

The Herald-Sun HOMES & GARDEN

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Submitted photos

The Brannan, consisting of 35 designer condominiums by Lambert Development, LLC, will overlook Durham Central Park and Downtown Durham.

The Brannan Condominiums

Durham's most exciting new address

BY REBECCA R. NEWSOME
MIRM

From New York-based Lambert Development, LLC, the company known for its expertise in developing luxury condominiums, mixed-use retail/loft properties, and commercial sites, comes The Brannan, Durham's most exciting new address! Currently under construction at the corner of Hunt and Roney Streets, The Brannan is set on a ridge overlooking Central Park and Downtown Durham. Under the thoughtful guidance of Henry Lambert, Principal of Lambert Development, The Brannan was designed by renowned Roger Ferris + Partners in

collaboration with JDavis, a leading North Carolina condominium architect. Reservations are now being taken for The Brannan's exclusive 35 condominiums, consisting of a variety of eight floor plans.

"The Brannan will be an unparalleled address in the heart of Downtown Durham," says Molly Barnes, Brannan Sales Manager and Broker with the Durham office of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices York Simpson Underwood Realty. "We have been extremely well received to date. Downtown Durham has been hungry for condos of this caliber. Although construction has just started, we already have

23 reservations for the 35 total homes. Any interested parties should contact me right away... With the initial response, we don't expect our remaining purchase opportunities to last very long."

With a crisp, clean, modern façade, each home at The Brannan will feature a floor-to-ceiling fully retractable glass door, screen, and shade opening onto an expansive terrace, allowing owners and guests panoramic park and city views. Interiors will include hardwood floors throughout living areas and well-detailed kitchens with quartz countertops and stainless steel appliances. Luxurious baths with top of the line fixtures will also be standard. A private



The lobby of The Brannan was inspired by one of Mexico's greatest architects, Luis Barragán.

parking garage with assigned spaces will be located under the building, with elevators from the parking levels to the upper floors.

The Brannan's exceptional location will place residents in the center of Downtown

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Mystery plant: 'Red maple,' Acer rubrum

BY JOHN NELSON

"In an early spring we see the appearing buds; Which to prove fruit, hope gives not so much warrant as despair That frosts will bite them."

I'm just like Lord Bardolph, who was afraid that just as soon as the new buds start to show, a cold spell will come along and "nip" them.

The season now is hard to figure: is it late winter or early spring? Lots of folks, especially those of us with a bad case of cabin-fever, want to lean toward the latter, and surely there are already plenty of buds—and opening flowers—visible on our landscape. It has been a relatively mild winter here in the South, at least where I live, certainly not an "old-time" winter like many people have had. And there

are a lot of newly-appearing floral delights.

These red flowers are produced by the millions, on trees. It is a native species that is common all over the southern states, and indeed, it gets all the way up through New England, to southern Canada. This tree is as much at home on high ground as it is in our deepest swamps. It doesn't mind having its feet wet, and the base of the trunk will commonly be submerged during spring floods, with no harm done. Other wise, it is common as well in our sandhills and mountain forests. This species is probably much more common these days than it was before Europeans showed up. In fact, ecologists wonder that maybe its success, over that 300 years or so, is a result of forest disturbance and a general

lack of fire. And, it may be that the overwhelming success of this native species might not be good news for other natives, including oaks and hickories. Those of you with horses need to know that the foliage can be toxic if eaten, especially if the leaves have been damaged. It might be a good idea to make sure this tree is not overhanging your pasture fence. The bark is beautiful, gray and smooth, although on big individuals the bark becomes fissured and split. The leaves are roughly three-lobed, somewhat resembling what you'll see on the flag of Canada. As they unfold, the leaves may be bright red, eventually greening up on the top, and with a much paler lower surface. In the fall, the leaves turn red again: it's one of our nicest species for autumn color. Additionally,

this species, which is related to the famous sugar maple, has itself been used as a source of syrup.

Back to the flowers, though. An individual tree will generally have only male flowers, as in this photo, producing plenty of pollen, or female flowers, which eventually produce red, winged, one-seeded fruits. Whether male or female, the individual flowers tend to be fairly inconspicuous. But when massed together, the trees take on a pink or red hue, which is hard to miss. This floral display is especially prominent in swampy habitats, easy to notice if you are cruising down the road at 55 mph: that's what that reddish-pink haze is in the woods.

King Henry IV, Part 2: I: 3.

John Nelson is the curator



Photo by Linda Lee

RED MAPLE

of the A. C. Moore Herbarium at the University of South Carolina, in the Department of Biological Sciences, Columbia S.C. 29208. As a public service, the Herbarium offers free plant identifications. For more information, visit www.herbarium.org or call 803-777-8196, or email nelson@sc.edu.

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