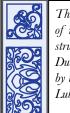
PROUD OF THE PAST,

POSITIVE FOR THE FUTURE

Historic Dudley



The Polar Bear Pit, one of many important listed structures designed for Dudley Zoo in the 1930s by the Architect Berthold Lubetkin.

The Wrens Nest National Geological Reserve - home of the famous "Dudley Bug" fossil.



DUDLEY:



A modern mosaic, illustrating monastic life, which can be found in Priory Park, adjacent to the ruins of St James's Priory.

Dudley Castle's medieval lords could overlook vast estates whose natural and human resources helped shape today's Black Country. Using the mineral wealth bequeathed by Dudley's geological past, black country folk helped power the industrial revolution.

By 1868 Elihu Burritt could describe a Black Country, "black by day and red by night" unmatched for "vast and varied production". The great and growing population of the area frequently found its entertainment on Castle Hill, at castle fetes or even during artificially lit extravaganzas in the limestone caverns underfoot - which included a famous lecture on Dudley's geology attended by 15,000 people. This tradition was carried on in the opening of Dudley Zoo in 1937 and, latterly, the Black Country

Today the whole panoply of Black Country history, from geological times to the recent past, can be explored within a stone's throw of Dudley Town Centre.



