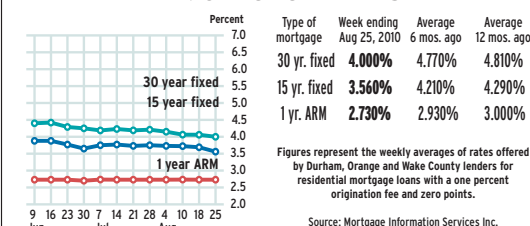


THE DURHAM NEWS

# real estate

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## MORTGAGE RATES



## Downtown townhomes offer the urban experience



Trinity Lofts feature expansive spaces, 22-ft. ceilings, polished concrete and bamboo flooring and exposed timbers and brickwork.

BY REBECCA R. NEWSOME, MIRM

Imagine . . . Your own chic loft in a tobacco warehouse turned très cool by internationally acclaimed NYC-based W Architecture . . . Living within footsteps of fabulous restaurants and entertainment venues, shops and galleries, the farmers market, the American Tobacco Trail and Duke University . . . The security of gated entries, illuminated walkways and beautifully landscaped community news . . . The ability to embrace nature in your private garden without the worries of lawn upkeep. Imagine all of this and so much more, in the distinctive lifestyle available at Trinity Lofts.

Located at the corner of Downtown Durham's West Trinity Avenue and Washington Street, Trinity Lofts features consummate Soho and Tribeca-style living with expansive spaces, 22-ft. ceilings, polished concrete and bamboo flooring and exposed original timbers and brickwork. Towering

floor to ceiling windows invite natural light, while European-styled kitchen cabinetry adds panache to these interiors. Fourteen of the 17 Trinity Loft townhomes are owner-occupied, with only three opportunities remaining for purchase, priced from \$270,000 to \$399,000. According to Prudential York Simpson Underwood listing agent Sarah Artz, these homes offer tremendous value in this intimate community.

"Each of these homes is fantastic," says Sarah. "My husband Welsford and I fell in love with the property the first time we saw it. We were among the first homeowners in 2007. Having moved from a traditional neighborhood of single-family homes, the difference in where we were and where we are now is astounding. We love our new low-maintenance lifestyle, and we love being in the midst of Durham's urban heartbeat. We've seen this property emerge into a true community with interest-

ing, delightful homeowners. As a group we've created a community compost area and we have a community garden in the works. Our neighbors are personable and fun . . . Several are involved in downtown organizations such as Durham Central Park. Making the decision to move here was definitely one of the best things we've ever done."

Neighbor and UNC-Chapel Hill professor Jonathan Kotch echoes Sarah's comments. "My wife Anne and I moved from a large single-family home. It was a 23-year-old money pit that had become too big for us. We cut our square footage in half moving here, and I can't tell you how much we're enjoying it. The physical space is well designed and quite beautiful. You can't tell from outside just how spacious our home is. The interior expanse takes your breath away. The location is unbeatable, the walkability to downtown is terrific, and our new neighbors are great."

"The well-designed space and architectural mix of old and new attracted my wife Liz and me to



W Architecture enhanced the community's exterior with extensive plantings and locally-created artwork for its gated entries. Attention to detail has culminated in hip, urban appeal.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Trinity Lofts," says writer Ryan Ananat. "The proximity to downtown and Duke was also huge in our buying decision. Liz is a professor at Duke, so she loves being able to walk to work; in fact, we walk almost everywhere we go. We enjoy the urban feel here, and it's nice having a nature trail right across the street. Trinity Lofts is a wonderful place to live."

Business consultant Chris Carmody agrees. "I've always lived in cities. Living at Trinity Lofts is by far my best experience. The architects did an amazing job combining the building's historic characteristics with natural light, privacy and energy efficiency. The easy walk to the YMCA, the farmers market, local shops and restaurants is the best of big-city living without the expense or the headaches. I can't imagine living anywhere else in the Triangle."

In addition to the numerous amenities already mentioned, W Architecture team have done an outstanding job of enhancing the community's exterior with extensive plantings and securing locally-created artwork for its gated entries. Their attention to detail, big and small, has culminated in hip, urban appeal for residents and guests alike.

"Trinity Lofts is an exciting place to live," summarizes Sarah. "We have some brand-new venues like Fullsteam Brewery, King's Sandwich Shop and The Geer within moments of our home. We can easily walk to outdoor concerts, parks and literally 50 restaurants. Trinity Lofts offers a vibrant lifestyle, and I'm so glad to be part of it all."

*Trinity Lofts will hold an open house today, Sunday, Aug. 29, from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call*

*Sarah Artz, 630-1157, Welsford Artz, 812-2780, or visit [www.trinityloftsdurhamnc.com](http://www.trinityloftsdurhamnc.com).*