

## E - Konjola Patent Medicine

1 N. Sandusky St. – south facing wall

This ghost sign had been covered by stucco for years. It was uncovered when the building underwent renovation in 2014.



Konjola ghost sign - 2018  
Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb

Konjola was a tonic, or patent medicine, made in the 1920s as a remedy for everything from indigestion to rheumatism. This happened to be during prohibition. It was a vegetable concoction with herbs and a high alcohol content that could be sold without a prescription. Konjola was a product of Mosby Medicine Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. ([/cincinnati.com/...Gilbert Mosby, The "Konjola King", Was Cincinnati's Other Prohibition Millionaire.](http://cincinnati.com/...Gilbert Mosby, The 'Konjola King', Was Cincinnati's Other Prohibition Millionaire))



Mosby's huge advertising sign at the southeast corner of 5th and Main in Cincinnati

Joyner's Drug Store occupied this building by 1880 and continued to the 1920s. Kinsey's Drug Company followed, then Del RX Pharmacy until 1991.

Barley Hopsters is currently in this location.

Source of information: city directories; Internet

## F - Bee Hive

4 N. Sandusky St. south facing wall

This building's south-facing wall had various signs over the years.

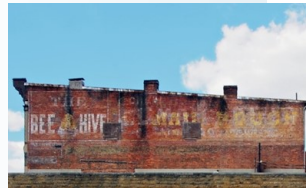
"Bee Hive" still appears today, referring to a clothing store dating to the 1890s.

The "Bee Hive" was another name for the millinery/

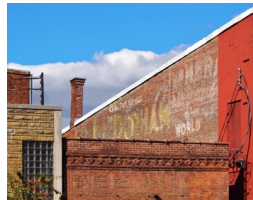
clothing store begun at this location by Morris E. Jacobs around 1890. By 1899, Mr. Jacobs was living in New York City, and Moe L. Wolff ran the Bee Hive. By 1900 Mr. Wolff moved the Bee Hive to the northwest corner of Sandusky and Winter (43 North Sandusky). A 1908 advertisement states that M.L. Wolff's Bee Hive is "the store that never disappoints". In 1901, 4 North Sandusky St. was home to the "Inter-Urban Café". 2 North Sandusky St. was the Interurban Railway Station, from about 1900 into the 1930s. It then became the L-K Restaurant until the 1980s.

A postcard from the World War I era shows a ghost sign that says "Chew Honest Scrap", referring to cuttings left over from making cigarettes or cigars. Scraps were processed into "Honest Scrap", "Redman", "Mail Pouch" and other chewing tobacco labels.

On the south façade of the one-story building at 5 East William St., beneath the decorative brick detailing, note the words "Bee Hive". This building is connected to 4 North Sandusky St., where the Bee Hive clothing store was located in the late 1800s. The Green Door Salon is currently located at 4 North Sandusky St.



Bee Hive / Mail Pouch ghost sign – 2015  
Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb



Bee Hive - 2015  
5 E. William St.— South facing wall  
Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb



"Chew Honest Scrap" - circa 1910-1920  
Delaware County Historical Society

## G - Genuine Bull Durham Standard of the World (Bull Durham Tobacco)

9 E. William – west facing wall

There were likely several generations of signs painted on this wall. Beside "Genuine Bull Durham", you may be able to discern parts of "Coca Cola" and "Sold Everywhere 5¢".



Bull Durham ghost sign - 2018  
Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb

Bull Durham tobacco was manufactured by W. T. Blackwell and Company in Durham, North Carolina. Blackwell was among the first companies to implement a large-scale advertising campaign.



"Standard of the World" ghost sign circa 1900  
Delaware County Historical Society

Their outdoor ads started in the late 1870s, with four teams of painters traveling around the states to paint billboards and the sides of buildings (Wikipedia).

The first business documented in city directories at 9 East William St. was the *Delaware Herald* newspaper, from approximately 1890 to 1900 or so. From 1930 until roughly 2000, Independent Print Shop made its home here. Today it is the Upper Cut Barber Shop.



"Bull" Durham tobacco ad (various Internet sources)

# Delaware County Historical Society Downtown Ghost Signs

All over America, in the late 1800s and early 1900s businesses painted bold, colorful advertising on downtown buildings. Some of these hand-painted signs advertised local businesses and some were promoting national products. Generally, these signs became prohibited as zoning laws spread across the country in the mid-twentieth century.

As the paint has faded in the years since, these ads have become known as "Ghost Signs". Many of the signs can still be read today. One of the reasons that some ghost signs have endured so long is that the oil-based paint contained lead which permeated the brick surface. It may be difficult to interpret some ghost signs due to the fact that some have been over-painted with a new advertisement without removing the old ad.

Although there are reports of stabilizing ghost signs with a conservation treatment to bring back the intensity of the original design, most experts advise against restoring them to their original colors, but rather embrace them as part of the local heritage.

		B	
WINTER ST.	A		SANDUSKY ST.
	C		
	D		
	E		F
WILLIAM ST.			G



2690 Stratford Road  
Delaware, Ohio 43015  
[www.delawareohiohistory.org](http://www.delawareohiohistory.org)  
740-369-3831

This self-guided walking tour is provided by the Delaware County Historical Society

**A - Strohm Meat**

12 W. Winter St. – east facing wall



Strohm Meat ghost sign - 2015  
Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb

Strohm Meat Market occupied 12 West Winter St. from 1908 to 1966. Bun's Bakery and Restaurant was at 10 West Winter St. from 1889 to 2002, then moved to 12 West Winter St. after a fire in 2002.



Strohm Meat Market in the 1950s  
Delaware County Historical Society



**B - Bodurtha Art Studios**

57½ N. Sandusky St. – south facing wall of the Steeves Block



Bodurtha ghost sign - 2015  
Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb

Charles H. Bodurtha, born in 1844, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, began his Delaware photography business in the early 1870s, first with a partner and later, on his own (Gazette obituary; ancientfaces.com).

Although his business was located at another address on North Sandusky St. in the early years, he moved to 57 ½ North Sandusky St. by 1897, according to city directories.

Mr. Bodurtha died in 1915 and then his daughter and later others ran "Bodurtha Studio" at this address until at least 1930, then at 23 West Winter St. until approximately 1960. Source of information: city directories. Charles Bodurtha used his full last name when advertising, but the moniker "Bo Durtha" to label his portraits. Creative Foundations is currently at 57 North Sandusky.



Bodurtha ad during horse-and-  
buggy days. Postcard is labeled  
"Sandusky Street, Delaware, Ohio"



**C - Kurrley's Saloon: Chasers -  
Barley Malt - Whiskies**

9 N. Sandusky St.– north facing wall (get a better look from across the street.)

Kurrley's Saloon ghost sign – 2015  
Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb



Victor E. Kurrley operated a saloon and pool room at 9 North Sandusky St. from about 1897 to 1900. "Nichols & Briner" ran a saloon at the same location from 1901 to 1910, followed by a café.

Early city directories show that "F. Kurrley" had a restaurant at 21 East Winter St. in 1880. "Kurrley & Son Saloon (Fred Kurrley and A.L. Kurrley)" was located at 13 North Sandusky St. from 1888 to 1894.

**D - Washburn & Crosby's Gold Medal Flour**

5 N. Sandusky St. – south facing wall



Gold Medal ghost sign – 2015  
Photo by Kris Hyland Kolb

The Gold Medal flour brand was launched after 1880 when Washburn-Crosby Company won gold, silver and bronze medals at the Millers' International Exhibition in Cincinnati. General Mills, Inc. acquired the Gold Medal brand in 1928 when Washburn-Crosby merged with 28 other mills. (wiki/General\_Mills).



Gold Medal ghost sign - pinterest.com

5 North Sandusky St. was home to Vatures' Candy Store, from 1908 to about 1930

(later became Nectar Candyland at 23 North Sandusky St. Isaly's Dairy Store was here from the 1930s to 1963, then Blackburn's Men's Wear 1964-1984 (city directories). Today, this address is home to Son of Thurman's Restaurant.