

THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE FUND

CASE STUDY

Scotland

For 25 years the Architectural Heritage Fund has helped voluntary organisations regenerate historic buildings, creating community and education facilities, workspace and homes. This has often been a catalyst for further regeneration. We have supported relevant voluntary groups with grants, loans and advice on more than 700 projects to date. This is an example.

Affordable housing and community centre: West Wemyss, Fife

West Wemyss has been in desperate need of regeneration for many years. Set in the heart of a traditional coal mining area, much of the village was substantially derelict when the Fife Historic Buildings Trust took an interest in 22-50 Main Street. These were originally artisans' houses, and had been empty for between 10 and 20 years. As there is an acute shortage of affordable housing in the village, they were the key to its regeneration.



Work began in early 2000 to create 13 houses and flats for sale as well as a small community centre. The shaft of the West Wemyss coal mine to the rear of the properties was made safe, as were the mine workings which reach under parts of the village. The houses and flats have now been sold to local purchasers, prompting the restoration of another major part of the village centre by a major landowner. The community centre was officially opened in July 2001, and final landscaping work to the rear of the houses, overlooking the Firth of Forth, was completed in 2002.

Organisation: *Fife Historic Buildings Trust*

Contact: *Alan Lodge 01592 650905*

Category B listed, in West Wemyss Conservation Area

Architectural Heritage Fund assistance: *£15,000 Refundable Project Development Grant in 1999, £459,200 loan in 2000*

The Architectural Heritage Fund – Registered Charity No 266780

We provide grants, loans and advice to voluntary organisations regenerating historic buildings.

Further information is available from:

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