

THE GEORGE INN, RUISLIP

THE illustration reproduces a drawing of the old George Inn as it was in 1939, shortly before its regrettable demolition to make room for the widening of the road.

It stood at the road junction at the lower end of the High Street and formed with the church and adjoining ancient cottages a group of great charm. A new and larger George now occupies a nearby site, but the disappearance of the old inn and the "improvements" have destroyed what was one of the most picturesque corners of Middlesex.

In front of the inn there lay a large boulder which served as a mounting-block, and which can be seen in the drawing behind the pump handle. This stone too has vanished, and its loss is much to be regretted, for it was a reminder of the days when visitors to the inn would often come on horseback. It is not unlikely that the stone was originally a boundary or "hoar" stone, though a good deal smaller than the fine specimen that lies beside the road over Ducks Hill, some two miles to the north-west on the way to Batchworth Heath and Rickmansworth.

H. E. CHIOSSO.

SULLONIACAE EXCAVATIONS

IN the Society's 33rd Annual Report, printed in Vol. X, Part I (New Series) of the *Transactions*, it was recorded that preliminary work had been carried out in 1948 to decide where full-scale operations should take place in 1949.

Unfortunately the Joint Excavation Committee met with an unexpected set-back, for after consultation with the Institute of Archæology and much correspondence with persons possessing the necessary qualifications, they were unable to obtain the services of an expert archæologist to direct the proposed "dig." The truth is, as Dr. R. E. Mortimer Wheeler has explained publicly, there is a serious shortage of such experts, and to remedy this a scheme of excavations was launched this year by the Institute, to serve as a training school for field-workers.