



THE ARCHITECTURAL
HERITAGE FUND

CASE STUDY

The Architectural Heritage Fund has helped Building Preservation Trusts and other charities regenerate historic buildings, create community and education facilities, workspace and homes for nearly 30 years. We have provided grants, loans and advice on more than 750 projects to date. This is one of many examples.

Urban regeneration: 1 and 2 Kingsdown Cottages, Kings Somborne, Romsey, Hants



Built in the 1840s as farm labourers' homes, these two cottages are rare survivals and an important part of the local street scene within the King's Somborne Conservation Area close to the school and church. The properties had become increasingly derelict over the years and in early 2002 were the subject of a Closing Order. When acquired by the Romsey and District Buildings Preservation Trust, No.1 had been empty for almost a decade, and a well outside the back door was its only water supply; neither cottage was connected to mains drainage.

The gardens were overgrown and full of rubbish, and were all but impenetrable. Volunteers helped clear the site and an inappropriate rear extension to No 1 was demolished, together with the outside privies. A new electricity and water supply was installed, the roof re-slatted and appropriate new windows installed to the rear while those on the front elevations were repaired.

Both cottages have been restored to provide desirable residences within the village and their sale has allowed the trust to allocate funds for new projects in the area. The AHF provided loans that provided capital for acquisition and enhanced cash flow throughout the restoration project.



Rear view of the cottages

Organisation: Romsey and District Buildings Preservation Trust
Kings Somborne Conservation Area
Architectural Heritage Fund assistance: £100,000 acquisition loan in 2002
£152,000 supplementary loan in 2002
£17,500 supplementary loan in 2003

Please contact us if you require further information.

The Architectural Heritage Fund: Registered Charity no 266780
Clareville House, 26/27 Oxendon Street, London SW1Y 4EL
Tel 020 7925 0199
Fax 020 7930 0295
Email ahf@ahfund.org.uk
Website www.ahfund.org.uk