



Historic homes: A new website shows how to deal with historical buildings.

How to work with history

WORKING with historical buildings or sites has always had the reputation of being expensive, whether you are a developer or a private owner.

But now, when the economics of the property market is central to everyone's thinking and a major concern, the recently launched Historic Building Advisory Service (HBAS) (www.historicbuilding.co.uk) is providing a money saving resource to those involved with old property and historic sites.

'Historic' means anything built before 1945, and can be anything from an Iron Age hill fort, through all aspects of the man-made landscape, to Art Deco flats.

HBAS is the country's first e-based consultancy devoted to working with and assisting those dealing with historic properties and the built heritage in general.

It is not just a web site: www.historicbuilding.co.uk is a fully functioning, professional consultancy service. This service enables every builder, developer, architect, estate agent and property owner to have their own consultant just an e-mail away. Formed by RICS Chartered Building Surveyor, Robert Hill, it is providing

comprehensive, independent advice about all aspects of the built heritage or environment. HBAS is helping to ensure that costs are kept to a minimum and our built heritage is protected by providing appropriate help and advice to its clients.

"There is no need for developing or working with an historic site to cost more than a more modern one," says Robert.

"Each historic site or building has its own individuality and, when that is understood, many of the perceived problems and the anticipated expenses disappear. Work with the site rather than fight it."

With this approach many of the myths about working with historic buildings and sites, and their elevated costs, are swept away by the practical advice and assistance the company provides.

This web-based service provides easy and very cost effective access to a range of professional advice.

It is not just limited to the free e-mail question and answer sessions included in the annual subscription, but expands to provide an on-site consultancy service if that is required. Visit www.historicbuilding.co.uk for further details.