



*“Still calm look’d forth the Lady
From her embattled wall;
Her presence was a power, her voice
Thrill’d like a trumpet’s call.”*

Curating the Elizabeth Treffry Collection

Dr. Tehmina Goskar, MA AMA

A collections audit commissioned by Dr. Melissa Hardie, Director of the Hypatia Trust, to quantify and make recommendations for the future of the Elizabeth Treffry Collection on Women in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

March 2012

Tehmina Goskar <http://tehmينا.goskar.com/>
Tel: 07834 423526
Email: tehmينا@goskar.com

Summary

The Elizabeth Treffry Collection exists to document the lives and achievements of women in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. It comprises over 3300 publications and over 300 archives. The collection belongs to the Hypatia Trust and the principal collector is Dr. Melissa Hardie.

A new permanent home where the collection may be publicly accessed is now sought.

The audit was commissioned to quantify and make recommendations for the future of the collection as a basis for its long-term curation, promotion, use and associated fundraising.

This report is a collections audit based on a survey made at Trevelyan House, Penzance, Cornwall, where the majority of items are currently housed. The survey comprises:

- An assessment of the current context of the collection including indexing projects
- A head-count of items in the collection
- A basic assessment of subject range and item type
- Conservation and storage issues
- Identification of highlights in the collection
- Short, medium and long-term recommendations on the practicalities of preparing the collection for a permanent home, cataloguing the collection and describing and interpreting it for a range of audiences
- Suggestions for future initiatives to improve the profile and use of the collection.

The audit was conducted and this report written by Dr. Tehmina Goskar, collections specialist, heritage consultant and historian based in Penzance, Cornwall.

More about the author can be found at <http://tehmina.goskar.com/>

Table of Contents

SummaryError! Bookmark not defined.

1. About the collections audit **4**

1.1. What is a collections audit? 4

1.2. Brief description of the collection..... 4

1.3. Scope of audit..... 5

2. Quantifying the collection **7**

2.1 Books and periodicals 7

2.2 Archives..... 8

3. Features of the collection**12**

3.2 Collection highlights 12

4. Short, medium and long-term recommendations**15**

4.1 Practical recommendations..... 15

4.2 Accessioning, cataloguing and documentation 16

4.3 Interpretive recommendations..... 17

5. Applied initiatives**19**

5.1 Connecting the collection into its wider context and networks 19

5.2 Research and outreach 19

Conclusion**20**

1. About the collections audit

1.1 What is a collections audit?

A collections audit is a survey of the quantity and nature of items in your collection. It can be brief or detailed but is not to be confused with a catalogue, inventory or condition assessment. Individual items are highlighted because of their special significance or rarity, and their potential as ambassador items, or to highlight specific conservation and display concerns.

A collections audit should provide practical ideas for how the collector or collecting institution can develop the collection, promote it, and improve access to the information held within it. The purpose of the audit is not to tell the collector or collecting institution what it already knows but suggest improvements and plans that could help safeguard the collection's future.

1.2 Brief description of the collection

The Elizabeth Treffry Collection comprises publications (books and periodicals) and archives (including ephemera, audio-visual items and a small number of artefacts). Its current home is the Hypatia Trust based at Trevelyan House, Chapel Street, Penzance, Cornwall. Additional items in the collection are also housed in the Jamieson Library of Women's History at Newmill, Penzance, Cornwall.

The collection was established by the collector, Dr. Melissa Hardie, who, on behalf of the Hypatia Trust, now wishes to find a permanent home for the collection.

The collection was publicly launched in 1996 by the Hon. David Treffry, a living descendant of Elizabeth Treffry, after whom the collection is named. Dame Elizabeth Treffry, according to medieval legend, was an aristocrat based at Place House in Fowey and renowned for heroically and successfully defending it during the French raids of 1457. Her feats were immortalised in the poem *The Lady of Place*, by Henry Sewell Stokes (1884) from where the cover quotation derives.

The collection aims to document the lives and achievements of the women who have shaped the character and history of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly through their literature, art, research and work.

The collection blends the preservation and documentation of regional heritage and women's heritage. The current subject strengths of the collection are in nineteenth and twentieth-century art and literature. Specific highlights are outlined below (section 3).

1.2.1 Collecting history and donors

The Elizabeth Treffry Collection has been built up over a thirty-year period by the collector, Dr. Melissa Hardie on behalf of the Hypatia Trust. Friends and supporters have also contributed books, archives and artefacts.

1.2.2 Previous and current indexing projects

The following attempts to index and/or catalogue elements of the collection, particularly its books have been identified. Those marked with an *asterisk are current:

- Jamieson Library card index includes majority of books in the Elizabeth Treffry Collection
- Women in Cornwall card index at Trevelyan House (see section 2.2.1)
- Bibliotheca Cornubiensis Femina (a bibliographical index of notable women in Cornwall, including writers and artists, including contemporary women)
- *Women Writing Cornwall database (a Drupal-based online database of women's writings relating to Cornwall)¹
- *Cornwall Artists Index
- Women of Science in Cornwall, compiled largely from the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society journal, the journals of the Royal Institution of Cornwall and the *Flora of Cornwall* (Word document)
- *Periodical indexing (being undertaken by a volunteer) to extract and index articles relevant to women in Cornwall
- Excel spreadsheet bridge project to concatenate data from author, scientist and artist women data.

1.3 Scope of audit

This audit seeks to quantify, describe, and provide a condition assessment of books (including journals and other publications) and archives held at Trevelyan House. A small number of artefacts, which will be considered as part of the archive section, have also been included. A larger number of artworks by women constitute the Hypatia Art Collection and will not form part of this collection.

Its level of detail is basic and its primary purpose is to form the basis of a future documentation project in order to prepare the collection for a permanent physical home.

This report makes short, medium and longer-term recommendations to stimulate a practical strategy for cataloguing and publishing the collection, and to provide baseline information required for networking, funding applications marketing and publicity.

Some preventive conservation advice will be given but a comprehensive storage/display plan will not form part of the current audit.

¹ This database is currently being developed by Nick Harpley of the Digital Peninsula Network and is a pilot for a more expansive index of Women in Cornwall that will be used to manage the collection and publish data online.

Brief qualitative recommendations for improving descriptions, interpretations and suggestions for situating the collection in broader contexts are given at the end of this report.

2. Quantifying the collection

This section is based on a head-count of all the items in Trevelyan House that comprise the Elizabeth Treffry Collection. At this stage no items have been formally accessioned and so the numbers should be treated as indicative rather than definitive (see also section 4).

2.1 Books and periodicals

Books are the principal constituents of this collection. Items are broadly arranged into fiction, including poetry, and non-fiction by broad subject matter such as Art and Cornish Studies.

A large number of periodicals and magazines also comprise this section.

Several titles in the collection are not intrinsically related to the subject matter of this collection. However their place is justified by the considerable information they hold within their pages of women's lives and works. The indexing projects that have been, and continue to be, undertaken are extracting this information. This should be born in mind when items are formally selected and accessioned into the collection, with particular attention paid to ensuring the future needs for a unified Women in Cornwall index (see also section 4.2).

Items were counted by room in systematic fashion, from shelf to shelf and room to room. This count has preserved the current classification arrangements by subject area.

2.1.1 Current arrangement

Books and periodicals at Trevelyan House are stored on open bookcases and the condition of the majority of the items can be considered to be fair to good. Some of the more valuable or rare items are stored in glass cabinets.

2.1.2 Book and publications count

The count gives an impressionistic view of the range of subject matter:

Subject	Number
Fiction on/based in Cornwall/Isles of Scilly by women	174
Other fiction by women	125
Non-fiction about and by women (politics, society, culture)	188
Non-fiction on women in Cornwall/Isles of Scilly women	259
Poetry by and on women	121
Literature (non-fiction) on Cornwall/Isles of Scilly women writers	91
British history and 20 th C general history	209

Literature on mythology and folklore	180
Fiction by the Quiller Couch women	22 (other 49) ²
Cookery and craft	90
Cornish art	190
British art and general art	151 (66 periodical vols)
Museum and collections catalogues and guides	46
Architecture and design	41
Art exhibitions	73
Studio pottery and ceramics	13
Books by artists and art history	30
West Country art catalogues	91 (33 periodical vols)
Artist colonies and schools	26
Cornish Studies (including history, archaeology)	531 (20 periodical vols)
TOTAL VOLUMES	2651
<i>Other volumes (not likely to be considered for the collection but may be included in a reference collection)</i>	163

2.1.3 Additional items held at the Jamieson Library

A substantial addition to the collection held at Trevelyan House is housed at the Jamieson Library of Women's History at Newmill, Penzance. Books are stored in a stone-built purpose made library and residential study centre. It is used by visiting scholars. A card index to the majority of items in the collection is held at the library.

Estimate of relevant volumes at the Jamieson Library: **800**.

2.1.4 King Arthur's Wood by Elizabeth Armstrong Forbes

A fine copy of Elizabeth Forbes, *King Arthur's Wood*, is to be donated to Penlee House and Gallery, Penzance in the name of the Elizabeth Treffry Women in Cornwall Collection (see section 3 below).

2.2 Archives

The archives cover a similar range of subjects as the books and periodicals. Subject-themed archive boxes include natural history, topography (especially of west Cornwall), publishing women, religion, industry, war, archaeology and antiquities.

² From the Quiller Couch Collection held by the Hypatia Trust.

Some of the boxes contain material on particular people such as Violetta Thurstan (bust, photography, letters, publications, papers) related to (currently on temporary loan to Penryn Museum), Litz Pisk (sketchbooks) or themes such as the Cornish Land Army (see also section 3).

A small number of artefacts will accompany the archives when a permanent home is found for the collection.

In addition there is a box of mounted display materials from previous exhibitions and displays, including material relating to women and slavery, women's suffrage and display material from an exhibition on Litz Pisk held at the Barbican, London in the late 1990s. Much of this material is in a poor physical state and unsuitable for long-term storage. A suggestion would be to digitise the relevant parts including creating basic catalogue entries and disposing of the originals.

A rudimentary count was made of easily identifiable discrete series of documents, papers and related material, otherwise referred to as 'fonds'.

2.2.1 Current arrangement

Archival material is mainly stored in cardboard file boxes, plastic crates and drawers and comprises printed ephemera and cuttings, manuscript notes, photocopies and print-outs relevant to the subject of the box or file.

Some of the archive boxes also contain books and artefacts. These have not been identified or counted as part of this audit.

Significant archival material on Cornish art is held in two filing cabinets mainly arranged by artist's name.

Papers including manuscript items relating to the Hypatia Trust's Patten Press publications (later Hypatia Publications) are of particular note (26 fonds).

Photograph albums, boxes of 35mm slides, CDs and DVDs and bound notebooks and sketchbooks, and posters make up a further portion of the archive collection and are kept in various states of storage, from open shelf to cardboard boxes.

The small number of artefacts that will comprise part of the archive section of this collection include a banner that belonged to the Alverton Women's Institute and a banner of Hypatia that currently hangs in the window of the Main Reading Room. A range of ornamental objects have been counted but are not likely to be incorporated into the permanent collection, but may be used to furnish the permanent home of the collection (e.g. a deck chair based on the Penguin paperback cover of Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*).

Mixed-media art archives include items made of metal and wood and pieces made from books (currently hanging in the Seminar Room). An archive box labelled 'Unusual Books' contains some works of Ros Nixon which are book-format pieces made from composite materials including lead, copper and organic items such as leaves.

In addition, there is the work entitled 'Dwellings', commissioned and created by Melissa Hardie and a desk that belonged to Cécile (Jeanrenaud) Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, 1817-1853, the wife of Felix Mendelssohn, composer (see section 3 below).

A card index entitled 'Women in Cornwall' accompanies the archives. The content of this index was not examined in detail but this resource should be a first port of call before the documentation programme begins.

2.2.2 Condition

Archive items will require the most immediate attention when storage and preventive conservation are addressed. The majority of items in the fonds are of recent date and currently fair to good condition but the method of storage in predominantly upright cardboard file boxes is inadequate and has already led to warping in several instances.

Photograph albums will require immediate care to ensure they are stored in acid-free conditions, laid flat in archival-quality boxes, rather than on open shelves like books. The 35mm slides have not been examined in detail but they are currently kept in plastic boxes or non-archival sleeves and will need to be suitably repackaged. Original manuscript items such as sketchbooks should also be prioritised in when storage is addressed, particularly those currently stored in plastic crates.

If these items are moved into storage before the collection is prepared to archival standards, regular attention must be paid to the light and UV levels, relative humidity and temperature. Fluctuations in humidity and temperature in particular will cause premature deterioration of paper, photographs and slides. Poor-quality plastic crates do not retain a steady temperature and can also 'off-gas' causing irreversible damage to paper items. Textiles are particularly vulnerable to high light and UV levels and metal objects must be suitably packaged to prevent attack through corrosion or oxidation caused by fluctuations in relative humidity.

2.2.3 Archives count

This count is arranged by the physical nature of the fonds.

Fonds	Number
Boxes, folders, crates, drawers	245
Albums	7
Bound papers and notebooks	9
Single items (e.g. posters)	17
Uncontained piles	8
Index cards in drawers	6
TOTAL FONDS	292

2.2.4 Artefact archives count

Object	Number
Framed printed ephemera (photograph, posters)	4
Textiles	2
Mixed-media art objects	10
Furniture	2
TOTAL OBJECTS	18
<i>Ornamental artefacts</i>	15

3. Features of the collection

A full assessment of significance has not been undertaken as part of this audit. However the following strengths and highlights have been identified and may be used as a basis for a future significance study.

3.1 Areas of strength

The collection's strengths broadly lie in nineteenth and twentieth-century art and literature. This is reflected in the detailed indexing work based on the collection that has taken place so far.

3.1.1 Literature

The bibliography of women in Cornwall (Bibliotheca Cornubiensis Femina) is currently organised as an alphabetical gazetteer of women (contained in a Word document). The bibliography is this collection's most valuable tool to begin assessing significance and to promote and provide access to the wealth of information held in the collection. It currently holds approximately 600 entries.

The nascent database of Cornwall women writers has begun to extract original and valuable information from the collection to be accessed online. These entries are based upon the book card index at the Jamieson Library of Women's History where relevant publications have been identified as forming part of this collection.

3.1.2 Art

The Cornwall Artists Index (CAI) available online³ already documents a wide range of women artists. It is actively updated by a team of volunteers who work on the index from various locations. Much of the material documenting a wide range of women artists who have worked in Cornwall was derived from items in the collection.

The Women in Cornwall card index (see 2.2.2 above) should also be used as a tool to assess further areas of strength.

3.2 Collection highlights

These are mainly based on personalities rather than broad subject areas. Areas of significance also relate to previous initiatives of the Hypatia Trust and its publishing enterprise. The following highlights have been identified by the collector, Melissa Hardie, because both original archival material and publications are held in the collection.

³ Cornwall Artists Index: <http://cornwallartists.org/>

3.2.1 Personalities

- Jane Akeroyd, artist and nurse
- Marian Andrews, novelist writing as Christopher Hare. Andrews-Westlake Gift
- Frances Charlotte Armstrong, novelist and artist (of Nancealverne, Penzance)
- Elizabeth Adela Armstrong (Mrs Stanhope Forbes), artist and writer
- Elizabeth Catherine Thomas Carne, political moralist, naturalist
- Edith Maud Cherrill, poet and teacher
- Judith Cook (m. Mrs Martin Green) 19 - 2004
- Dinah Maria Mulock Craik (Mrs Craik)
- Florette Dijkstra, artist-visitor, novelist
- Mariella Fischer-Williams, medical doctor and poet
- Maria Gurney, poet and children's writer, diarist
- Melissa Hardie-Budden, 1939 - , collector and founder of the Hypatia Trust
- Joanna Hines, author
- Judith Hubback d. 2006, psychotherapist and novelist
- Anne Catherine Johns 1847-1903, illustrator and theosophist
- Alice Kavounas (Mrs Taylor), poet and educator
- Elizabeth Lamorna ('Mornie') Kerr née Birch 1904-1990, artist
- Jessica Mann (Mrs Thomas), novelist and journalist
- Hilary Orange, archaeologist
- Frances Partridge 1900 - 2004, diarist
- Grace Pettman (aka Spencer Deane), novelist and penny-paper journalist
- Litz Pisk 1909-1997, movement instructor, artist, and author
- Cicely Ullmann Sidgwick (Mrs Alfred Sidgwick), novelist
- Emily Stackhouse 1811-1870, botanical illustrator and botanist
- Violetta Thurstan, nurse and weaver
- Caroline White (Mrs Hugo White), publisher, Tabb House
- Marion Whybrow, art historian and author
- Partou Zia 1959-2008, artist and writer

3.2.3 Items related to Hypatia Trust projects in Cornwall

- Hypatia Literary Autograph Collection
- Cornish Land Army archive (WW2)
- Balmaidens (co-ordinated by Lynne Mayers)
- Patten Press and Hypatia Publications

3.2.4 Stand-out items

- Quiller Couch book collection. The entire works of the Quiller Couch women, Florence Mabel and Lillian M., authors and folklorists.
- *King Arthur's Wood* by Elizabeth Armstrong Forbes (1904). A volume of stories written and illustrated by the artist following an exhibition of the original drawings/watercolours made by her.

- The collector, Dr Melissa Hardie, intends to donate this item to Penlee House and Gallery in Penzance owing to the artist's particular importance in west Cornwall. However the archive related to Elizabeth Armstrong Forbes will form part of the core collection and kept integral with the other archival constituents.
- It has been suggested a facsimile of this volume be commissioned for sale to raise awareness of the fundraising campaign to endow the collection.
- 'Dwellings' by Melissa Hardie (2010). A biographic artwork based on the life-story of the collector, Dr. Melissa Hardie, based on a series of miniature houses containing books and artefacts that have been influential in her life.
 - This artwork will be one of the few that accompany the main book and archive collections to their new home.
- Mrs Mendelssohn's desk, known as 'The Treasure'. The Biedermeier writing desk from Frankfurt, Germany belonged to the well-known composer's wife and was bequeathed to the Hypatia Trust from the estate of the Westlake-Andrews family of Eagle's Nest and Higher Treggerthen, Cornwall.

4. Short, medium and long-term recommendations

The following advice and recommendations are given based on my research of the collection, an understanding of the Hypatia Trust's ethos and vision for its future. They are intended to address the practical problems of housing and maintaining a (newly) publicly accessible collection while also making some suggestions for its future uses and access.

4.1 Practical recommendations

Short-term action

While negotiations to find a permanent home for the collection are ongoing, costs and time-scales should be addressed:

- Identify needs and costs of removal, storage, conservation and curation of the collection for the next 12-36 month period, including materials; explore different models combining paid professional expertise and volunteers. This is essential prior to public fundraising efforts.
- Identify time-scales for accessioning and basic documentation prior to packing and transfer of collection (see also section 4.2)
- Establish and agree the contribution of materials, expertise and other resources, if any, of the new holding institution
- Make enquiries about legalities of the gift and any covenants to be applied. Consult a qualified solicitor.

Medium-term action:

During the period of transition the following strategies should be addressed to plan for an active future for the collection:

- Formulate access requirements for the collection to be mutually agreed by Hypatia Trust and the holding institution
- Formulate a fundraising strategy to raise targeted funds for the different needs of the collection, e.g. cataloguing, conservation, themed projects, acquisition, bursaries for collection-based research etc.
- Formulate a web strategy to promote knowledge of the collection and its uses to communicate the story of its transition.

Long-term action:

After the transition of the collection to its new home(s) the following practical issues should be addressed:

- Who will deal with enquiries from researchers and members of the public?

- How will knowledge from the collector (and donors where appropriate) be transferred for posterity?
- Identify long-term non-staff overheads for maintaining the collection and access to it.
- Begin working towards a collection accreditation standard (to be identified).

4.2 Accessioning,⁴ cataloguing and documentation

Short-term action:

An accessioning programme should take place before the documentation and cataloguing project begins. This will involve:

- Selecting items to form a core collection
- Setting aside items that will form a reference collection
- Establishing a unique numbering system for the core collection
- Marking the items appropriately and entering details in an Accessions Register
- Compiling donor information where possible
- Ensuring valuable items are suitably insured.

Medium-term action:

The documentation and cataloguing programme should plan for the following:

- Draw up a collecting/acquisitions policy
- Formulate collections-level and subject area descriptions (see section 4.3)
- Select and procure an appropriate collections database that will be published online as a unified Women in Cornwall index
- Establishing a strategy for documentation including prioritising blocks of cataloguing and level of detail
- Train volunteers/interns in documentation and provide them with a documentation procedure manual
- Begin addressing the immediate priorities for packaging, storage and preventive conservation.

Long-term action:

The future of the collection will be more sustainable if active measures are taken to improve access through effective documentation and access to this information. Examples of initiatives to consider include:

- Concatenate all existing indexes, databases and lists and create a mapping scheme to migrate data into a unified Women in Cornwall Index

⁴ Accessioning is the method by which items are formally constituted in a (usually) publicly accessible collection. It is a simple listing process to provide a basic identity and unique number to each item or set of items in the collection.

- Identify themes and subjects suitable for the creation of educational resources for use by schools, colleges at home and abroad (also consider providing some materials in translation aimed at non-English speaking audiences with a Cornish heritage, e.g. Spanish)
- Create a strategy for digitisation and web content creation based on the above
- Prepare for information growth through indexing and research activities, enquiries and new acquisitions (part of collecting policy).

4.2.1 Time estimates

It is estimated the basic cataloguing of books in the collection will take at least 6 months of one trained cataloguer's time FTE.

The archival material will require more detailed assessment before an estimation of time for selection and cataloguing can be made.

4.3 Interpretive recommendations

This part of this audit concerns recommendations for improving the descriptive information about the collection. The following elements should be considered as part of a concerted effort to ensure that the collection's purpose, the ethos of Hypatia Trust and that of the new holding institution are properly communicated to several audiences.

4.3.1 Descriptions for non-specialists and media

- Background understanding
 - What does women in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly mean?
 - Who was Elizabeth Treffry?
 - What is the Hypatia Trust?
 - Who was the collector and where did the collection start?
 - Who funds the collection?
- Statement of purpose
 - The Elizabeth Treffry Collection exists to...
 - Previous initiatives using the collection, e.g. Cornwall Artists Index, Cornish Land Army project
- Accessing information
 - Women in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Index
 - How to search the Elizabeth Treffry Collection
 - Contemporary collecting of new material and calls for information
- Location
 - How to consult the collection in person

4.3.2 Professional/scholarly descriptions

To promote research use of the collection for scholars, college and university students and other researchers the following descriptions should be formulated and submitted to appropriate aggregating databases:

- Collections-level description of the:
 - published works
 - archives
- Thematic descriptions based on classified subject areas used in each of the academic, library, museum and archive sectors.

4.3.3 Pilot study for interpretation: Participating in Hidden Treasures

Participation *Hidden Treasures*—a joint campaign of the Collections Trust and the Independent Newspaper to raise awareness of UK cultural collections—in June 2012 will provide Hypatia Trust with an opportunity to experiment with presenting the collection to an (unknown) public audience in situ. It will also help the Trust develop effective interpretation of the collection.⁵

The following pitch was made to promote the collection's entry in this campaign.

The Hypatia Trust is home to the Elizabeth Treffry Women in Cornwall Collection. Situated in Trevelyan House, a grade II-listed Georgian jewel in the heart of historic Penzance, this unique collection of books, artefacts and archives documents the women who have shaped the history and character of Cornwall.

⁵ More information on *Hidden Treasures*: <http://www.collectionslink.org.uk/events/hidden-treasures>

5. Applied initiatives

The long-term survival of the collection, wherever it is based, will depend almost entirely on its regular and active use and its effective communication through research and outreach.

5.1 Connecting the collection into its wider context and networks

An essential part of ensuring the future permanence of the collection and its active uses will depend on close collaboration and partnership, where appropriate, with other networks and organisations. Here are brief recommendations for networking based on the collection's credentials as a resource for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, and as a resource for women's studies.

- Cornwall / Isles of Scilly collections:
 - Cornish Archives Network
 - CAVA (Cornwall Audio Visual Archive)
 - Archive for Cornwall? Planned relocation and merger of Cornwall Record Office and Cornish Studies Library
 - Royal Institution of Cornwall
 - Isles of Scilly Museum
- Women's collections:
 - Women's Library, London
 - Women's Library, Glasgow
 - Women's Archive of Wales, Swansea
 - Irish Women's Centre
 - WINE (Women Information Network Europe)
 - Women's History Network

5.2 Research and outreach

Some thoughts and suggestions for using the collection for research and outreach:

- Thematic projects on women's history, science, art, literature and business in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.
 - Could work with local schools and colleges
 - Recruit as ambassadors/role models contemporary higher-profile Cornwall women working in the media, business, health, religion and education sectors
 - Could work with women and men from deprived areas of Cornwall and Isles of Scilly.
- Social networking project (PhD?) on women's networks in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

- Social networking theory is a growth area for research in the arts. Who knew whom and how people interacted as a basis for decisions, cause and effect, continuity and change.
- Use of diaries, letters, newspapers and journals
- This research would establish women's narratives in the broad history of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, as well as challenging accepted theories of both regions' development.

Conclusion

The Elizabeth Treffry Collection is of national importance. It fulfils a function that no other collection is able to provide because of its unique combination of women's heritage and the regional heritage of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

At a time when Cornish (national) identity is being keenly debated, shaped and defined the potential for this collection's positive impact is immeasurable and every opportunity should be taken to ensure that it is a resource that becomes well known, well used and well loved. Working in partnership with organisations and individuals on the Isles of Scilly will also help to articulate better the evolving relationship between the two regions.

There is also considerable scope to make the future care, development and use of the collection a model of best practice that may be emulated in other regions around the UK and the world, particularly the areas in which the Hypatia Trust is keen to assist. The indexing activities based on this collection are particularly important as they treat the information contained within its items as importantly as the intrinsic value of the items themselves.

Although the future of the collection will also be shaped by as yet unknown factors related to finding a permanent home, it is strongly recommended that the identity of the Hypatia Trust as the collection's progenitor is retained throughout its life and uses.

/ENDS