

Cornwall Heritage Trust. – Collections Decisions

Context:

- The Engagement team are in the process of developing the mobile interpretation unit, for this we have asked to borrow objects from local museums to help with our education programme and develop a handling collection. For Museums to trust we will look after these objects we need to create a collections policy document.

In addition to this:

- We are finding more and more things on sites due to Ranger interventions, such as the Sancreed midden clearance, crib hut conservation and more. The archaeological items we are finding do get considered for adopting into the handling collection for schools

- the question is- if we find something of archaeological significance what does the Trust want to do with it?

For example, we have the Castle an Dinas Mine board, it is too significant to dispose of and too fragile to use with schools. Do we keep this as part of our sites social history or do we donate it to a museum? We could loan it to a museum, but museums are very hesitant about accepting long term loans as space is a premium and they prioritise things they own.

- We already own 33 pieces of fine art- 21 of which have been returned to us from long term loan at Royal Cornwall Museum. Do we have a purpose for keeping them, should we donate them, sell them or use them for educational purposes?