

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION

THE OLD GEORGE

DYMOCK

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

NGR: SO 6984 3138

JOB N<sup>o</sup>: BA1014TOGD



Head Office: Chapel Walk Burgess Street Leominster Herefordshire HR6 8DE Tel: 01568 610101

Winchester Office: Unit 25 Basepoint Business Centre Winnall Valley Road Winchester Hampshire SO23 0LD Tel: 01962 832720

Email: [neil@borderarchaeology.com](mailto:neil@borderarchaeology.com) Web: [www.borderarchaeology.com](http://www.borderarchaeology.com)

February 2011



# Contents

---

<b>1.</b>	<b><u>NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>
<b>2.</b>	<b><u>INTRODUCTION</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>
<b>3.</b>	<b><u>BRIEF HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND</u></b>	<b><u>5</u></b>
<b>4.</b>	<b><u>METHODOLOGY</u></b>	<b><u>5</u></b>
<b>5.</b>	<b><u>RESULTS</u></b>	<b><u>6</u></b>
<b>6.</b>	<b><u>SUMMARY &amp; CONCLUSION</u></b>	<b><u>7</u></b>
<b>7.</b>	<b><u>COPYRIGHT</u></b>	<b><u>7</u></b>
<b>8.</b>	<b><u>BIBLIOGRAPHY</u></b>	<b><u>8</u></b>

**Report specification:**

*Archaeological Observation:* Will Logan BA Dip  
*Report compilation & artwork:* Will Logan BA Dip  
*Report editing:* George Children MA MifA  
*Approved:* Neil Shurety Dip.M. GM Inst.M



# 1. Non Technical Summary

---

*In February 2011, Border Archaeology carried out archaeological observation of groundworks at The Old George Dymock Gloucestershire relating to the refurbishment of existing buildings.*

*No finds or features of archaeological significance were identified during the course of the groundworks.*

## 2. Introduction

Border Archaeology was instructed by Richard Jones Esq. Chartered Surveyors & Building Consultants, Royal Crescent, Cheltenham to undertake the archaeological observation of groundworks at The Old George Dymock Gloucestershire (*fig. 1*) in respect of the refurbishment of existing buildings on the site (NGR: SO 6984 3138) (Planning Ref. P1639/09/COU).

Copies of this report will be remitted to the client, Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeological Service, and the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record.



*Fig. 1: Plan showing location of trenching (marked in red)*

### 2.1 Soils & geology

The area is characterised by typical argillic brown earths of the BROMYARD series (571b), composed of well-drained reddish fine silty soils over shale and siltstone, with some similar soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging and some well-drained coarse loamy soils over sandstone. The associated geology consists of Devonian reddish silty shale, siltstone and sandstone (SSEW 1983).



### 3. Brief Historical and Archaeological Background

The Old George is an early 19<sup>th</sup> century Grade II Listed building of brick construction with timber sash windows. Originally a roadside inn, the property was subsequently converted for use as a butcher's premises with adjacent residential accommodation, the shop and residence later being integrated to form a single dwelling.

A workshop of brick construction over a masonry base is situated to the rear of the former inn and served until recently as a light industrial purposes. This building is linked to the house by a one-and-a-half storey structure incorporating a laundry room and toilet. Windows are a mixture of timber and metal casements. The roof is pitched and has a plain clay tile covering. A further single-storey brick-built construction lies to the S side of the house. This has timber windows and a corrugated metal mono pitched roof. A modern agricultural-style outbuilding lies beyond the workshop structure.

### 4. Methodology

This archaeological observation was carried out in accordance with practices set out by the Institute for Archaeologists in Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief (IfA, 1994 revised 2001). Border Archaeology adheres to the IfA *Code of conduct* (2010) and *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology* (2008).

All groundworks were subject to archaeological observation, the aim being to identify, to record and, where appropriate, to further investigate any surviving deposits, features or structures of archaeological significance. All spoil and removed material was examined and sorted for artefacts.

A single continuous trench measuring 35m × 0.5m was opened by machine (*plates 1 & 2*)

Full written, graphic and photographic records were made in accordance with Border Archaeology's *Field Recording Manual*.

A photographic record was compiled using a high-resolution digital camera. Each photograph, other than general shots of work in progress, contains an appropriate scale and records are indexed and cross-referenced to the written record. Details concerning subject and direction of view are maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame number.

## 5. Results

---

The trench was excavated in the access roadway immediately to the E of the Old George, running from an outbuilding at the S end, to the junction with the B4215 at the N extent. It measured 35m (N-S) × 0.5m (E-W) × 0.75-0.85m.

Three contexts were identified. Underlying the modern concrete surface for the access roadway (001) was (002), comprising a soft, deep reddish gritty silt clay containing moderate post-medieval CBM. This extended trenchwide, with a maximum thickness of 0.73m at the S end of the trench thinning to approximately 0.1m thick at the N extent.

Underlying (002) was (003) a plastic, light reddish sterile clay deposit. This varied in depth from 0.05m at the S end to 0.65m at the N extent.



*Plate 1: View SW showing extent of trenching*





*Plate: 2: View W showing E-facing section of Trench at the S extent*

## 6. Summary & Conclusion

---

No finds or features of archaeological significance were identified during the course of the groundworks.

There was some evidence of landscaping, probably associated with the construction of the access road, itself probably contemporary with the Old George, the outbuilding immediately to the S and the school to the E. The silty clay garden soil deposit (002) appeared to be artificially built up at the S end of the trench and truncated at the N end, suggesting that material had been redeposited to form a gradient.

## 7. Copyright

---

Border Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs & Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the report by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.



## 8. Bibliography

---

Border Archaeology, 2008, *Field Recording Manual*

Brown, D.H., 2007, *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*

Department of the Environment, 1994, *Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the historic environment*

IfA, 2008, *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*

IfA, 2010, *Code of Conduct*

IfA, 2008, *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*

IfA, 2008, *Draft Standard and Guidance for the creation, preparation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

SSEW, 1983, *Soil Map of England and Wales Scale 1:250,000*, Silsoe

Walker, K., 1990, *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*, UKIC





**Document control**

<b>Job title</b>	Archaeological Observation: The Old George Dymock Gloucestershire	<b>Job No</b>	BA1014TOGD
<b>Report written by</b>	<i>Will Logan BA Dip</i>		
<b>Report edited by</b>	<i>George Children MA MfA</i>		
<b>Issue No</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Approved for issue</b>
1	Final	Feb 2011	
<i>Neil Shurety Dip M.GM Inst. M</i>			