

A.C. Monk & Co. Leaf Tobacco Mural

Read by Randy Walters

Albert Coy Monk moved to Farmville from Durham County in 1903 when the first tobacco markets opened in Farmville and founded A.C. Monk and Company in 1907. During the course of this century, the company would grow to become the largest independent dealer of leaf tobacco in the world, bringing customers from all corners of the globe to eastern North Carolina and similarly sending many employees from the area to all corners of the world. After Mr. Monk's death in 1948, the company was led by his three sons – A.C. Monk, Jr., Robert Monk and Bill Monk, and remained a family-owned and operated business until 1995. The company and tobacco business had a tremendous economic impact on Farmville and the region during this period. In its prime, the company exported tobacco from over 35 countries.