

GILB

DR. CORINNE LATHROP Former Planning Director for the City of Detroit, passed away at her home in Atherton, California on January 20, 2003, with her daughters Lesley and Tyra by her side. Dr. Gilb was Planning Director from 1979-1985 under Detroit's first black mayor, Coleman Young, during which time she supervised the creation of a Master Plan for the City that proposed diversifying Detroit's economy, then dominated by the troubled auto industry, in favor of the coming "computer revolution." After leaving the Planning Department, Dr. Gilb returned to her history professorship at Wayne State University where she had been teaching since 1968 and had served as Co-Director of the Liberal Arts Urban Studies Program from 1976-1985. While there, she taught courses on world cities covering amongst other things - the symbolic meaning of cities. Dr. Gilb retired from teaching in 1994 and founded Atherton Press for academic publications, while continuing her own writings, lectures, and world travels. Born in Lethbridge, Alberta Canada, on February 19, 1925, Dr. Gilb received her bachelor's degree from the University of Washington, her Master's from U.C. Berkeley, three years of special studies at Boalt Law School, and her Ph.D from Harvard. While at U.C. Berkeley she developed and directed the Regional Cultural Oral History Project at Bancroft Library and conducted a research project at the Institute of Industrial Relations. Between 1957 and 1961 she was part of an interdisciplinary faculty teaching courses on American values at Mills College in Oakland and from 1964-1968 she taught in the Humanities Department at San Francisco State University before joining the History Department at Wayne State. Dr. Gilb was active in numerous organizations, including the UN sponsored International Organization for Unification of Terminological Neologisms, the International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, the Northern California World Affairs Council, the Commonwealth Club, Churchill Club and various academic associations. She received a Guggenheim fellowship in 1968, and was a visiting scholar at the Hoover Institute at Stanford University in the fall of 1993. She is the author of *Hidden Hierarchies* (1966), *Toward Holistic History* (2000), *The World's Earliest Cities*, which will be published posthumously, as well as innumerable articles and reviews. Interested in public policy as well as academic research, Dr. Gilb leaves behind numerous unfinished manuscripts reflecting her wide-ranging fields of expertise. Dr. Gilb was married to Simpson Company inventor Tyrell Gilb for 56 years until his death in 2001. She is survived by her daughters Lesley Gilb Taplin and Tyra Gilb and her grandchildren Nicholas Gilb Taplin and Blythe Lathrop Taplin. At Dr. Gilb's request, there was no public service. A private family service was held at Skylawn Memorial Park in San Mateo, where she is buried near her husband Tyrell, with a clear view of the Pacific Ocean.