

Museum of Durham History Walking Tour Folding Instructions

1



It's Easy!

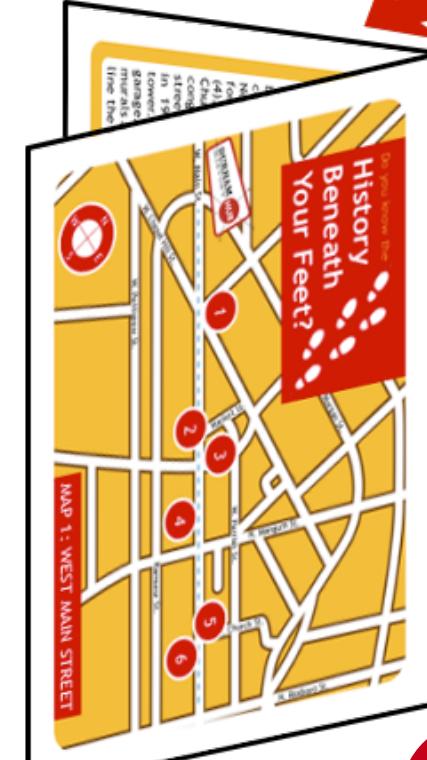
1

Fold the paper Hamburger Style (or Veggie Burger Style)

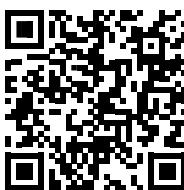
2

Fold the paper Hotdog Style (or Tofu Dog Style)

2



1 Chapel Hill Street 2 Market Street 3 Corcoran Street



4 Kress Building 5 Church Street 6 Union Station



MAP 1: WEST MAIN STREET



... a series of urban hikes designed to connect Durhamites with the history of the places they travel every day. The QR codes found on these guides allow smartphone users to connect to an online gazetteer of Durham street names. Anyone with access to the web can also browse this resource from home by visiting www.museumofdurhamhistory.org/beneathyourfeet



These hikes are short and sweet. More comprehensive tours on specific topics are available through Preservation Durham, the Hayti Heritage Center, the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau, Parish Street Project, and the Pauli Murray Project

1. WEST MAIN STREET

Predating the town of Durham, Main Street was originally a wagon road between Hillsborough and Raleigh. It ran along the ridge that separates the Neuse and Cape Fear River watersheds. Following Main Street east, you will pass through Five Points, the intersection of three of Durham's oldest roads: Main Street, Chapel Hill Street (1) and Morris Street. Note Muirhead Plaza, a miniature park in the eastside wedge between Main and Chapel Hill streets. Continue east to Market Street (2), named for the open-air food market a block north at the site of present day CCB Plaza. A block further and you'll come to Corcoran St. (3). This street was once called Depot, as it led to the North Carolina Rail Road Station that was instrumental in the town's formation. Continuing on Main, keep an eye out for the 1930s Kress Building (4), a dime store with colorful glazed terra cotta. Next you'll come to Church St. (5) which gets its name from Durham's longest established congregation, Trinity United Methodist Church. The church stands at the street's northern end. At its south end sat the famed Union Station (6), built in 1905 and distinguished by ornate brickwork and an Italianate square tower. It was demolished in 1968 for the Downtown Loop and a parking garage. As you make your way back down Main Street, admire the colorful murals along the way and stop at one of the many cafes and restaurants that line the street.

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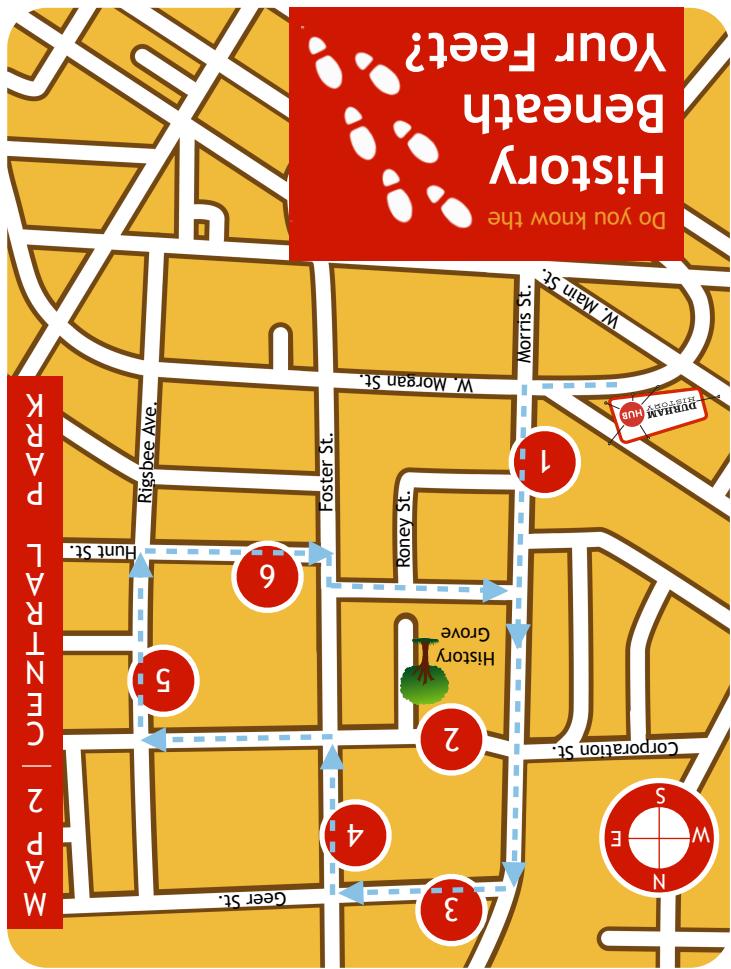
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 362, Durham 27702
History Hub: 521 W. Morgan St. Durham



2. Durham Central Park

From the History Hub, take Morris St. north. The tobacco warehouses on your left are appropriate, as the street's namesake Robert F. Morris (1) was the founder of tobacco in Durham. The monumental building at Morris and Corporation streets was originally a factory for BC Powder, a headache remedy invented in Durham. Glance down Corporation St. (2), which marked the northern town limit when Durham was incorporated in 1869, but continue past it to take a look at the beloved Durham Athletic Park, built in 1939. Take a right on Geer St. (3) and consider what the area looked like in the mid-to-late 1800s, when Frederick and Jesse Geer farmed here. Take a right on Foster, another old Durham street which appeared in an 1887 Directory of Durham (4). Pass Liberty Warehouse, the last of 13 tobacco auction houses that operated in Durham from 1872 to 1987, and take a left on Corporation St. Cut over to Rigsbee, a farm road that predates the town of Durham (5). According to an 1867 map Rigsbee Ave. ended near a "small pool used for baptisms by the Baptists & Methodists." Take a right on Hunt St. (6)—possibly named for First Baptist Church designer Reuben Harris Hunt—and follow it back toward Morris. You'll cross Roney St., named for Washington Duke's second wife, Artelia Roney, and cut across the area known as Durham Central Park. If you need to rest your legs, stop at the History Grove and reflect on Durham's history in the shade of the trees. Morris St. will take you back to the Hub.

1.3 mi. | 25 min.



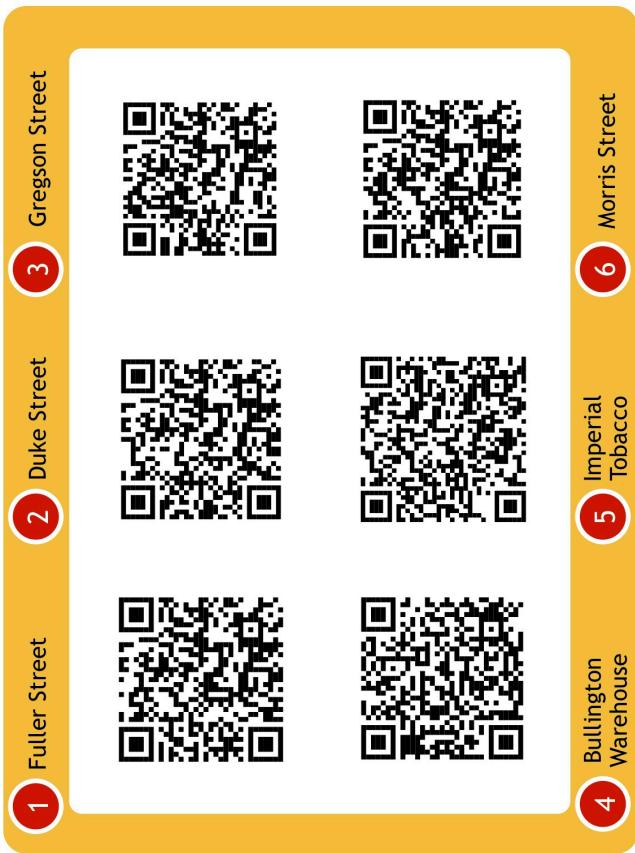
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3. TOBACCO TOWN - WEST

From the History Hub, take W. Morgan St. into the heart of West Village, the tobacco factory complex that belonged to American Tobacco Company until the trust was broken up by the Supreme Court. Take a left on Fuller St. (1) Williamson W. Fuller, the Duke family attorney instrumental in Durham County's creation, is the probable namesake for the street. Turn right on Main to weave through the factories, now converted into shops, offices, and apartments. Among them is the old Duke Cigarette factory. Cross over Duke St. (2) undoubtedly named for the tobacco family patriarch Washington Duke, and continue to Gresson St. (3) This street was once famously named "Hated St." by Washington's son Brodie. In doing so, he created a series of streets that, if read from east to west, proclaimed that "Washington Duke Hated Watts." George Washington Watts was the business partner of the elder Duke. Take a right on Gresson and a right on Morgan to get back to Duke St. A left on Duke will take you past old Central High School (now the School of the Arts) on the left and some of the last of Durham's tobacco warehouses to be built on the right. You'll notice the architecture has much less ornamentation than earlier tobacco buildings in the vicinity. Take a right on Corporation St. and another right on Fuller. Where Fuller meets Fernway, turn left. On your right you will pass a warehouse built by British Imperial Tobacco (5). The company was first established to compete with the American Tobacco Company for the European market. The building was later used for the production offices of the movie "Bull Durham." Take a right on Morris St. (6), named for Robert F. Morris who went into Durham's first tobacco-manufacturing business in 1858. A right on W. Morgan will take you back to the History Hub. 1 mi. | 20 min.

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