

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



980

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

1. Name

historic Gilbert, Andrew T., House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 116 Marion Street NE not for publication

city, town Salem vicinity of congressional district 2nd

state Oregon code 41 county Marion code 047

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 James L. McNeill & Michael B. Armstrong

street & number 3440 Elderberry Drive South

city, town Salem vicinity of state Oregon 97302

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 has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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 Andrew T. Gilbert House is a sizable, two-story frame house in the Queen Anne Style, the main body of which is clad with horizontal drop siding. Principal elevations are those fronting Marion and Water Streets--the north and west. The lot is 87x108', with the major frontage on Water Street, overlooking the Willamette River. As is characteristic of the style, various volumes are seemingly asymmetrical, being arranged around a high hip-roofed core. From the core radiate three gable-roofed pavilions, a square corner stair tower with bracketed pyramidal roof, and a hip-roofed kitchen wing on the south. Existing roof cover is composition shingle. One major and one minor stuccoed brick chimney with flared tops break the roofline south of center.

The double-leaf front door is slightly offset from center in the north elevation and is sheltered by a veranda which wraps around the northwest corner. The veranda has a frieze of spindle work and is supported by slender turned posts with brackets. The porch railing is an example of the inventive cut-out work and molding assemblies which typify Queen Anne/Eastlake architecture. It is made up of a band of punched circles over a slotted base. The foundation of the veranda is screened with jig-sawn slatwork. The main foundation has been stuccoed.

Gable ends and the upper half of the stair tower at the northeast corner are faced with imbricated shingles. The eave of the hip-roofed main volume is carried around the stair tower as a bracketed belt cornice. Vergeboards of gable ends are unadorned except for restrained cut-out ornament at the apex. An historic view of 1905 confirms that cresting and finials originally decorated all roof ridges. Typical windows are tall double-hung windows with one over one lights. They are grouped in pairs and crowned with crestings of curvilinear cut-out work which are, in turn, tied together by plain belt moldings marking each story. The ground story of the west-facing pavilion has window bays in beveled corners which are shaded by skirtings with drop ornaments suspended from the wall angles above.

The interior, as is typical of the Queen Anne Style, is organized around the entry stair-hall, the focal point of which is a columned and paneled dog-leg stair of natural-finish oak. Remarkably, partitioning added in the Post War era when the building became a boarding house was done with real respect for the second notable interior feature: the raised plaster repeating ornament of friezes and picture moldings and the Louis XVI raised plaster garlands on the ceilings in downstairs rooms. Most other interior trim is intact throughout, including beaded and corner-blocked window and doorway surrounds, paneling, cabinetry, and chimney surrounds--much of it incorporating the attenuated classical pilasters with flared capitals which are a hallmark of Queen Anne interior woodwork. Leaded and stained glass is used in openings which light the corner stair tower.

# 8. Significance

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 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 type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1887

**Builder/Architect** C.A. Roberts

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The commodious house built at the intersection of Marion and Water Streets on the east bank of the Willamette River for Andrew T. Gilbert in 1887 is significant as one of two outstanding large-scale examples of Queen Anne architecture in Salem and as the only substantial historic house remaining in the downtown core. Almost all of the large 19th century houses in Salem's downtown are gone, but the Gilbert House, despite encroachment of the east approach span of the Marion Street Bridge, still dominates its immediate setting at the water's edge. The parking strip along Water Street, which parallels the river, is planted with a fine row of mature maples, one of the last such rows which had been planted all over the city around the turn of the century. Around 1947 the Gilbert House was converted to apartment house use for working class tenants. Notwithstanding some minor subdivision of space, trim is intact including ceilings with ornamental plaster work which--whether catalog ordered or not--is exceptional in Salem. The house is significant also for its association with noted Salem banker and insurance broker Andrew T. Gilbert, son of a distinguished Oregon Trail pioneer and surveyor, I.N. Gilbert. The elder Gilbert made his home next door to that of his son, at the corner of Marion and Front Streets. His house is no longer standing. The neighborhood is undergoing change at present. The Marion Street Bridge is being widened to accommodate increased motor traffic, and portions of the area have been cleared for a publicly sponsored riverfront redevelopment project now in the planning stage. The present owners of the Gilbert House plan restoration and adaptive use of the house as a restaurant. The plans call for removal of Post War partitions, scrupulous retention of plaster ceilings and other original interior features, and the addition of but one small single story wing at the southeast corner which is the corner of the house least exposed to view.

Architecture: The architect and builder of the house was C.A. Robert, who was born in Quæbec Province in 1854 and had been a student of architecture at Sherbrooke College. Early commissions were designed and erected in Granby, Quebec. Robert came to Salem the year this house was designed and built, and he obtained a contract to design and build the office, bakery laundry, and bath house at Chemawa Indian School, just north of the city. Two other major commissions were St. Mary's Academy in Portland and the Roman Catholic Church in Salem, now both gone. He moved to Portland in 1891 to continue his career in that city.

Commerce: A. T. Gilbert, for whom the house was built, was senior partner with his brother Frank in the Salem banking house of Gilbert Brothers, 1879-1901. Starting as bankers and brokers doing general agency business, they became a general banking establishment in 1885. They served as agents for a number of English Insurance Companies and the Columbia Insurance Company of Portland, as well as agents for the steam boats of the Oregon Pacific Railroad Company which plied the Willamette River. A branch was established in Moscow, Idaho. The firm closed in April 1901 when members of A. T.'s wife's family sued for a settlement of her father's estate upon which the bank had been built.

Education: A. T. Gilbert was a trustee of Pacific University in Forest Grove in the 1890's, His sister-in-law, Margaret Cosper, who lived with the family, became a beloved teacher in the Salem area. In 1883, when she began teaching there were 11 teachers in the public schools, and when she retired in 1935 there were 217 men and women. She served as teaching-principal

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Attached

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

# 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than one (87 x 108.67')

Quadrangle name Salem West, Oregon

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>16</u> <u>8</u> <u>7</u> <u>10</u>	<u>4</u> <u>19</u> <u>7</u> <u>16</u> <u>6</u> <u>18</u> <u>10</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

### Verbal boundary description and justification

A portion of Lots 7 and 8, Block 60, City of Salem, Marion County, Oregon, more particularly describes as follows: Beginning at the NW corner of said Block 60, thence easterly along the North line of said Block a distance of 87'; thence southerly parallel with the West line (con.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title James McNeill, with assistance by David Duniway & Ed MacCollin

organization

date 4-15-80

street & number 3440 Elderberry South

telephone 503/364-6875

city or town Salem

state Oregon 97302

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature ✓ 

date August 18, 1980

title Deputy SHPO

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

  
Keeper of the National Register

date 11/6/80

Attest:   
Chief of Registration

date 11-6-80

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Continuation sheet Gilbert, Andrew T., House Item number 8

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of Garfield School for 27 years, was on the Oregon State Textbook Commission for 12 years, and was Treasurer of the Oregon State Teacher's Association for four years. Distinguished students and friends who honored her retirement included Senator Charles McNary and L. R. Alderman of the United States Department of Education.

Government: I.N. Gilbert, father of A.T. and Frank Gilbert, was first clerk of Marion County, clerk of the U.S. District Court, and County Surveyor. He laid out and platted the Territorial road from Salem to Foster's at the end of the Oregon Trail in 1846, and he made the first plat of Salem. His home was next to the Gilbert house on the corner of Marion and Front. It no longer stands, and thus the A. T. Gilbert House is the closest link with the Gilbert family patriarch. A. T. Gilbert's father-in-law, William Cosper, was also County Clerk

Invention: A.T. Gilbert has a distinguished nephew, the son of his brother and partner Frank, Alfred Carlton Gilbert, founder of the A.C. Gilbert Co., world renowned toy manufacturer and inventor of the Erector set, a metal construction toy. A.C. attended Pacific University, and obtained a M.D. from Yale University. He set the world record in pole vaulting at 12 feet 7 3/4" at Philadelphia in 1908, and tied for the gold medal at London the same year. He won scores of prizes as a 125 pound wrestler and as captain of Yale's track team. His toys inspired the writing of a series of important educational books in the field of science relating to mineralogy, sound experiments, carpentry, magic, knots and splices, meteorology, etc. He laid the foundation of many creative careers in engineering and science.

Settlement: I.N. Gilbert, father of A.T. and Frank Gilbert, came to Oregon first in 1844 with the second overland migration of size. He returned to Michigan where the boys were born, and brought them back to Oregon by 1850 when he remarried. This house symbolizes the prosperity of the second generation, or children of Oregon Trail Immigrants.

Social: During its early years the Gilbert House was the scene of various social events. The first recorded party was given December 30, 1887 by Margaret "Miss Maggie" Cosper, sister of Mrs. Gilbert, when she entertained the Social Club of Salem.

Religion: I.N. Gilbert and his wife were two of the four founders of the Congregational Church in Salem, and the family remained active supporters of the church and its college, Pacific University. The fourth owner of the house The Rev. Ulysses S. Crowder, was a Methodist minister.

Agriculture: The second owner of the Gilbert House (1902-1920), Samuel A. Manning, was a dealer in agricultural implements and hardware.

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- Union Title Co. indexes and Marion County Deed, block 60 lot 8
- Sanborn, Perris Co. Insurance Map of Salem, 1895  
 Sanborn Map Co. Insurance Map of Salem, 1926, 1955.
- Polk, R. L. Co. Salem Directories. 1889-1902 (A. T. Gilbert), 1905-1917  
 (S. Manning), 1924 (U.S. Crowder), 1927-1941 (H.D. Hubbard), 1945 (Ruth Himmel),  
 1947 (H.F. Howard builder, apartments), 1949 (apartments)
- Marion County Tax Rolls, 1887, 1888, 1889 (State Archives)
- U.S. Census, 1880, Marion County p. 17, 21, and 23, Gilbert and Cosper families.
- Oregon. Secretary of State, Census 1895 (Marion County records, State Archives)
- U.S. Department of Transportation . . . Willamette River ... Bridges ... Draft  
 Environmental Impact Statement October 1979, figures 17-19, p. 34-36.
- Robert C.A.: Oregon Statesman, April 8, 12, 14, 1887 & January 1, 1888 p. 9  
 Hines, H. K. An Illustrated history of the State of Oregon. . . 1893. p. 1239-1240.
- A. T. Gilbert: Oregon Statesman: April 23, 1887 house contract, October 29 completion,  
 January 1, 1888, p. 8 New buildings, p. 9 C.A. Robert, op. cit. January 1, 1887, p. 8  
 January 1, 1888, p. 5 bank articles, April 23-May 10, 1901 bank closure.
- I.N. Gilbert (select items): Daughters of the American Revolution. Oregon  
 Cemeteries of Marion County. Odd Fellows . . . p. 58.
- Autobiographical sketch & Genealogy (Ms. Oregon Historical Society)  
 Genealogical Forum of Portland. Genealogical Material in Oregon Donation of  
 Land Claims, Oregon City Claim 1091, vol. 1,  
 Oregon Pioneer Association. Transactions, 1878, p. 82-83.
- A. C. Gilbert: Oregon Statesman, January 25, 1961 p. 1 obituary.  
 Oregon Historical Society, Scrapbook 73, p. 86.  
Who's Who in America, vol 25, 1948-49, p. 911.
- Margaret Cosper: Oregon Statesman, January 1, 1888, p. 13 Social Club.  
 Mission Mill Museum Association. Panegyric II, 1973 Education Honoree.
- Pacific University:  
 Robertson, James R. Origin of Pacific University in Oregon Historical Quarterly,  
 vol 6, no 2, p. 143.
- Oregon Supreme Court case 03660, Ford vs. A.T. Gilbert et al (Oregon State Archives).

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of said Block a distance of 108.67'; thence westerly parallel with the North line of said Block, a distance of 87'; thence northerly along the West line of said Block, a distance of 108.67' to the point of beginning.

PHOTOGRAPHS  
THE GILBERT HOUSE  
116 MARION STREET NE  
SALEM, OREGON  
JANUARY 7, 1980



1. View southeast of the Gilbert House prior to restoration.



2. View east of the Gilbert House western exposure taken from Water Street.

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PHOTOGRAPHS (Cont.)  
THE GILBERT HOUSE  
116 MARION STREET NE  
SALEM, OREGON  
JANUARY 7, 1980



3. View southwesterly of the Gilbert House as taken from Marion Street. The grass area between Marion Street and the improvement will be public parking after restoration.



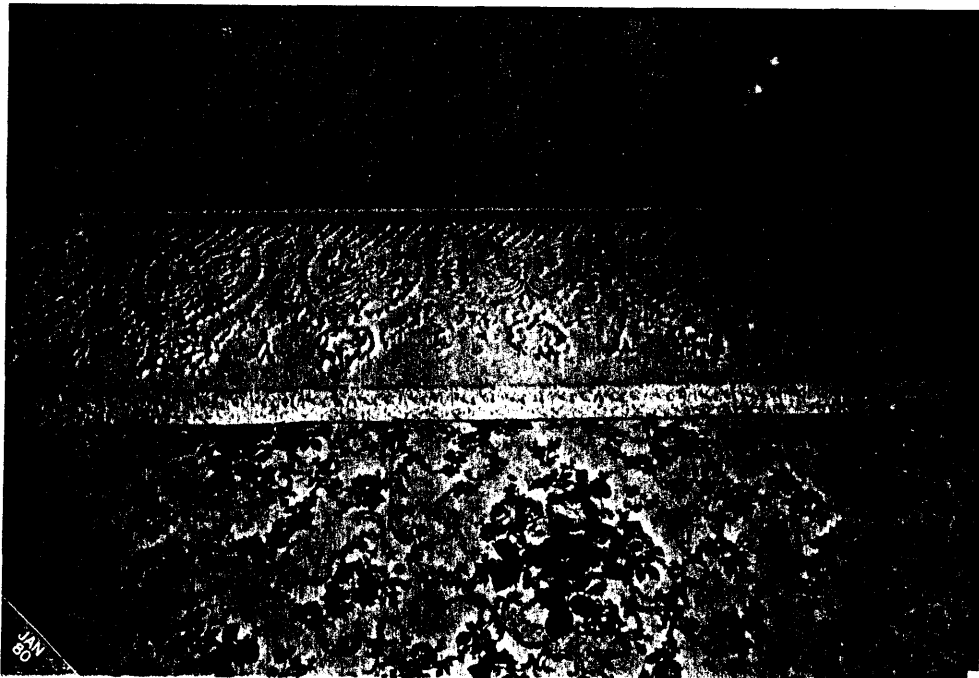
4. View westerly of the Gilbert House eastern exposure prior to restoration. New 11' addition will extend across this side of the residence.

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PHOTOGRAPHS (Cont.)  
THE GILBERT HOUSE  
116 MARION STREET NE  
SALEM, OREGON  
JANUARY 7, 1980



5. View of stairway to the second floor located in lobby waiting room.

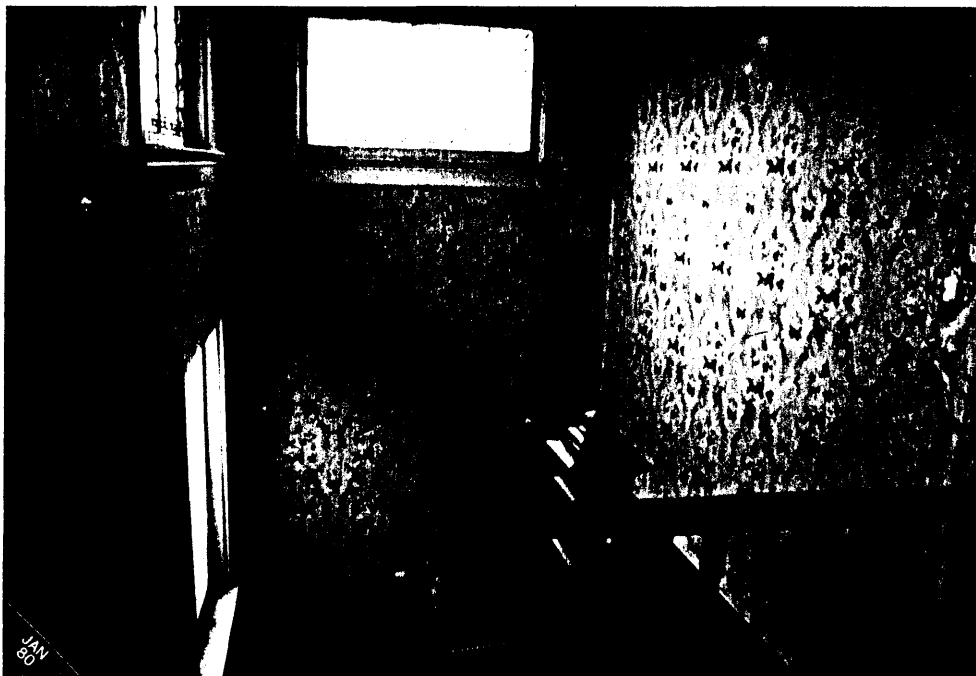


6. View of original decorative plaster pattern around ceilings in most lower level rooms.

PHOTOGRAPHS (Cont.)  
THE GILBERT HOUSE  
116 MARION STREET NE  
SALEM, OREGON  
JANUARY 7, 1980



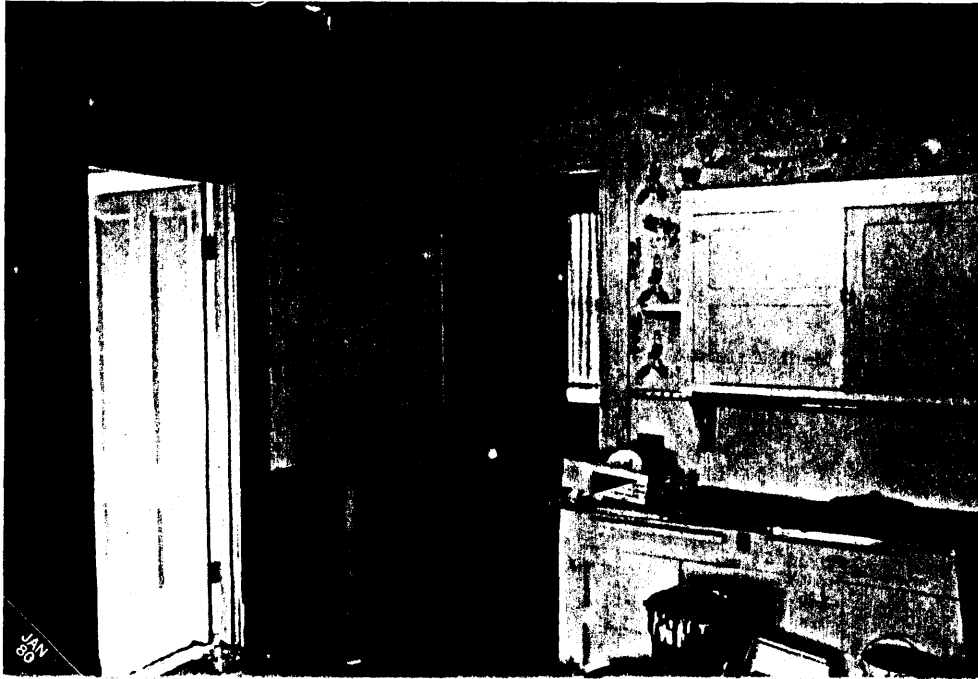
7. View east of dining area prior to restoration.



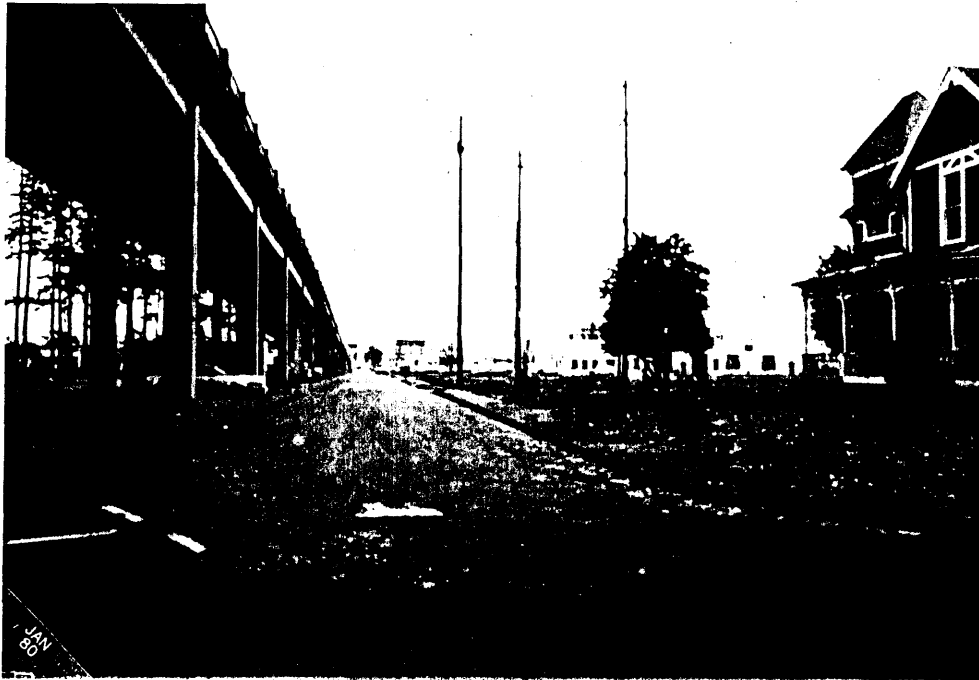
8. View of stairwell taken from second floor. Stained glass windows towards top of photograph.

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PHOTOGRAPHS (Cont.)  
THE GILBERT HOUSE  
116 MARION STREET NE  
SALEM, OREGON  
JANUARY 7, 1980



9. View of old kitchen area prior to restoration.



10. View east from intersection of Marion Street NE and Water Street. Subject property at extreme photo right. Marion Street bridge in photo left. City area parking under Marion Street Bridge approach.

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