

**Your topic: Dudley House**

**Your topic's description:** Coursework

**Your desired style of citation:** Harvard Referencing

**Your educational level:** Guaranteed 2:2 Standard

**Referencing Style:** Harvard Referencing

**Number of page:** 5

**Words:** 1250

Dudley House

[Writer's Name]

[Institute's Name]

## Dudley House

### Section A

Looking at the Dudley House, there are many things that come into a person's mind. The instinctive response is that it is too huge. Many people can reside in it easily without any trouble whatsoever. Since the house is so huge and have windows all over it, I believe this is one of its qualities as people residing inside can get a better and broad view of the whole street from the Dudley House (Picture 1) (Rodmell, 2013). What I find particularly interesting is the fact that Dudley House is built at the corner of the street. This is an advantage because people residing inside can get the view of both sides of the street instead of just one side. Secondly, having the corner advantage of the street, the Dudley House can also be taken as a direction route from many aspects. People wanting to travel to somewhere, can make the Dudley House as a meeting point and then go on from here to wherever they want to.

As it is known, the building was refurbished in the 1920s. This refurbishment brought with it additions of a ballroom and picture gallery. I find this to be good elements of the building. The reason for this is because there are several parties that are held by the residents of London from time to time, in which they usually include ballroom. Many parties prefer to have ballrooms as it gives the parties a significant look for rich and famous people and this also provides a positive impact for the Dudley House. Picture gallery is another aspect that was held in this building. I find this fascinating as picture gallery usually shows how various painters have

worked on different fields of painting or captured a picture that they would like to show to other people.

The instinctive response I have towards the building when I saw it was the fact that it was so huge with lots of windows. Seeing the picture it can be said that the middle portion which peeping out in the picture must be held for bedrooms as that part's windows are covered with curtains and is made in such a way that it gives out a look of a house which is built in the middle of the building. It is hard to say what exactly the architect was thinking when he thought of constructing several of these windows, but the architect has to be praised as the building does look beautiful when one looks at it for the first time.



Picture 1 - Dudley House on the corner of the street (Rodmell, 2013)

## Section B

The Dudley House is not exactly the typical example of its style/era. It does depict how the buildings during that specific era used to be huge and had vast space inside it. However, the building does have a certain design due to which it has changed from being the standard building that it should have been during that era. As the picture below (Picture 2) shows the sculpture that was made on top of the building has alterations in it due to which it has lost its original meaning of being linked to the family, for whom initially the building was built (Courtauld, 2010). The Dudley coat of arms which has gone under tremendous changes should have remained the same even after the renovation in order to show some link with the original family; however this did not happen.

The specific design which made the building lose its original charm is the changes that took place in the Dudley coat of arms. The building was originally made for the members of the Ward family by the architect William Atkinson. However, the building was bombed during the blitz. The picture gallery and ballroom were the worst casualties; however, the Dudley coat of arms also went through a renovation. During this process, it lost its original charm. In the current design of the Dudley coat of arms, the paintings of the arms were incorrect. The most important quartering is representing the wrong family, due to which the link of the building to the Ward family was ruined. Furthermore, the blue and gold checkers that had the connection with the Ward family was also removed which made the building having no connection at all with the Ward family in anyway (Goldfinger, 2013). The Dudley coat of arms now just represent more of the British aspect rather than the signs or any kind of symbols that could connect the building to the original owner. The overall Dudley coat of arms now just show more of the British symptoms rather than the fact that it should have been more towards era owing to which the idea

of constructing the building was made. The emblem also has a crown over it which shows the British royalty and the fact that it is ruled by the royal kings and queens of Britain.



Picture 2 - Dudley coat of arms (Courtauld, 2010)

## Section C

The Dudley House, in the current time, looks out of place. In the current time, all the buildings that are made are small or not as huge as the Dudley House. The Dudley House informs itself to its surroundings by its huge space that it has occupied. Furthermore, it can be said that time has indeed altered the physical qualities of the building. For some people, time has changed their perception towards the building in several ways.

Currently, London has buildings that are small or not as huge as the Dudley House. People have learnt to live in small spaces and have adapted themselves to live according to the

small spaces. Therefore, the Dudley House being too huge and occupying unnecessarily space is something not the surrounding of this particular building would settle in with. The importance of the Dudley House is no more the same and the right step to take is to demolish the building and build more living apartments for people to reside in. Time has certainly altered the physical qualities of the building. The building has become old due to the pollution and the paint of the building has started to give away (Picture 3) (Davies, 2012). Due to this, the building seems old and does not hold the same value as it used to hold initially. Even though, the building has changed into a single private residence which holds 17 bedrooms, a 50foot ballroom, 80foot picture gallery and 14 reception rooms; the perception of people towards it has changed tremendously. As the building is located on the corner of the street and holds a vast amount of space which could be utilized for any other purpose, not everyone is fond of having it around anymore (Scott, & Williams, 2013). Certain people are having the view that the building should be eradicated and the space that would be available should be used for some other purpose.

It is true that with the passage of time, the physical appearance of the Dudley House has been altered and this is done in the form of adding 17 bedrooms and 14 reception rooms, as discussed above, due to which it has lost its original position of being a Dudley House. People who own it currently want to earn money from it and add renovations to it in such a way that it can bring them more profit. Similarly the perception towards the Dudley House is also changed and people just view it as more of a money-making machine rather than for the purpose that it was originally made.



Picture 3 - Pollution has ruined the Dudley House (Davies, 2012)



## References

Goldfinger, E., 2013, A living contemporary architecture, *Re-forming Britain: Narratives of Modernity Before Reconstruction*, 179

Scott, M., & Williams, R., 2013, Top 10 London, *Penguin*

## Bibliography

Courtauld, G., 2010, *Pocket Book of Patriots: 100 British Heroes*, *Random House*

Davies, G., 2012, *Five Hundred Buildings of London*, *Black Dog & Leventhal*

Rodmell, P., 2013, *Opera in the British Isles, 1875–1918*, *Ashgate Publishing, Ltd*