

# Oregon Historic Site Record

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME							
<b>address:</b>	333-337 SW 3rd Ave Portland, Multnomah County (97204)	<b>historic name:</b>	Gilbert Building				
<b>assoc addresses:</b>	319 SW Taylor St	<b>current/other names:</b>	Taylor Hotel; Eros Bookstore; Eros Adult Books; Foot Traffic Downtown				
<b>location descr:</b>		<b>block/lot/tax lot:</b>	51 / 4 / 7000				
		<b>twshp/rng/sect/qtr sect:</b>	1S 1E 3 NE/NW				
PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS							
<b>resource type:</b>	Building	<b>height (stories):</b>	4.0	<b>total elig resources:</b>	1	<b>total inelig resources:</b>	
<b>elig evaluation:</b>	eligible/significant			<b>NR Status:</b>	Individually Listed		
<b>prim constr date:</b>	1893	<b>second date:</b>	1916	<b>date indiv listed:</b>	08/21/1980		
<b>primary orig use:</b>	Business			<b>orig use comments:</b>			
<b>second orig use:</b>	Specialty Store			<b>prim style comments:</b>			
<b>primary style:</b>	Romanesque			<b>sec style comments:</b>			
<b>secondary style:</b>	Late 19th/20th Period Revivals: Other			<b>siding comments:</b>			
<b>primary siding:</b>	Brick:Other/Undefined			<b>architect:</b>			
<b>secondary siding:</b>	Terra Cotta: Other/Undefined			Lionel Deane			
<b>plan type:</b>				<b>builder:</b>			
<b>comments/notes:</b>							
Former attribution of Whidden & Lewis removed. DJP							
GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS							
<b>Survey/Grouping Included In:</b>		<b>Type of Grouping</b>		<b>Date Listed</b>		<b>Date Compiled</b>	
Portland LGBTQ+ Historic Resources 2024 RLS		Survey & Inventory Project				2024	
SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY							
<b>NR date listed:</b>	08/21/1980	Special Assessment		Federal Tax Program		<b>106 Project(s):</b> None	
<b>ILS survey date:</b>		<b>Status</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>End Yr</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Compl</b>
<b>RLS survey date:</b>	06/27/2023	Closed	1st	1996	Complete		1984
<b>Gen file date:</b>	02/23/2016						
ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION							
<i>(Includes expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings and alterations)</i>							
333 SW Taylor Street is a four-story Romanesque Revival style building facing south and east on a corner block lot. The building has an east-west gable roof and a parapet wall featuring a terracotta wall cap and brick dentils that extend to form pilasters. It has a concrete foundation and is clad with light colored brick, with elaborate brick decorative elements including quoins, pilasters, arches, and a cornice. Terracotta elements are integrated into columns and pilasters. The first floor has wood storefronts with multiple entrances. The building's main entrance is located on the south façade on the westernmost side and has a half-globe glass canopy under a decorative terracotta arch covering the double glass wood doors.							
HISTORY							
<i>(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period - preferably to the present)</i>							
The Gilbert Building was designed in 1893 by gay architect Lionel Deane, who was later arrested in 1912 for connection with Portland's network of men engaging in same-sex sexual activities referred to as the "Vice Clique" scandal. By 1968 and continuing until 1976, the chain retailer Eros Bookstore operated in the building. It was listed in the gay travel guide Damron's Address Book in the mid-1970s and stocked a wide selection of sexually related materials. Eros' location in the Gilbert Building contributed to a concentration of sexually-related businesses near SW 3rd Avenue and SW Taylor Street, which included movie arcades, other bookstores, and message parlors in the 1960s and 1970s. Individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C, the Gilbert Building is also locally significant under Criterion A in the area of LGBTQ+ history for its association with Eros Bookstore. The property is also potentially significant under Criterion C as an example of the architectural contributions of LGBTQ+ architect Lionel Deane.							
RESEARCH INFORMATION							
Title Records	Census Records	Property Tax Records		Local Histories			
Sanborn Maps	Biographical Sources	✓ SHPO Files		Interviews			
Obituaries	✓ Newspapers	State Archives		✓ Historic Photographs			
City Directories	Building Permits	State Library					
<b>Local Library:</b>		<b>University Library:</b>					
<b>Historical Society:</b>		<b>Other Repository:</b>		Umbrella Project			
Bibliography:							
"Guide to Portland Area Gay Scene." The Foundation, 1972, 17. Horn, Don. "Eros Adult Books." Bookstores. The Umbrella Project. <a href="https://www.umbrellaprojectoregon.com/eros-adult-books">https://www.umbrellaprojectoregon.com/eros-adult-books</a> "Book Store Fined \$5,000." Oregon Journal, July 21, 1975, 2. "Firms Deny Smut Counts." Oregon Journal, May 8, 1975, 3. "Ballot Box Test Likely for New Pornography Ban." Oregon Journal, July 7, 1973, 8. "2 Big Cartels Dominate Portland Smut." Oregon Journal, August 8, 1972, 1, 9.							