

FACCO • 209 North Wayne Street Bihn's Dry Cleaning • 211 North Wayne Street

This portion of Wayne Street was not well developed until after the railroad came to town in 1878. It was basically an empty lot used to store farm equipment until 1909 when John Hull erected the building still standing today. The two-story brick building bears the Hull name at the top. For many years the upstairs was used as a dance hall. Partnering with his brother Manuel, John Hull started selling farm equipment in 1896. The implement business continued after John's death with son Norman Hull. Eventually Norman became the sole owner and in 1947 the business moved to a new facility on East Boundary Street. Norman's two sons, Richard and Norman, Jr. (Buzz) became owners and operators of the equipment business. Now fourth generation Hulls are continuing the business. This year marks 107 years in business. They are well known for their red equipment, previously International Harvester, now Case Farm Equipment.



The south front of the Hull building was used for various things. Fort Recovery Supply 141 Variety Stores, forerunners of dime stores, located here. William Snyder had a grocery store and sold it in 1920 to John H. Zehringer who opened Zehringer's Grocery. In many cases families had no cash and would trade items at the grocery store. They would bring in a crate of chickens, a case of eggs, and bottles of milk to trade for things they couldn't grow on the farm. Zehringer

Information obtained from: *Fort Recovery Businesses Then & Now: 225 years of Adventure!*

By Helen LeFevre (2016)

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also delivered items and gave credit when needed. Ralph joined his dad in the business in 1935, and they became a Clover Farm Store. Ralph, Jim, and Jerry Zehringer bought out their 142 father's store in 1947. Jim and Jerry were sole proprietors beginning in 1950, and from 1963-1968 Jim Zehringer became the sole owner of the Clover Farm Store.



John H. Zehringer, seen at the rear left of the above photo, former owner and founder of the grocery that bears his name, was one of the original members of the Clover Farm organization.

Jim Zehringer, son of the owner and now the head of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, remembers “that Grandpa (John Zehringer) had a grocery store, Tony VonderHaar had a market, and Pinky Gebele had a foodliner. All three were cousins and in my eyes had their distinct differences. Pinky’s store was huge and affiliated with Kroger, then IGA. Tony’s had great custom meat and an electric door. And we had beer and wine, and delivered. My brothers, cousins, and I had jobs like sweeping the floors, siphoning vinegar into gallon jugs, delivering groceries, and sorting pop bottles. Sorting pop bottles was the most profitable because Dad would let us load up the off-brand bottles like Nehi and RC Cola, and take them in a wagon to Brumm’s Market on the other side of town. Having the ability to charge your groceries was also a big part of choosing where you shopped. Large families could accumulate goodsized bills that were usually paid once a month.”

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Food Bargains
 ...YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS!
1042 21st St. - 55 Fort St.

BIG BOLOGNA	"JUSTRITE" Sliced, Chunk, Ground	3 lbs.	\$1 ⁰⁰
MEAT LOAF	Old-Fashioned Browned in Vegetable Oil	Lb.	59 ^c
APRICOTS	"KING'S DELIGHT" In Heavy Syrup No. 2 1/2 Can	4 for	\$1 ⁰⁰
FLOOR WAX	AERO-WAX For All Floors	Save 10c Pt. Can	29 ^c
BEANS	BARBECUE "CAMPELL'S" 1 Lb. Cans	2 for	39 ^c
SUPER SUDS	New Blue Detergent	Lq. Box	25 ^c
OLEO	NU-MAID A Ruth Lyons Special	1 lb.	23 ^c
OVEN CLEANER	1/2 Price Sale GLAMORENE	Giant Tube	49 ^c

ZEHRINGER BROS.
 PHONE 88 WE DELIVER FT. RECOVERY

143 Bob VanTrees painted the picture above for Jim of his dad's store. In 1968 Bob Muhlenkamp had a cabinetry and electrical shop using both sides of the building. The newly formed Ambassador Club and Psi Iota Xi then opened a consignment shop, Ambassador Attic. By 1976 Bob and Lois Hoying opened up an antique store in this location, with the dry cleaners on the north side. The hall on the second floor was then used as a meeting room by the Knights of Columbus, Daughters of Isabella, the Boy Scouts, and for the union organized for the Fort Recovery Industries. Chad Kaiser Audio & Video operated from the south store front before Scott Wendel's FACCO office located here, selling poultry equipment, as it is today. After Hull Bros. moved to their new location in 1947, the south side was occupied by Fort Recovery Plumbing Shop with Paul Franks and Harold Rammel. They also handled GE appliances as the photo shows. Bob and Lois Hoying purchased the building and moved their Hoying's Dry Cleaners location here in 1976, operating the Antique Store on the other side. Jodi Bihn Homan bought the dry cleaning business calling it Bihn's Dry Cleaning. She is still in operation today.



Hull Building



FACCQ Poultry Equipment & Bilross Dry Cleaning



Clover Farm Store and Fort Recovery Plumbing Shop



Hoying Cleaners and Antique Shop

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