# WEST BUECHEL

# HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Buechel's development started in about 1790, when George Hikes built its first sawmill, grist mill and wool-processing machine.

An area called Two Mile Precinct- so named because its northern edge was two miles from Louisville- included Buechel during the area's early days.

Buechel got its name in the 1870s, after John Buechel bought a tavern-hotel on Bardstown Road, just south of the southern railroad tracks, and set up a post office. Visitors called the area "Buechel" and people sending mail. The tavern was the halfway house between Louisville and Bardstown. The Buechel's sold the tavern in 1951, and it was demolished in 1983 after a fire.

Another Landmark was Fanelli's ice cream shop, which from 1912 to 1983 was located at 4119 Bardstown road. It had the best ice cream around. Bashford manor farm was also another renowned landmark known for its thoroughbred horses. Buechel's boom got a boost when General Electric's Appliance Park opened in 1950. To handle Appliance park commuters, Buechel Bank Road as widened to four lanes between Newburg Road and Appliance Park in 1951. While land sales skyrocketed, officials announced plans for the Buechel bypass in 1953, which later fed traffic around Buechel's commercial district instead of baking it up Bardstown Road. As the boom began, Louisville eyed the fat property- tax pie baking in Buechel and proposed incorporating their area to stay out of Louisville, where taxes were higher. Buechel folks filed no fewer than six lawsuits to fight Louisville, tying up the matter in court until 1955, when the big city called off the annexation attempt because it had caused bitterness.

Today, Buechel is roughly bounded by Bashford manor ln, Hikes ln, and Six Mile lane on the north; Breckenridge Lane on the west; Buechel Bank Road on the south; and Newburg Road and Progress Boulevard on the west. The area, which long ago included pastures and vegetable and potato farms, includes the small city of West Buechel. The Last major development in Buechel was the completion of rhea Bashford Manor Mall, which opened in 1973. By the late 1960's most open areas were long gone.