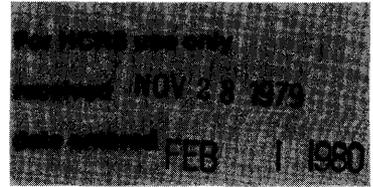


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Gill, (J.K.), Building

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 356 State St. ___ not for publication

city, town Salem ___ vicinity of congressional district 2nd

state Oregon code 41 county Marion code 047

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Fred H. Paulus (% William G. Paulus)

street & number Paulus and Callaghan, Attorneys at Law
528 Cottage Street NE

city, town Salem ___ vicinity of state Oregon 97301

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Marion County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Salem state Oregon 97301

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Inventory of
Historic Properties has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 ___ federal state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Salem state Oregon 97310

7. Description

revised version rec'd 1/17

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The J.K. Gill Building is situated in the heart of the original business district of the capital city, on the east side of the alley bisecting the block south of State Street, between Commercial and Liberty Streets. On the opposite side of the alley is the Ladd & Bush Branch of the United States National Bank of Oregon, which, with its salvaged cast iron front, was expanded in recent years to encompass the westerly half of the block fronting on State Street. The original bank building at the corner of State and Commercial Streets was erected in the same year as the J.K. Gill Building, 1868. Adjoining the Gill Building on the east is the Adolph Block (1880), with which it shares a staircase, and which is also proposed for nomination. The Gill Building is one of the three or four oldest in a 3.5-block area once proposed as an historic district. Earlier, the neighboring buildings were threatened with adverse impact by proposed construction of a publicly-funded parking structure. One alternative would have resulted in the demolition of the neighboring buildings; another would have called for partial demolition; and the former alternative was to have been mitigated by reconstruction of the building facades on a new concrete structure using some original elements. Each of the alternatives has been abandoned by the City in recent months.

The J.K. Gill Building is a two-story brick masonry building, rectangular in plan, measuring 24x80'. Its facade, a simple Italianate design, is formally organized into three equal bays. The ground story shop fronts and central entry were openings under a tripartite arcade in which the arches were centered on cast iron columns. Elongated second-story openings were fitted with double hung window sash with four over four lights and trimmed with hooded lintels of brick corbelled from the wall. The upper wall was finished with a brick belt course and applied brick strips forming panels, and a corbelled parapet with straight, central crest. Stove chimneys lined the top of either side wall. These flues are no longer evident on the facade, as, at some point, corner flues and crest were removed, and a shallow wooden cornice with brackets was subsequently added. Upper story windows now have one over one lights, and at some point the central bay was converted to a paired opening with trim to match the original. Otherwise, the upper story is essentially as it was in 1868. Face brick has been painted.

By the early 1880s, there was a wooden canopy covering the sidewalk and attached to the facade. Originally two stores, the ground story became a saloon in 1885. There was a wooden outside staircase rising from front to rear on the east side of the building. It is now replaced by the inside stairway bay in the neighboring Adolph Block. The round-arched openings were eliminated at an early date, and, following a fire in 1932, the cast iron columns and large plate glass windows were replaced by a beam, two bay windows and an entry offset to the east. Ground story interior spatial arrangements have been affected by a series of later occupants. The east, or alley side, is lighted by the six original second story double hung windows in which four over four lights are intact. There is a rear addition to the 80'-long volume, and it has a basement foundation.

8. Significance *revised version rec'd 1/17*

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1868 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Salem dates its development to 1840, at which time the principal station of the Methodist Mission in Oregon was relocated on Mill Creek in North Salem. In 1851 the Oregon Legislature named Salem the Territorial Capital, but the designation did not become fixed until 1855. With the advent of statehood, in 1859, Salem was the undisputed capital. The town was incorporated in 1860.

Early growth owed to the town's situation on the Willamette River. Flour and woolen mills were among the earliest manufactories. Business enterprises grew up along Commercial Street, which parallels the east bank of the river.

Always a waypoint along the main corridor of travel up and down the Willamette Valley, Salem was connected by rail to points north and south upon completion of the Oregon and California Railroad in 1871. A new era of commercial growth attended the coming of the railroad.

Despite several notable losses in recent years, including for example, loss of the old Chemeketa Hotel of 1869–70 to fire, the city's central business district still contains a significant concentration of early commercial architecture. Buildings dating from the late 1860s (only three or four) through the 1890s and into the early 20th century are united by a general cohesiveness of material (brick) and scale (normally, two stories). The predominant architectural character is one of brick masonry construction with cast iron and galvanized sheet metal decoration. Of primary buildings falling within the boundaries of a 3.5-block area once proposed as an historic district, the Bush-Breyman Block (1889), Reed Opera House (1869), and the Starkey-McCully Block (1867) have been entered into the National Register. Latest among properties of primary significance within the suspended historic district proposal to be nominated on an individual basis are the J.K. Gill Building (1868) and its neighbor on the east, the Adolph Block (1880). The Gill Building and Adolph Block each have strong associations with historic Salem business and socio-religious enterprises. In addition, these adjoining buildings form an ensemble which provides important visual linkage for properties along the State Street axis between Commercial and Liberty Streets.

Architecture

The J.K. Gill Building is representative of a number of brick business buildings in the Italianate Style which were built in Salem: most of them are no longer standing or are so modified that they are no longer recognizable. Salem's earliest business buildings, naturally, were wooden, but a series of fires encouraged the building of "fireproof" brick blocks first in the 1850s, and then more commonly in the 1860s. This is one of but three or four commercial buildings pre-dating 1870 in the downtown core, and its alterations are limited to the ground level.

Commerce

J.K. Gill, proprietor of the building project, founded what became one of the most successful bookstores in the Pacific Northwest. The firm now has branches up and down the Willamette Valley. Gill acquired the business from his mother-in-law, and on September 8, 1868, the firm of Gill and Yeaton opened for business in his new brick store, selling "School Books, Miscellaneous Books, Stationery and Musical Merchandise." In 1871, Gill moved to Portland

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

J.K. Gill Building

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to found the firm of Gill, Steel & Co., and C.F. Yeaton established his own store on Commercial Street, which continued for many years under H.D. Boon and, later, the Patton Brothers. Gill had sold his portion of the store, but the firm that took it over dissolved, and the store therefore became a branch of Gill, Steel and Co. until at least 1872. It may be that there was a bookstore in the building until it was sold again in 1877. J.K. Gill is famous not only as a dealer, but as a publisher. Gill's Dictionary of the Chinook Jargon, published in Portland in 1882, is a standard work on the trade jargon developed by the fur traders of the Pacific Northwest, and was used among all the Indian tribes as a common tongue.

J.K. Gill shared his building with the drug firm of Dyar and Grubbs, later J.C. Grubbs and Co. Gill's father-in-law, Dr. William H. Willson, had had the first drug store in the city.

Liquor-vending and associated business has occurred in the building since at least as early as 1885, when the building was acquired by Christopher Paulus, who with E. Klinger ran a saloon. Paulus & Klinger's wholesale and retail wines and liquor business established in 1886. Among a long series of saloon keepers was Frank P. Talkington, whose Bureau Saloon (1902-1907) was one of the city's best. By 1915, it had become Patterson & Tooze Billiards, and during Prohibition it served as a soft drink and cigars, or billiard parlor through 1935, at which time beer was served again. In 1942 it became the Pioneer Club, and in 1960, it became the present restaurant with a liquor license.

Exploration/Settlement

Chloe Clark Willson and William H. Willson, former Methodist missionary who platted the city of Salem, were the parents of Fanny, who married J.K. Gill in 1866. Their original home has long since gone, and this structure is the only building outside of the Methodist Mission buildings associated with the family which laid out the city with its wide streets and donated its downtown public parks.

Industry

Robert C. Paulus, son of Christopher Paulus, proprietor of the saloon in the building in the 1880s, was born in the J.K. Gill Building in 1888. He was to become a national leader in the food processing industry, and, with his brother George, he incorporated Paulus Brothers Packing Company in 1927, taking over the old Salem Fruit Plant where he had been manager. In 1956, the company, which included plants in Salem, Roseburg, and Emmett, Idaho, were acquired by the Dole Canning Company. Robert and George helped make Salem a major food processing city of the nation. Robert also served in various national capacities as President of the National Cannery Association, and in times of crisis assisted the United States Government as a canning authority.

Religion

On May 15, 1869, on the upper floor of this building, there was organized the First Presbyterian Church of Salem as a Home Mission project of the United Presbyterian Associates, Presbytery of Oregon.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Salem Directories (various publishers), 1872, 1886; Polk & Co. Directories, 1889-1964.
Daily Oregon Statesman, April 11, 1871, October 8, 11, 1871, February 1872, advertisements.

Hodgkin, Frank. Pen Pictures of Representative Men of Oregon, 1882. p. 177-178.

Pearce, Helen, 100th Anniversary First Presbyterian Church of Salem, p. 60.

Mission Mill Museum, Panegyric (Souvenir program), 1972. Tribute to Robert C. Paulus.