

### 20. Fellow's Club and the Zoo Offices

The very Gothic Zoo offices, dating from the mid-nineteenth century, and Fellows Restaurant with its 'embattled' parapet, catch the eye at the top of The Broadway.



### 21. Baylies's Charity

A building of unusual design, with classical features, Baylies's Charity School was built around 1820, having been founded on the same site in 1732. The two blue coated figures in their niches are particularly appealing.

### 22. The Police Station

This modern building is notable for its charming pair of "old time coppers" above the main entrance.

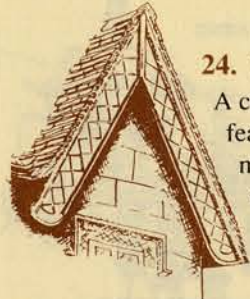


### 23. Old Police Buildings, Priory Street

Not a castle, as one might think at first glance, but a mid nineteenth century edifice in "debased Tudor" style, complete with battlements, barbican and machicolations. The tower, added in 1928, contains an inscription specially written by Thomas Hardy.

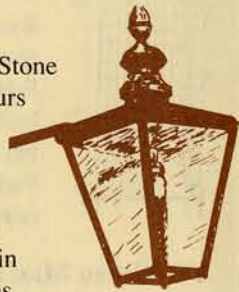
### 24. 21 Priory Street

A charming little nineteenth century house, with features such as the arch over the doorway, hood moulds over two of the windows and the criss-cross engraved bargeboards, which would almost look at home in Toytown.



### 25. The Saracen's Head

Dating only from the mid-nineteenth century, the Saracen's Head in Stone Street also looks as though it might be a lot older. It and its neighbours along Stone Street form a particularly pleasant group of buildings.

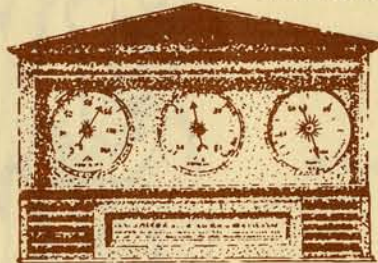


### 26. Fountain Arcade - Tower Street Entrance

A substantial malt house and private dwelling once stood on this site before Alderman Tanfield developed his ambitious shopping arcade in 1925, making liberal use of faience tiles and artificial granite columns. Most of the original ornate window frames are now covered by new fascias and panelling.

### 27. Dudley Museum and Art Gallery

Recently completely cleaned, the hard red brick and terracotta of the Museum glows warmly from the top of St. James's Road. What we see is but a foreshortened version of the original, which was higher and much grander, but the corner demi-bastion is still impressive. Below it are a set of meteorological instruments donated by James Smellie to commemorate his wife, mayoress of Dudley in 1925/26.



### 28. Holloway Chambers

Though built in the same year as the nearby former Head Post Office (1909), this building demonstrates a much more eclectic style, with even a hint of Art Nouveau about the corner window to Court Passage. The inscription "God Helps Those Who Help Themselves" is typical of the ideals of the Midland Counties Mutual Benefit Society, for whom Holloway Chambers was built.

### 29. County Court, Priory Street

Priory Street possesses several interesting building styles. The County Court in Priory Street looks for all the world like an Italian Renaissance Palazzo, complete with figure-head keyblocks. It was built in 1858.

The tram-wire brackets high up on the facade are notable.



Planning and Architecture Department.

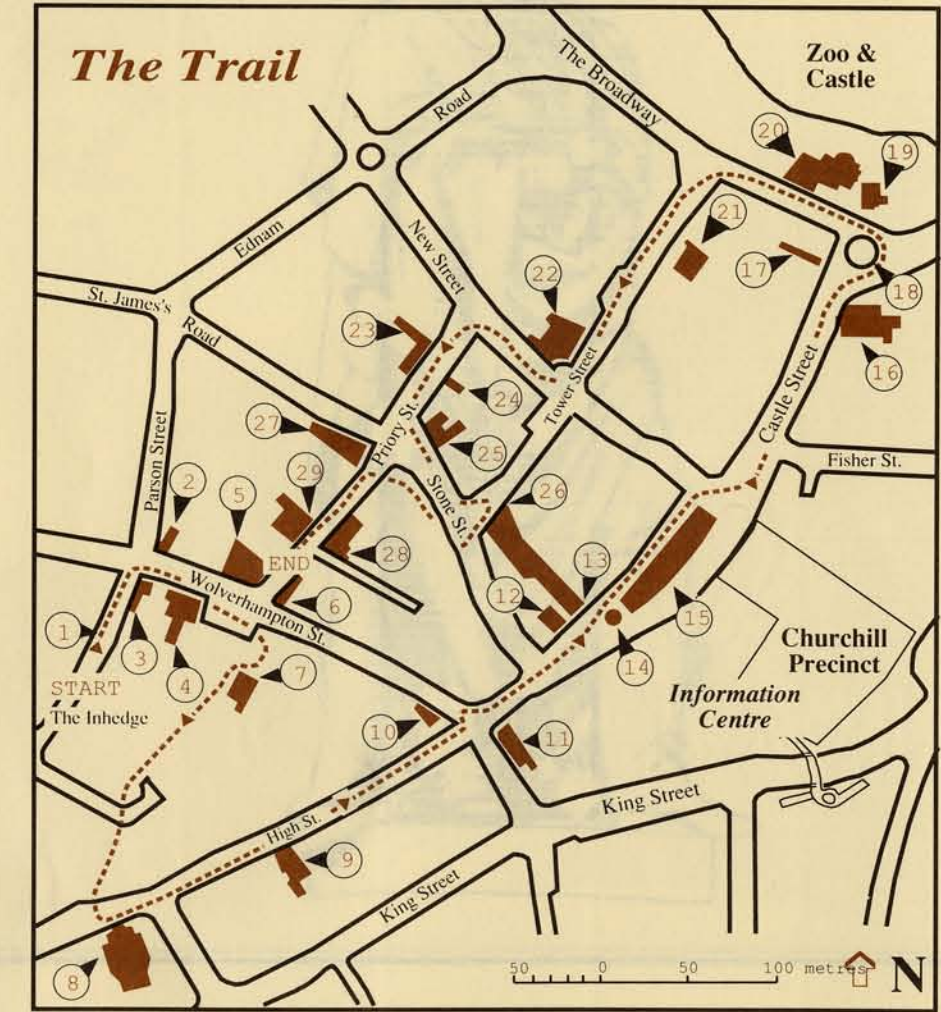
Leisure Services.

**DUDLEY**  
Metropolitan Borough

mac/141

# DUDLEY ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE TRAIL

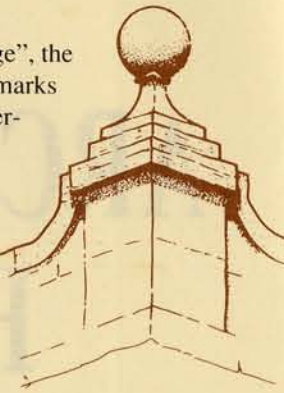
From Saxon times as "Dodd's Ley" up to the Civil War, Dudley changed little. The town was largely composed of rural halltype houses, and these straggled up from bottom to top churches, around a central market place. The seventeenth century, however, saw a steady expansion with the growth of coal mining and ironworking, but through the Black Country's industrial heyday in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Dudley kept its image of a bustling market town. This image has been retained, and today's town centre possesses a number of attractive buildings which are well worth a second glance. Some examples of these buildings together make up Dudley's Architectural Heritage Trail.



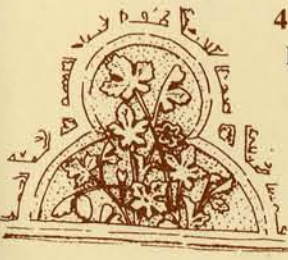
**1. The Inhedge**  
 "Inhedge" is variously a Mediaeval field name or else the "innidge", the ditch outside the town walls. Whatever its origin, the street still marks the transition between Mediaeval town (the narrow part of Wolverhampton Street) and country (wider part).



**2. Chaddesley House**  
 This delightful eighteenth century house, now used as offices, marks a period of expansion of the town. Noteworthy are the ball ornaments on the parapet.



**3. Finch House**  
 Finch House was built in 1707 for John Finch, a rich merchant. It is a good example of the Queen Anne style, in red brick with a prominent central bay and pediment, and has been a Grade 2 star listed building since 1949.



**4. Lloyd's Bank**  
 During the Edwardian period, Lloyd's developed what was almost a house style for its banks. This distinctive style, with its combination of pointed arches, vaguely Romanesque detailing and terracotta panels, is nowadays unfortunately mounted upon modern fascias and shop fronts, but above this level, as here in Wolverhampton Street, the building is still a joy to behold.

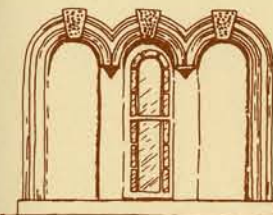
**5. Former Head Post Office**  
 Though built in 1909, this imposing sandstone-faced building is very much in the Classical manner. It boasts a huge, off-centre pediment mounted on pilasters (columns attached to the wall), and a fine stone coat-of-arms, together with other features such as quoins (the raised blockwork at the corners) and parapet typical of the last flush of Edwardian Classical architecture.



**6. The Crown Inn**  
 A landmark in Dudley, on its corner site, with its splendid spired bartizan (corner turret with windows) the Crown retains, unspoilt, its Victorian character. The first floor oriel windows are crowned with charming little chateau-style roofs. The word 'Ales' on the clock is a personal touch.



**7. Unitarian Chapel**  
 Rebuilt in 1717 after the original chapel was burnt down in a riot (a fate met by many non-conformist chapels at the time), this Chapel is of sandstone with a west front faced in stucco and having a rather Byzantine appearance above the front door. The adjacent building's curved wall allows a little light into some of the Chapel's windows. It is a most unusual and attractive building in itself.



**8. Top Church**  
 St. Thomas's Church, locally known as Top Church to differentiate it from St. Edmund's, was built in 1815-18 by the architect William Brooks in a light sandstone, probably Tixall stone. Its spire can be seen from a considerable distance.



**9. Cranage's and The Little Barrel**  
 These two buildings represent a welcome oasis of character in a rather featureless street.

Cranage's is a small building distinguished by its delightful two storey oriel window and 'C' in a coloured oval garland high on the front wall. Its neighbour, the Little Barrel, possesses a nice, traditional shopfront and oriel window.

**10. Nos. 1 and 2 Wolverhampton Street**  
 These two properties, the Jewellers' shop and the Shrewsbury Arms pub, look innocuous enough at a glance, but their eighteenth century first floor facades and later shop fronts hide evidence of earlier timber-framed buildings, similar to those which once lined both sides of Wolverhampton Street.

The Jeweller's shop front is Art Nouveau, with fine curved glass and bevelling, and the Jeweller's name on elaborate panels beneath the window, the last remaining shop front of this style in Dudley, and despite its listed status, still vulnerable.



**11. Barclay's Bank**  
 This truly imposing building dominates the view up Wolverhampton Street with its large pediment on Corinthian columns and squared pilasters above the angled corner entrance. It was built in the 1920's.

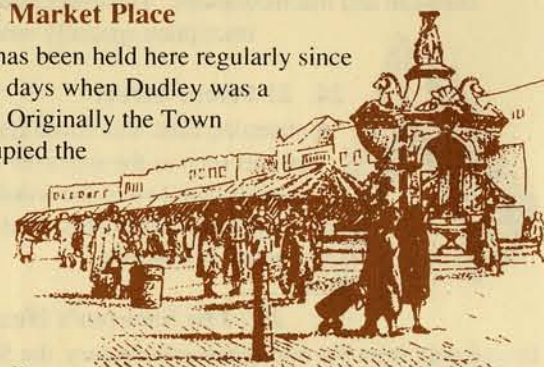
**12. 222A/223 High Street**  
 The elegant building that houses Chelsea Girl and Concept Man dates from the early to mid nineteenth century and is a good example of the progressively reduced depth of window from the grandly pedimented ones at first floor to the simple, square frames at third floor level. The bold stone cornice (projecting parapet) above the second floor windows and the eaves balustrade are typical features of the period.

**13. Fountain Arcade, Market Square entrance.**  
 The structure above fascia level of the shops flanking Fountain Arcade encompasses several architectural styles, in stone and red brick, and probably dates from 1925 when the arcade was built, replacing the Dudley and District Benefit Building Society. Its Dutch gables and curved oriels are particularly attractive.



**14. Drinking Fountain**  
 Designed by James Forsyth, who sculpted the Perseus Fountain at Witley Court, Worcestershire, and built in 1867, this 28 ft. high Drinking Fountain is in a flamboyant Italian Renaissance style. It was presented by the Earl of Dudley.

**15. The Market Place**  
 A market has been held here regularly since Mediaeval days when Dudley was a country market town. Originally the Town Hall and small shops occupied the central space.



**16. St. Edmund's Church**  
 Known locally as Bottom Church, St. Edmund's was originally built in the twelfth century but during the Civil War was demolished so that it could not shelter Parliamentary forces in any attack on the Castle. St. Edmund's lay in ruins for over 50 years until the present church was completed in 1724.



**17. Green Man Entry**  
 This ancient thoroughfare is named after the public house (now empty) which forms one side of the other entrance in Tower Street. It is paved with the dark grey Rowley Rag setts, from Turner's Hill, Rowley Regis, which are so traditional in the Black Country.

The Green Man in British history was a mysterious, pagan character connected with fertility rites.

**18. Earl of Dudley's statue**  
 Erected in 1888, Lord Dudley's statue was designed by C.B. Birch and is of marble standing on a granite pedestal, itself on a stone base.



**19. Cottages at Nos. 6, 7A and 7 The Broadway**  
 At first sight just a row of Victorian terraced cottages, there is nothing to indicate their odd history until the back and side walls of No. 7 are examined. Probably originally a cottage of Castle Hill limestone built in the late seventeenth century, enlarged in early Georgian brick, later in brick and sandstone left over from Top Church at about the time of Waterloo, and finally considerably enlarged and extended (numbers 7A and 6) in mid-Victorian times. A much-altered building!