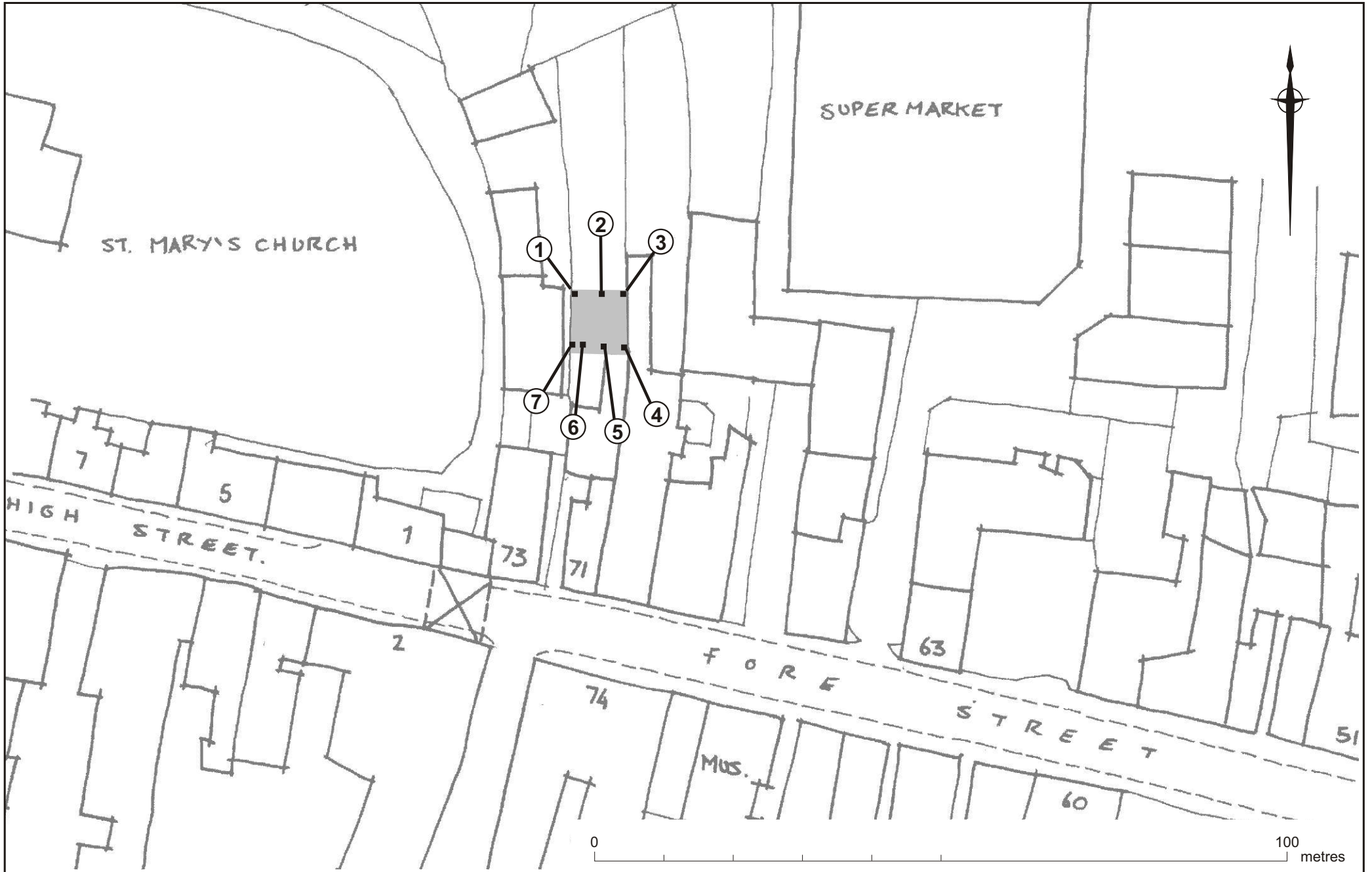


Devon County Historic Environment Record

Parish: Totnes	NGR: SX80286045	Number
Subject: Archaeological Watching Brief at The Cottage, 71 Fore Street, Totnes, Devon		
<p>Description: The site forms part of one of a number of medieval burghage plots fronting Fore Street, just outside of the line of the medieval town wall. A watching brief was maintained during the hand-excavation of 7 pits, 5 measuring 600mm square by x 600mm deep and 2 measuring 300mm x 600mm by 600mm deep. Their location is shown on Fig. 1.</p> <p>Results: The layer sequence within the pits was as follows:</p> <p><i>Pit -1-4:</i> 0-0.04m – concrete 0.04-0.16m – friable dark grey-black silty clay containing frequent charcoal, slate and mortar fragments (probable 19th to 20th century levelling) 0.16-0.32m – friable grey silty clay containing frequent charcoal and slate fragments (probable 19th to 20th century levelling) 0.32-0.60m – yellow brown silty clay containing frequent slate and charcoal fragments (probable 17th to 18th Century levelling)</p> <p><i>Pit 3:</i> 0-0.04m - concrete 0.04-0.60m - friable dark grey -black, silty clay containing frequent charcoal, slate and mortar fragments (probable 19th to 20th century levelling.</p> <p><i>Pit 5-7:</i> 0-0.04m – concrete 0.04-0.49m - Friable grey silty clay containing frequent charcoal and slate fragments (probable 19th to 20th Century levelling) 0.49-0.60m - mid yellow brown silty clay containing frequent slate and charcoal fragments (probable 17th to 18th century levelling)</p> <p> Finds 18th and 19th century pottery was recorded in most pits with only a representative sample kept.</p> <p>Comment: Although the site is known to lie within the historic core of the medieval town, no features or finds of such date were found. As the pits did not extend to the level of natural subsoil it remains unclear as to whether early deposits are present at a lower level. It is also possible that early deposits have been removed or heavily truncated by post-medieval activity.</p>	<p>Ref: Exeter Archaeology Project no. 5671 DFST 06</p>	<p>Date: March 2006</p>
<p>Owner: R Goulden The Cottage 71 Fore Street Totnes Devon TQ9 5NJ</p>	<p>Recorder: M Steinmetzer Exeter Archaeology</p>	



Location of site, showing area of extension (shaded) and positions of pits.