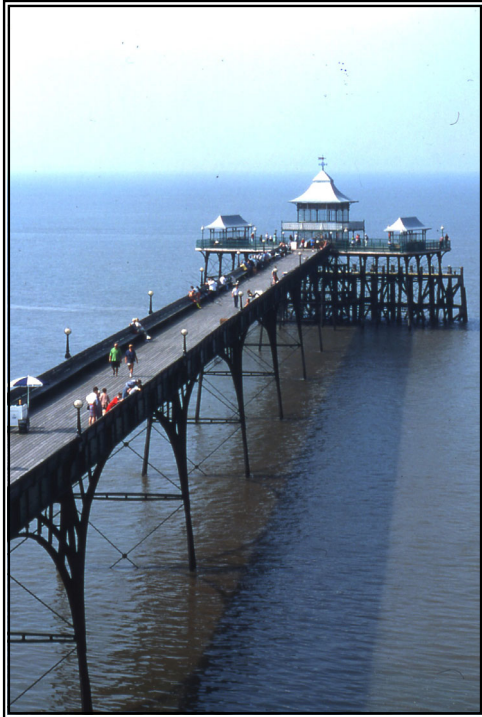


# THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE FUND

## CASE STUDY

### South West England

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:



### Tourist attraction: Clevedon Pier, Clevedon, Somerset

This historic pier, built in 1869 and using surplus rails from Brunel's Great Western Railway, was threatened with demolition in 1979. The Clevedon Pier Trust managed to secure its future, despite being faced with a long series of obstacles. The pier re-opened and the first boats sailed from it in 1989, and the project was finally completed in 1998 with the restoration of the pavilions and the pier head. It now attracts 140,000 visitors each year, providing a focus for the town and a thriving social centre, particularly for its many elderly residents. It offers facilities for boat landings, guided tours, musical events, a shop, a gallery and a nearby heritage centre, all staffed by about 50 local volunteers. The affection felt locally for the pier has been demonstrated by the growing number of bequests made to help secure its future and by the success of the

'Sponsor a Plank' campaign, when over 18,000 donations were received. Nearby businesses have also benefited from the increasing number of visitors, and most buildings along the seafront have been upgraded since 1998.

**Organisation:** Clevedon Pier Trust Ltd

**Contact:** Niall Phillips – 35 King Street, Bristol, BS1 4DD

**Grade II\* listed.** "Clevedon without its pier would be a diamond with a flaw" (John Betjeman, 1979)

**Architectural Heritage Fund assistance:** £110,000 loan in 1988

### 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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