

Historical Marker - L2276 - Buchanan Downtown / Buchanan Downtown (Marker ID#:L2276)



Front - Title/Description

Buchanan Downtown

Commerce and industry have characterized the Buchanan Downtown Historic District since mill owner Charles Cowles settled here in the 1830s. McCoy's Creek supplied millraces and more than fifteen mills. The circa 1840 Day and Hamilton race supported William Bainton's 1857-58 flour mill, which became Pears Mill. In 1863 business leaders John D. Ross and Lorenzo Alexander built the Union Block with its third floor event hall. The district was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2009.

Significant Date:

Statehood Era (1815-1860)

Registry Year: 2015 **Erected Date:** 2015

Back - Title/Description

Buchanan Downtown

After a disastrous 1862 fire, merchants built more than twenty brick Italianate buildings in this historic district. In 1904, the Buchanan Improvement Association persuaded Chicago's George R. Rich Manufacturing Company to relocate here. Renamed Clark Equipment in 1916, it built employee housing during World War I and adjusted its payroll practices to stabilize the local economy in the 1930s. It was a major Buchanan employer for decades and a Fortune 500 Company.

Marker Location

Address: Front Street

City: Buchanan

State: MI **ZipCode:** 49107

County: Berrien

Township: Buchanan

Lat: 41.82728200 / **Long:** -86.36030700

Web URL: