

## **Empowering and Diverse Opportunities** <sup>[1]</sup>

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Empowering and Diverse Opportunities,  
photo by Donald Burgess Tilley Jr.  
Empowering and Diverse Opportunities  
Durham

<sup>[2]</sup>

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<https://docsouth.unc.edu/commland/monument/190> <sup>[3]</sup>

Description: This bronze sculpture is the fourth in a series of six monuments on "Black Wall Street" in Durham. The monument features two bronze arches. The sculpture highlights the achievements of black entrepreneurs in the area to found black businesses, newspapers, and committees, as well as the election of African Americans to important positions in the city and county.

Nickname: The Parrish Street Sculptures

### Inscription:

Empowering and Diverse Opportunities Through strategic leadership and funding since 1935, Black entrepreneurs on Parrish Street are active participants in the founding of the Durham Business and Professional Chain, the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, Black newspapers in Durham and in the election of African Americans to the Durham County Commissioners, Durham City Council, and Durham School Board.

### Image of the plaque

<sup>[4]</sup>

Dedication date: 10/15/2009

Creator: Leah Foushee, Sculptor Alvin Frega, Sculptor Michael Waller, Sculptor

Materials & Techniques: Bronze

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Funds granted with the assistance of Representative David E. Price.

Cost: \$350000

Post dedication use: This monument, and the entire series of Parrish Street sculptures, is part of a larger revitalization effort by the city of Durham.

Subject notes: The success black entrepreneurs in the Durham area is measurable not only financially, but through the accomplishments such entrepreneurs in creating black newspapers, and black business, such as North Carolina Mutual

Life. Another major accomplishment of these local black entrepreneurs is the election of African Americans to important possessions in the city and county.

Location: The sculpture sits on historic Parrish Street, which is better known as "Black Wall Street." It is part of a series of six sculptures that each commemorates important pieces of Durham's history.

Former Locations: None

Landscape: This sculpture is in downtown Durham. There are a few trees close to the monument.

City: Durham

County: Durham

Subjects: Historic African American Figures, Industry

**Latitude:** 35.99496

**Longitude:** -78.89906

**Subjects:**

[Monuments](#) <sup>[5]</sup>

[Places](#) <sup>[6]</sup>

**Authors:**

[Commemorative Landscapes of North Carolina](#) <sup>[7]</sup>

**Origin - location:**

[Durham County](#) <sup>[8]</sup>

[Durham](#) <sup>[9]</sup>

**From:**

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