

National Trust at Cotehele

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May 2013

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SERC Collaboration with National Trust at Cotehele

From the research network established at the SERC conference on Narrative & Heritage in Spring 2011 a useful collaboration project ran from March to July 2013. Developing our tourism theme of Narrative & Heritage, Lio Ball, from the Ecole du Louvre University in Paris, completed a study on Cotehele House for use by the National Trust and as a Case Study resource for Plymouth University to use on its new research Masters suite in Travel.

The work investigates and records historical eras and the stories attached to the artefacts held by the Trust at this property, stretching from the late medieval into the Tudor period. Rachel Hunt, who manages the house, and who contributed to the book, *Narrative & the Built Heritage*, prepared a detailed set of requirements for the work with the paintings and artefacts. The research work will form the basis of a new tour of the house in 2014 and provide resources for the Travel Research Masters, a postgraduate programme at Plymouth University.

Lecturer, Charles Mansfield, explains: having a French researcher in-house for a period in 2013 also gave undergraduates studying French in the School of Tourism & Hospitality opportunities for specialised interview preparation for their final year work. Spring is a key time both for examinations and for job-hunting. Lio ran intensive one-to-one sessions for all advanced level language students in French.

This collaboration successfully brings new knowledge from SERC's activities back into the post- and undergraduate teaching in the university.





Plymouth Tourism Lecturer Charles Mansfield with heritage researcher Lio Ball, during fieldwork at the National Trust property, Cotehele House in May 2013.

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