

THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE FUND

CASE STUDY

West Midlands

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.

Urban regeneration: Clemens Street, Leamington Old Town

'Smarts Imperial Fount and Marble Baths' was built in 1813, the first ever bath house to be constructed in the old centre of Leamington. With the growth in fashion of the New Town in the 1820s, the baths closed and the area began to decline, a process with which it is still struggling.



The local Council purchased the building in 1998, allowing the Royal Leamington Spa Building Conservation Trust to develop a viable scheme. A complete restoration was undertaken and work was completed in winter 2001, with the building being officially opened in February 2002. Regenesys, a community-run regeneration trust, now uses it as its headquarters and advice centre. From here it is regenerating the remainder of the Old Town from its centre.

Organisation: Royal Leamington Spa Building Conservation Trust

Contact: Councillor Margaret Begg 01926 423966

Grade II* Listed, within the Leamington Spa Conservation Area.

Architectural Heritage Fund assistance: £3,875 Feasibility Study Grant in 1999, £115,000 loan in 2000, £50,000 Refundable Working Capital Grant in 2000, £4,000 Project Administration Grant in 2001, £11,250 Project Organiser Grant in 2002

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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