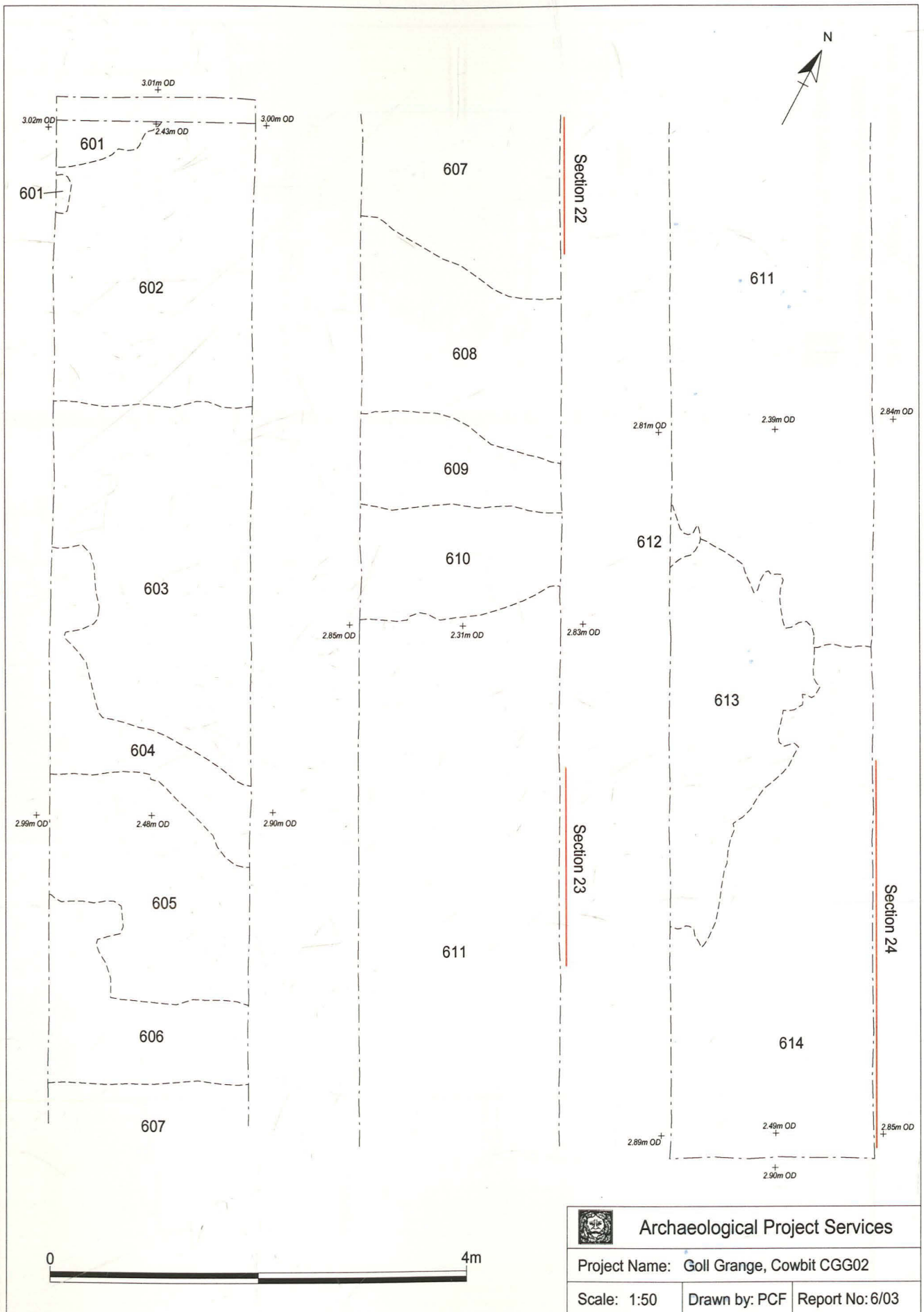
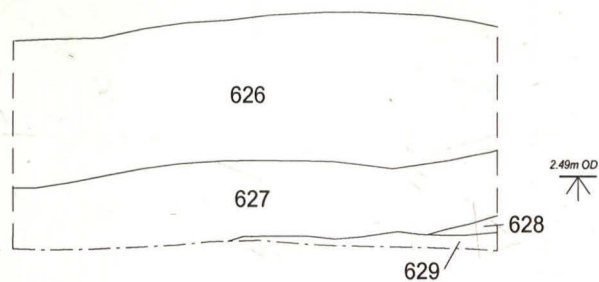
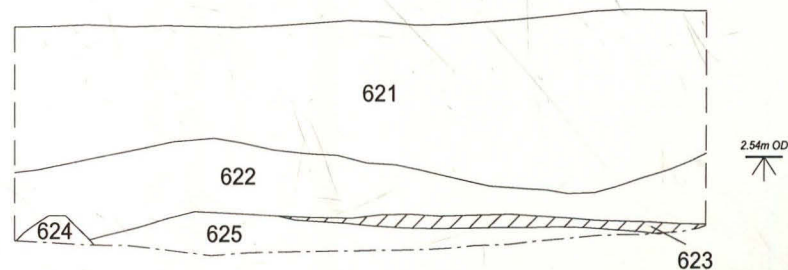


Figure 15 - Trench 6: Plan

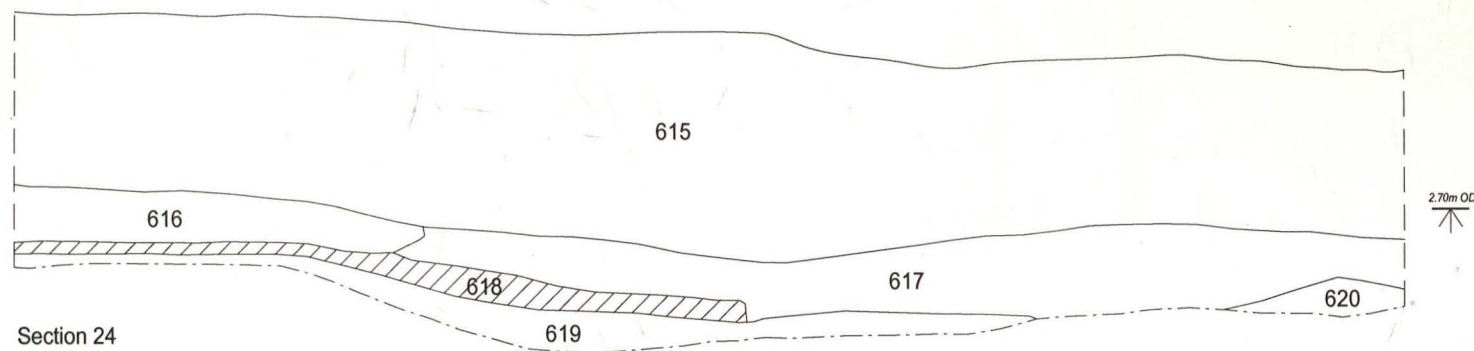




Section 22



Section 23



Section 24



 Peat rich/humic clay deposit


	Archaeological Project Services		
Project Name: Goll Grange, Cowbit CGG02			
Scale: 1:20	Drawn by: PCF	Report No: 6/03	

Figure 16 - Trench 6: Sections



Plate 1 - Aerial view of Goll Grange showing the site and earthwork features in the vicinity. North is towards the top right of the photograph (after Hallam 1953)



Plate 2 - View of the more southern mound before excavation, looking northwest



Plate 3 - View across the northern mound towards Trench 2, looking south



Plate 4 - Trench 1 after cleaning,  
looking southwest



Plate 5 - Trench 1, Section 1  
showing the general sequence of  
natural deposits, looking southeast



Plate 6 - Trench 2 after cleaning,  
looking east



Plate 7 - Trench 2 Section 7,  
showing the general sequence of  
deposits



Plate 8 - Trench 3 after cleaning,  
looking north



Plate 9 - Trench 3 Section 10,  
showing the natural deposits with  
peat, looking southwest



Plate 10 - Trench 3, undated pit  
(303), looking east



Plate 11 - Trench 4 after cleaning,  
looking southwest



Plate 12 - Trench 4, Section 9 showing the dumped layers, looking southwest

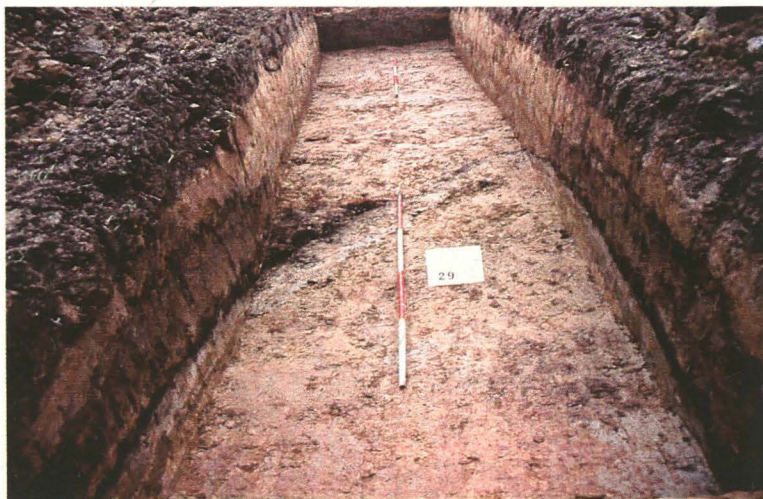


Plate 13 - The western end of Trench 5 after cleaning, looking west



Plate 14 - Trench 5, Section 27 showing the natural deposits with peat layers overlain by dumped silts, looking southwest



Plate 15 - Trench 5, post-medieval pit (505), looking south



Plate 16 - Trench 5, Post-medieval pits (511) and (513), looking north



Plate 17 - Trench 5, undated posthole (503), looking northwest



Plate 18 - Trench 6 after cleaning, looking southeast

## Appendix 1

### CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

#### Trench 1

No.	Description	Interpretation
100	Soft mid brownish grey clayey silt, 0.5m thick	Topsoil
101	Firm mid brownish grey clay, 0.4m thick	Natural deposit
102	Firm mid bluish grey clay, 0.23m thick	Natural deposit
103	Stiff mid brownish grey clay, 100mm thick	Natural deposit
104	Stiff mid greyish brown silty clay	Natural deposit
105	Soft black clayey peat, 0.15m thick	Natural peat deposit
106	Soft mid brownish grey silty clay, 0.15m thick	Natural deposit
107	Loose mid grey sandy silt, 0.15m thick	Natural deposit
108	Loose dark yellow sandy silt and light grey silty clay, 0.2m thick	Natural deposit
109	Soft dark yellow clayey silt, 120mm thick	Natural deposit
110	Soft black clayey peat, 100mm thick	Natural peat deposit
111	Loose mid grey and light brown silty clay, >100mm thick	Natural deposit
112	Loose dark yellowish brown clayey silt	Natural deposit
113	Stiff mid bluish grey clay	Natural deposit
114	Stiff mid bluish grey clay, >0.2m thick	Natural deposit
115	Loose mottled dark yellow and light grey silt	Natural deposit
116	Loose dark yellowish brown sandy silt, >0.5m thick	Natural deposit
117	Loose dark yellowish brown silt, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit
118	Soft mid grey silt, 0.3m thick	Dumped deposit
119	Soft mid grey silty clay, 0.15m thick	Dumped deposit
120	Stiff mid brownish grey clay and soft black clayey peat, 0.28m thick	Natural deposit
121	Soft mid brownish grey clay, 0.28m thick	Natural deposit
122	Loose light grey clayey silt, 100mm thick	Natural deposit
123	Loose light brown sandy silt, 130mm thick	Natural deposit
124	Stiff mid brownish grey silty clay, 0.15m thick	Natural deposit
125	Loose light grey silt, 110mm thick	Natural deposit
126	Soft black clayey peat, 50mm thick	Natural deposit
127	Unstratified finds retrieval	

#### Trench 2

No.	Description	Interpretation
201	Soft mixed light blue and light red clay, 100mm thick	Natural deposit
202	Firm light grey clay	Natural deposit
203	Loose black decayed peat, 110mm thick	Natural deposit
204	Loose black decayed peat	Natural deposit
205	Stiff mid greyish blue silty clay	Natural deposit
206	Soft mid grey and dark yellow clay	Natural deposit
207	Firm light brown sandy silt	Natural deposit
208	Firm mid brownish grey clayey silt, 0.36m thick	Topsoil

No.	Description	Interpretation
209	Loose light brown clayey silt	Dumped deposit
210	Loose dark grey clayey silt	Dumped deposit
211	Light greyish white silt	Dumped deposit
212	Soft dark yellow clayey silt	Dumped deposit
213	Soft mid blue clay	Natural deposit
214	Firm light yellow silt	Natural deposit
215	Stiff mid grey silty clay	Natural deposit
216	Firm mid grey clay, >100mm thick	Natural deposit

### Trench 3

No.	Description	Interpretation
301	Unstratified finds retrieval	
302	Soft mixed light grey and light brown sandy silt, 0.42m thick	Fill of (303)
303	Sub-rectangular feature, 0.8m long by >0.4m wide by 0.57m deep, steep sides and concave base	Pit
304	Mixed stiff mid grey clay and soft light brown and grey silt	Fill of (303)
305	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >1.8m long by >1.74m wide by 0.38m deep, gradual sides and concave base	Natural channel
306	Soft dark brown clayey silt, 60mm thick	Subsoil
307	Friable dark blackish grey clayey peat, 60mm thick	Natural peat deposit
308	Stiff mid to light bluish grey silty clay, 0.12m thick	Natural deposit
309	Stiff mid grey clay, 0.22m thick	Natural deposit
310	Stiff mid grey clay, 0.25m thick	Natural deposit
311	Firm dark greyish brown clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
312	Firm mid reddish brown silty clay, 30mm thick	Natural deposit
313	Friable dark blackish grey clayey peat, 60mm thick	Natural peat deposit
314	Firm light bluish grey clay	Natural deposit
315	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Natural deposit
316	Soft light yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.33m thick	Dumped deposit
317	Stiff mid to dark grey clay, 30mm thick	Natural deposit
318	Stiff mid grey mottled with reddish brown clay, 0.23m thick	Natural deposit
319	Soft light brown sandy silt, 30mm thick	Natural deposit
320	Stiff mid to dark grey silty clay, 0.15m thick	Natural deposit
321	Friable dark blackish grey clayey peat, 0.15m thick	Natural peat deposit
322	Stiff mid bluish grey clay, 130mm thick	Natural deposit
323	Firm dark blackish grey silty clay and peat, 50mm thick	Natural peat deposit
324	Stiff mid bluish grey clay, 0.25m thick	Natural deposit
325	Soft light yellowish brown sandy silt, 100mm thick	Natural deposit
326	Stiff mid greenish grey silty clay, 0.16m thick	Natural fill of (305)
327	Stiff mid to light grey clay, >0.25m thick	Natural deposit
328	Firm dark brown clayey silt	Fill of (330)
329	Soft/friable dark brown silt	Fill of (332)
330	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >1.8m long by 1.4m wide by 0.29m deep, gradual sides and concave base	?Ditch
331	Soft mid grey and light brown silt	Fill of (332)
332	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >1.8m long by 0.94m wide, moderate	?Ditch



No.	Description	Interpretation
	sides and undulating base	
333	Soft mid to light greyish brown silt	Fill of (334)
334	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >1.8m long by >0.66m wide by 0.23m deep, steep sides and flat base	?Ditch
335	Soft mid grey mottled with reddish brown clayey silt	Fill of (336)
336	Linear feature, aligned east-west, >1.8m long by 1.48m wide, 0.35m deep, moderate sides and flat base	?Ditch
337	Firm dark brown clayey silt, 0.15m thick	Subsoil
338	Friable dark blackish grey peat with silty clay, 90mm thick	Natural peat deposit

#### Trench 4

No.	Description	Interpretation
400	Unstratified finds retrieval	
401	Soft light brownish grey sandy clay, 0.42m thick	Topsoil
402	Soft light yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.75m thick	Dumped deposit
403	Soft/plastic dark grey peaty clay, 100mm thick	Buried soil
404	Firm mid grey clay, 0.24m thick	Natural deposit
405	Firm dark grey clay, 110mm thick	Natural deposit
406	Firm black peat, 40mm thick	Natural peat deposit
407	Firm light bluish grey silt	Natural deposit
408	Firm/plastic mid to dark grey silty clay	Natural deposit
409	Soft mid yellowish brown sand, 30mm thick	Dumped deposit
410	Soft light yellowish brown sandy silt, 0.6m thick	Dumped deposit
411	Soft mid to dark grey clayey silt, 80mm thick	Dumped deposit
412	Soft/plastic dark grey peaty clay, 40mm thick	Buried soil
413	Soft light brown sandy silt, 0.24m thick	Dumped deposit
414	Soft black clayey silt, 0.33m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
415	Stiff mid bluish grey clay, 0.25m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
416	Firm mid brown sand, >50mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
417	Soft mid grey silty sand, 100mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
418	Soft black clayey silt, 0.4m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
419	Stiff mid grey clay with peat, >0.27m thick (augered)	Natural deposit

#### Trench 5

No.	Description	Interpretation
500	Unstratified finds retrieval	
501	Soft mid greyish brown silty sand, 0.3m thick	Topsoil
502	Firm light brownish grey silty sand	Fill of (503)
503	Rectangular feature, 0.25m long by 0.25m wide by 0.21m deep, near vertical sides and blunt tapered base	Posthole
504	Firm light brownish grey clayey silt	Fill of (505)
505	Irregular feature, 1.10m long by >0.58m wide by 0.23m deep, gradual sides and flattish base	Pit
506	Soft mid to light grey sandy silt	Fill of (507)

No.	Description	Interpretation
507	Sub-circular feature, 0.6m long by >0.42m wide by 0.5m deep, steep sides and flat base	Pit
508	Soft light brown sandy silt	Fill of (509)
509	Sub-rectangular feature, 1.07m long by >0.34m wide by 0.3m deep, near vertical sides and flattish base	Pit
510	Soft light brownish grey clayey silt	Fill of (511)
511	Sub-circular feature, 0.58m long by >0.24m wide by 0.18m deep, gradual sides and flattish base	Pit
512	Firm mid brownish grey clayey silt	Fill of (513)
513	Irregular feature, 0.8m long by > 0.2m wide by 0.22m deep, steep sides and flattish base	Pit
514	Sub-rectangular feature, 0.4m long by >0.36m wide by 0.2m deep, steep sides and concave base	Pit
515	Firm/stiff dark greyish brown silty clay, 0.2m thick	Dumped deposit
516	Firm dark grey silty clay with peat, 80mm thick	Dumped deposit
517	Soft light brown sandy silt, 0.19m thick	Dumped deposit
518	Soft light yellowish brown sandy silt	Dumped deposit
519	Soft light brown sandy silt, 1.2m thick	Dumped deposit
520	Soft light brownish grey clayey silt	Fill of (521)
521	Feature, 0.5m wide by 0.16m deep, moderate sides and flattish base	Pit
522	Soft light brown sandy silt, 0.24m thick	Dumped deposit
523	Firm mixed mid to dark brown and dark grey clayey silt, 0.25m thick	Dumped deposit
524	Stiff mid to dark brownish grey clayey silt, 0.3m thick	Dumped deposit
525	Firm dark blackish grey clayey silt with peat, 50mm thick	Natural peat deposit
526	Firm light bluish grey silty clay, 0.2m thick	Natural deposit
527	Soft light brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick	Natural deposit
528	Loose light grey clayey silt, 50mm thick	Natural deposit
529	Loose light grey silt with chalk fragments	Natural deposit
530	Soft light brown sandy silt	Fill of (532)
531	Soft mixed light brown and reddish brown sandy silt	Fill of (532)
532	Linear feature, aligned north-south, >1.8m long by >5.2m wide by 0.85m deep, gradual sides, not fully excavated	Possible channel
533	Stiff mixed light brown sandy silt and light bluish grey clay, 0.24m thick	Dumped deposit
534	Loose light brown silt	Fill of (532)
535	Stiff dark grey silty clay,	Natural deposit
536	Firm mixed dark grey silty clay and light grey clayey silt, 100mm thick	Dumped deposit
537	Loose light brownish grey silt, 0.12m thick	Dumped deposit
538	Firm dark yellow clayey silt and mid grey silty clay	Natural deposit
539	Soft mid brown silty clay, 0.37m thick	Topsoil
540	Firm mid grey silty clay, 50mm thick	Natural deposit
541	Firm mid greyish yellow silty clay, 50mm thick	Natural deposit
542	Stiff mid to dark brownish grey clayey silt	Dumped deposit
543	Soft light brown sandy silt	Natural deposit
544	Soft light to mid brown silt, 0.15m thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
545	Light brown silt, 0.21m thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
546	Soft mid to dark mottled grey and reddish brown silt, 0.14m thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
547	Soft light whitish brown sandy silt, >120mm thick (augered)	Dumped deposit

No.	Description	Interpretation
548	Soft light brown silt, 100mm thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
549	Soft light yellowish brown silty sand, 0.2m thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
550	Soft mid to dark reddish brown silt, >130mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
551	Friable dark brown clayey peat, 50mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
552	Plastic mid brownish grey clay, 130mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
553	Plastic dark grey organic silty clay, >0.52m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
554	Friable dark grey peaty clay, 20mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
555	Plastic dark grey clay, >0.67m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
556	Friable dark grey peaty clay, 40mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
557	Plastic dark grey clay, >60mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
558	Soft light brown silty sand, 0.15m thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
559	Friable dark grey silt with peat, 100mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
560	Soft mid grey clayey silt, 0.5m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
561	Plastic light greyish blue clay, >110mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
562	Friable dark grey peaty clay, 80mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
563	Soft light brown sandy silt, 0.33m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
564	Friable mid to light grey clayey silt with peat, >0.16m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
565	Soft light greyish brown silty clay, >0.2m thick (augered)	Natural deposit
566	Soft mid to dark brown silty clay, 130mm thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
567	Friable dark grey peaty clay, 40mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
568	Plastic light bluish grey clay, 30mm thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
569	Firm dark greenish grey sandy silt, 0.21m thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
570	Soft light to mid grey sandy silt, 0.47m thick (augered)	Dumped deposit
571	Firm dark grey sandy silt with clay lenses, 0.26m thick (augered)	Possible natural deposit
572	Plastic light grey clay, 0.18m thick (augered)	Possible natural deposit
573	Plastic mid grey clayey silt with peat, >0.16m thick (augered)	Possible natural deposit
574	Soft light grey sandy silt, 1.02m thick (augered)	?Dumped deposit
575	Firm mid grey clayey silt, >0.48m thick (augered)	Possible natural deposit
576	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.2m thick (augered)	?Dumped deposit
577	Plastic mid to dark grey silty clay with mollusc shell fragments, 0.55m thick (augered)	Possible natural deposit
578	Plastic mid to dark grey organic silty clay, >0.4m thick (augered)	Possible natural deposit
579	Firm dark brown peaty clay, 40mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
580	Firm mottled mid reddish brown silty clay, 80mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
581	Firm dark brown peaty clay, 30mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit
582	Plastic mid grey silty clay, >80mm thick (augered)	Natural deposit

#### Trench 6

No.	Description	Interpretation
601	Stiff mid grey clay	Natural deposit
602	Soft light brown silt	Natural deposit
603	Firm light grey silt	Natural deposit
604	Soft mid grey clay	Natural deposit
605	Soft light grey silt	Natural deposit
606	Soft mid grey clay	Natural deposit

No.	Description	Interpretation
607	Soft mid grey clay	Natural deposit
608	Firm mid grey clay	Natural deposit
609	Soft mid grey clay	Natural deposit
610	Firm mid grey clay	Natural deposit
611	Firm mid grey clay	Natural deposit
612	Soft grey silty clay	Natural deposit
613	Soft light brown silty clay	Natural deposit
614	Firm mid grey clay	Natural deposit
615	Firm mid brown silty clay, 0.6m thick	Topsoil
616	Soft brown silty clay, 0.15m thick	Natural deposit
617	Soft mid brown silty clay, 0.23m thick	Natural deposit
618	Soft black clayey peat, 100mm thick	Natural peat deposit
619	Firm light grey silt, 110mm thick	Natural deposit
620	Firm mid grey silty clay with peat, 100mm thick	Natural peat deposit
621	Firm mid brown silty clay, 0.48m thick	Topsoil
622	Soft brown silty clay, 0.2m thick	Natural deposit
623	Soft black clayey peat, 40mm thick	Natural peat deposit
624	Firm mid grey silty clay, 100mm thick	Natural deposit
625	Stiff mottled grey silty clay, 110mm thick	Natural deposit
626	Firm mid brown silty clay, 0.4m thick	Topsoil
627	Firm mid brown silty clay, 0.21m thick	Natural deposit
628	Soft black clayey peat, 40mm thick	Natural peat deposit
629	Firm mid grey clay, 60mm thick	Natural deposit

## Appendix 2

### THE FINDS

by Paul Cope-Faulkner, Hilary Healey, Barbara Precious and Gary Taylor

Recording of the pottery was undertaken with reference to guidelines prepared by the Medieval Pottery Research Group (Slowikowski *et al.* 2001) and the pottery was quantified using the chronology and coding system of the Lincolnshire ceramic type series. A total of 5 fragments of pottery weighing 122g was recovered from 2 separate contexts. Roman pottery was also recovered. In addition to the pottery, a moderate quantity of other objects, mostly brick/tile, comprising 21 items weighing a total of 2832g, was retrieved. Faunal remains were also recovered.

#### Provenance

The material was recovered from pit fills (504, 510 and 512), a posthole fill (506) and as unstratified finds (127, 301, 400 and 500).

#### Range

The range of material is detailed in the tables.

Table 1: The Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
127	SLSH	South Lincs. Shelly type, late 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> century	1	7	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century
	BOU	Bourne D ware, bung-hole cistern, 16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> century	1	45	
	BOU	Bourne D ware, 15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> century	3	63	
400	NVGW	Nene Valley Grey Ware, bodysherd, 3 <sup>rd</sup> century	1	5	15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> century
	NVGW	Nene Valley Grey Ware, jar or flagon base, 3 <sup>rd</sup> century	1	31	
	BOU	Bourne D ware	1	14	
401	SAM	Samian, central Gaulish, bodysherd	1	3	2 <sup>nd</sup> century

Roman pottery derives from local sources apart from a single sherd of Samian, derived from central France. All of the post-medieval pottery was made in moderate proximity to Cowbit, at Bourne 17km to the west.

Table 2: Other Finds

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
127	CBM	Handmade brick, overfired and glazed (accidentally?), 55mm thick, medieval	1	436	19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> century
	CBM	Handmade brick, overfired, 73mm thick, medieval-post-medieval	1	357	
	CBM	Tile, 16mm thick, late post-medieval	1	23	
	CBM	Pantile? post-medieval	1	14	
	CBM	Brick/tile	1	7	
	Copper alloy	Cartridge case, marked ELEY.KYNOCH.410; 19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> century	1	7	
	Copper alloy	Nuremburg jetton, bent, 16 <sup>th</sup> -early 17 <sup>th</sup> century	1	2	
301	Copper alloy	Chain, oval loops(3), length 39mm, post-medieval	1	3	Medieval
	CBM	Brick, handmade, overfired and glazed (accidentally?), medieval	1	99	
	CBM	Brick, handmade	1	14	

Context	Material	Description	No.	Wt (g)	Context Date
400	Iron	Shoe heel caulkin? post-medieval	1	9	Post-medieval?
	CBM	Handmade brick, 52mm thick, medieval	1	142	
	CBM	Handmade brick	2	35	
500	CBM	Handmade brick, 75mm thick, 133mm wide, mortar adhering	1	1532	Post-medieval
504	CBM	Brick/tile	1	2	
	Stone	Limestone	1	43	
506	CBM	Handmade brick	1	94	Medieval-post-medieval
510	CBM	Handmade brick	2	10	
512	CBM	Handmade brick	1	3	

Note: CBM = Ceramic building material

A Nuremburg jetton was recovered during metal detection of Trench 1. These reckoning counters were minted in Nuremburg, Germany, during the 16<sup>th</sup>-early 17<sup>th</sup> century and exported widely (Wells 1966, 14).

Three of the brick fragments (over 20% of the brick collection) are overfired with two of them being glazed. This surface treatment probably occurred accidentally during the firing of the bricks. It is likely that these bricks were produced very locally, perhaps elsewhere on the Goll Grange site.

Several small fragments of handmade brick were recovered from a number of contexts (301, 400, 504, 510, 512). These lack discriminating attributes, due to their small size. However, in character and fabric they resemble the more substantial medieval-early post-medieval bricks from the site and are likely to be of the same period.

The quantity of building material, brick, tile and stone, suggest structures in the proximity from the medieval period. The dearth of occupation debris would, however, suggest that the buildings did not serve a habitation function or were located at some distance from the specific investigation site.

Table 3: *The Faunal Remains*

Context	Species	Bone	No.	Wt (g)	Comments
500	horse	phalange	1	72	1 <sup>st</sup> phalange
504	sheep sized	maxilla	1	8	fragment only
	sheep sized	rib	1	2	possible knife cut
506	cattle sized	skull	1	26	fragment only

As only four bones were retrieved during the evaluation, they have little to offer as an assemblage. The presence of horse, cattle and sheep implies that the area may have been used for pasturage, although they could also have derived as waste from nearby habitation.

#### Condition

All the material is in good condition and present no long-term storage problems. Archive storage of the collection is by material class.

#### Documentation

There have been no previous archaeological investigations at Goll Grange, though there has been reported study of the history of the site and a general assessment undertaken as part of the Fenland Survey. Details of archaeological sites and discoveries in the area are maintained in the Lincolnshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

#### Potential

The moderate collection of medieval and later structural materials is of moderate local potential and significance and suggests buildings in the area. Most of the other artefacts date to the early post-medieval period, the 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century. These are also of moderate local potential and may reflect some change in use of the site at that time, contrasting with the lack of medieval artefacts.

The dearth of material later than the 17<sup>th</sup> century is informative and suggests that the site was abandoned by that time.

#### References

Slowikowski, A., Nenk, B. and Pearce, J., 2001, *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2

Wells, P., 1966, 'Nuremburg Reckoning Counters', *Boston and South Lincs. Archaeology Group 1965-1966*

## Appendix 3

### AN EVALUATION OF PLANT MACROFOSSILS, MOLLUSC SHELLS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM GOLL GRANGE, COWBIT, LINCOLNSHIRE (CGG 02)

*By Val Fryer*

#### Introduction

Evaluation excavations at Goll Grange, Cowbit, Lincolnshire were carried out by Archaeological Project Services. The excavations, which were concentrated on two large earthen mounds, were undertaken in order to establish whether these features were natural or man-made and what, if any, function they served.

Four samples were taken for the extraction of the plant macrofossil assemblages, one (sample 4) from the clay core of the southerly mound and three ( samples 1, 3 and 5) from features possibly related to the occupation/use of the mounds.

#### Methods

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover, collecting the flots in a 500 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant remains, mollusc shells and other remains noted are listed on Table 1. Modern contaminants including fibrous roots, seeds/fruits and arthropods were present throughout.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. Artefacts/ecofacts were not present.

#### Results of assessment

Plant macrofossils were extremely rare and consisted only of sparse small charcoal fragments and a single piece of charred stem. Other materials were also very rare and some (most notably the small mammal bones), appeared very 'fresh' and may be modern in origin. Shells of terrestrial molluscs were present in all four assemblages, but again, surface structuring and colouration were extremely well preserved, possibly indicating that the shells are relatively modern. However, shells of freshwater obligate molluscs were present in samples 4 and 5. These were noticeably more fragmented and abraded and may be earlier in date.

#### Conclusions

In summary, the assemblages recovered are extremely small and appear to contain a proportion of intrusive modern material. The freshwater molluscs in samples 4 and 5 may suggest that the mounds are formed from up-cast fluvial material, but there is little or no indication of their intended purpose.

#### Key to Table

x = 1 - 10 specimens    pmc = probable modern contaminant



Sample No.	1	3	4	5
Context No.	304	403	524	506
<b>Plant macrofossils</b>				
Charcoal <2mm	x	x	x	x
Charred root/rhizome/stem				x
<b>Other material</b>				
Black porous 'cokey' material			x	x
Brick/tile		x		x
Fish bone				x
Small coal frag.			x	
Small mammal/amphibian bone				xpmc
<b>Molluscs</b>				
<b>Woodland/shade-loving species</b>				
<i>Vitrea crystallina</i>				x
<b>Open country species</b>				
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	x	x	x	x
<i>V. excentrica</i>				x
<i>V. pulchella</i>	x	x	x	
<b>Marsh/freshwater slum species</b>				
<i>Vertigo</i> sp.			x	
<b>Freshwater species</b>				
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>				x
<i>Armiger crista</i>			x	x
<i>Hydrobia ulvae</i>				xcf
<i>Lymnaea</i> sp.				x
<i>L. peregra</i>				x
<i>Planorbis</i> sp.				x
<i>Valvata cristata</i>				xcf
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 1. Plant macrofossils, mollusc shells and other remains from Goll Grange, Cowbit, Lincolnshire.

## Appendix 4

### A NOTE ON THE TWO MONOLITH SAMPLES FROM GOLL GRANGE, COWBIT

*By James Rackham*

Two column samples taken through sediments in Trenches 3 and 5 were submitted for description and visual interpretation.

#### *Sample 6, Trench 5*

The following sequence was recorded:

Top		
45-50	10YR 5/6	yellowish brown fine sand - [519]
41-45	10YR 3/2	very dark greyish brown very slightly sandy silt with some organic content - [523]
37-41	10YR 5/3	brown slightly silty fine sand, with red brown mottles, and a very uneven boundary with the layer above - [524]
24-37	10YR 4/2	dark greyish brown slightly sandy silt, with red brown mottles, with patches of fine sand at its base and occasional through the remainder of the deposit - [524]
16-24	10YR 3/1	very dark grey, very slightly sandy clayey silt, with red brown mottles [525]
11-16	10YR 6/3	pale brown patchy fine sand with yellow brown mottles - [526]
10-11	Gley N4/	dark grey slightly red mottled clayey fine silt - [526]
5.5-10	10YR 6/2	light brownish grey fine sand with lots yellow brown mottles - [526]
4-5.5	Gley N4/	dark grey very slightly sandy clayey fine silt - [526]

The layers show a slope across the 10cm wide column indicating that most deposits are dipping and there is some fine fibrous root penetration throughout the sequence.

The sequence from the base of the column to the upper surface of layer [525] appears to be natural. This represents a short sequence of fine marine (intertidal) sands with two episodes of clayey fine silts, probably reflecting a local change in mudflat topography and sediment deposition or perhaps a short period of lower tides when the site was only reached by the highest tides. This is followed by what may have been a period of deposition in an upper salt marsh environment or even partially fresh or brackish water environment during which the dark grey clayey silt [525] was deposited. There are appreciable variations in the thickness of each layer within the column sample (10 x 10cm) indicating that the sequence is not a simple horizontal deposition. Layer [525] may have subsequently dried out and formed a soil. The subsequent deposits, archaeologically defined as [524], [523] and [519], suggest some disturbance since the boundaries between them are very uneven and occasional patches of sand occur within the silts and the fine band of sand at 37-41 is discontinuous and also very uneven. These deposits are probably redeposited from the sediments below suggesting that the ground has been made up or material is being dumped from ditch cuts.

### Sample 2, Trench 3

The following sequence was recorded:

Top		
32-50	10YR 4/1	dark grey clayey fine silt with extensive red brown mottling - [318]
28-32	10YR 3/1	very dark grey slightly coarser clayey silt - [320]
25-28	10YR 2/1	black completely humified friable peat - [321]
24.5-25	10YR 6/3	pale brown lens of fine sand
23-24.5		mixed humified black organic, pale brown sand, and dirty brown silty sand deposits, very patchy and not horizontally deposited - [321]
10-23	Gley N4/	slightly gleyed dark grey slightly clayey fine silt with red brown mottling and occasional sand patches (?invertebrate burrows). Deposit fines upwards from coarser silts at the base - [324]
6-10	10YR 4/6	dark yellowish brown well mottled slightly silty fine sand, fining upwards - [324]
0-6	10YR 5/6	mottled yellowish brown very fine sand, mottling responsible for most of the sediment colour - [325]

The whole of the sequence retained by this column sample appears to be naturally deposited. The basal sequence of layers [325] and [324] reflect a marine sediment fining upwards throughout these deposits from a fine sand into a clayey fine silt immediately below [321]. This would appear to represent a change from an intertidal depositional environment to an upper saltmarsh environment where much finer sediments are deposited. [321] represents a change to fresh or brackish water conditions in which a peat developed. The presence of a fine sand lens and some disturbance of the lower part of this deposits suggests that the area was still occasionally over-run by very high tides or storm events. The organic horizon is covered by silts that again appear to fine slightly upwards, although whether these reflect a return to saltmarsh conditions or freshwater alluvial sediments cannot be determined by visual inspection. The whole sequence is however consistent with naturally deposited sediments in saltmarsh and fresh or brackish water conditions.

Radiocarbon dating of the organic horizon [321] would afford a date for the contemporary high tide level (approx. 1.2m OD) just prior to the formation of the peats. Analysis of the silts below and above this horizon may also confirm or allow their interpretation as marine and/or freshwater sediments. The sediment retained in the monolith should be sufficient for both these analyses.

## Appendix 5

### SECRETARY OF STATE'S CRITERIA FOR SCHEDULING ANCIENT MONUMENTS - extract from *archaeology and planning* DoE planning policy guidance note 16, November 1990

The following criteria (which are not in any order of ranking), are used for assessing the national importance of an ancient monument and considering whether scheduling is appropriate. The criteria should not however be regarded as definitive; rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the individual circumstances of a case.

- i *Period:* all types of monuments that characterise a category or period should be considered for preservation.
- ii *Rarity:* there are some monument categories which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. In general, however, a selection must be made which portrays the typical and commonplace as well as the rare. This process should take account of all aspects of the distribution of a particular class of monument, both in a national and regional context.
- iii *Documentation:* the significance of a monument may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigation or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records.
- iv *Group value:* the value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement or cemetery) or with monuments of different periods. In some cases, it is preferable to protect the complete group of monuments, including associated and adjacent land, rather than to protect isolated monuments within the group.
- v *Survival/Condition:* the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features.
- vi *Fragility/Vulnerability:* highly important archaeological evidence from some field monuments can be destroyed by a single ploughing or unsympathetic treatment; vulnerable monuments of this nature would particularly benefit from the statutory protection that scheduling confers. There are also existing standing structures of particular form or complexity whose value can again be severely reduced by neglect or careless treatment and which are similarly well suited by scheduled monument protection, even if these structures are already listed buildings.
- vii *Diversity:* some monuments may be selected for scheduling because they possess a combination of high quality features, others because of a single important attribute.
- viii *Potential:* on occasion, the nature of the evidence cannot be specified precisely but it may still be possible to document reasons anticipating its existence and importance and so to demonstrate the justification for scheduling. This is usually confined to sites rather than upstanding monuments.

## Appendix 6

### GLOSSARY

<b>Context</b>	An archaeological context represents a distinct archaeological event or process. For example, the action of digging a pit creates a context (the cut) as does the process of its subsequent backfill (the fill). Each context encountered during an archaeological investigation is allocated a unique number by the archaeologist and a record sheet detailing the description and interpretations of the context (the context sheet) is created and placed in the site archive. Context numbers are identified within the report text by brackets, <i>e.g.</i> (004).
<b>Cropmark</b>	A mark that is produced by the effect of underlying archaeological features influencing the growth of a particular crop.
<b>Cut</b>	A cut refers to the physical action of digging a posthole, pit, ditch, foundation trench, <i>etc.</i> Once the fills of these features are removed during an archaeological investigation the original 'cut' is therefore exposed and subsequently recorded.
<b>Dumped deposits</b>	These are deposits, often laid down intentionally, that raise a land surface. They may be the result of casual waste disposal or may be deliberate attempts to raise the ground surface.
<b>Dyings</b>	Medieval strips (selions) that are generally broader than ridge and furrow and separated by wide flat bottomed ditches, typical in areas prone to flooding where the upcast from the ditch raises the ground level of the ridge.
<b>Fill</b>	Once a feature has been dug it begins to silt up (either slowly or rapidly) or it can be back-filled manually. The soil(s) which become contained by the 'cut' are referred to as its fill(s).
<b>Geophysical Survey</b>	Essentially non-invasive methods of examining below the ground surface by measuring deviations in the physical properties and characteristics of the earth. Techniques include magnetometry and resistivity survey.
<b>Iron Age</b>	A period characterised by the introduction of Iron into the country for tools, between 800 BC and AD 50.
<b>Layer</b>	A layer is a term to describe an accumulation of soil or other material that is not contained within a cut.
<b>Medieval</b>	The Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1066-1500.
<b>Natural</b>	Undisturbed deposit(s) of soil or rock which have accumulated without the influence of human activity.
<b>Post-medieval</b>	The period following the Middle Ages, dating from approximately AD 1500-1800.
<b>Prehistoric</b>	The period of human history prior to the introduction of writing. In Britain the prehistoric period lasts from the first evidence of human occupation about 500,000 BC, until the Roman invasion in the middle of the 1 <sup>st</sup> century AD.
<b>Romano-British</b>	Pertaining to the period dating from AD 43-410 when the Romans occupied Britain.
<b>Saltern</b>	Salt producing site typified by ash, derived from fuel needed to evaporate sea water, and briquetage.

## Appendix 7

### THE ARCHIVE

The archive consists of:

213	Context records
61	Sheets containing scale drawings (plans and sections)
1	Photographic record sheet
1	Box of finds
6	Processed environmental samples (including two monoliths)
1	Stratigraphic matrix

All primary records and finds are currently kept at:

Archaeological Project Services  
The Old School  
Cameron Street  
Heckington  
Sleaford  
Lincolnshire  
NG34 9RW

The ultimate destination of the project archive is:

Lincolnshire City and County Museum  
12 Friars Lane  
Lincoln  
LN2 1HQ

The archive will be deposited in accordance with the document titled *Conditions for the Acceptance of Project Archives*, produced by the Lincolnshire City and County Museum.

Lincolnshire City and County Museum Accession Number: 2002.502

Archaeological Project Services Site Code: CGG 02

The discussion and comments provided in this report are based on the archaeology revealed during the site investigations. Other archaeological finds and features may exist on the development site but away from the areas exposed during the course of this fieldwork. *Archaeological Project Services* cannot confirm that those areas unexposed are free from archaeology nor that any archaeology present there is of a similar character to that revealed during the current investigation.

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