

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received FEB 1 1985

date entered FEB 28 1985

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

**1. Name**

historic Anthony-Buckley House

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number 1602 Sixth Street N/A not for publication

city, town La Grande N/A vicinity of Second Congressional District

state Oregon code 41 county Union code 061

**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 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 checked="" 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"/> N/A in process       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government    | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific                   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered | <input 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 D. Dale and Virginia L. Mammen and Grace P. Banet

street & number 405 Balsa 1414 Walnut

city, town La Grande N/A vicinity of state Oregon 97850

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Union County Courthouse

street & number 1100 "L" Avenue

city, town La Grande state Oregon 97850

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

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

date 1984  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office,  
525 Trade Street SE

city, town Salem state Oregon 97310

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_ N/A \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Anthony-Buckley House, constructed in 1902, is a late Queen Anne cottage of one and one-half stories. It embodies some Stick-Eastlake elements and includes certain components that are more characteristic of Colonial Revival. The most noticeable of these are the siding, the incorporation of a porch swing, and the relative simplification of decorative elements. It retains a high degree of interior integrity. Oriented to the east, the property is located on a large landscaped corner site known as Lots 9 and 10 of Block 98, Chaplin's Addition to La Grande, Union County, Oregon and can be further described as Tax Lot 13300.

Foundations are basalt, quarried locally. Those on the south and east elevations are ashlar, rock faced, while those on the less visible north and west elevations are of rubble construction.

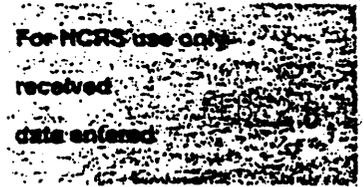
Construction is balloon frame, with 2 x 10 joists and 2 x 4 studs and rafters, all on 24" centers. Exterior wall are sheathed with shiplap, and are finished with bevel siding, up to a frieze that occurs immediately below the eaves. Sheathing above this point is lapped siding with a groove at the joint and provides a solid backing for applied decorative work. The frieze is executed in 1 x 6 lumber, overlaid on the siding to produce an effect of half-timbering. The bevel siding is laid up with a 4" exposure. The two gables are also executed in lapped siding with applied decorative detailing. The south gable contains two windows; a round arch is outlined above them and the enclosed space contains a fan or sunburst built up from bevel siding. This arch is further emphasized by applied sections above it that repeat the arch and define the gable. Sunbursts are repeated at each lower corner. Horizontal, diagonal, and vertical stick elements suggest half-timbering. The formality of this design is lightened through use of four small applied details that suggest brackets. Each is in the form of three connected circles. Two circular windows occur on the ground floor of this elevation, occupying 27½" diameter openings and equidistant from a central window of typical configuration. Stick elements tie them to the frieze. All standard ground floor windows are double-hung sash, one-over-one. The front gable (east elevation) is restrained in treatment, with detailing limited to sunburst effects on either side of the window. There is no evidence that separate gable ornaments were ever fitted. Eaves are continuous. Typically, the ground floor below the front gable is clipped at the corners to create a bay window for the parlor.

The front porch, or veranda, is noteworthy because, as with those on Colonial Revival houses, it was designed for a swing. A projecting bay is provided for this pleasant accessory and is emphasized by the hipped roof above. Hangers for the swing were not added later, but are mounted directly on the ceiling joists and extend downward through slots in the ceiling itself, making a very neat installation. The ceiling is constructed of ceiling stock with a beaded joint. The existing swing is original. The turned porch posts and balusters are restrained in design, with simple brackets. The porch floor, and the interior floors, are 3¼" center-matched pine. The front door is original and is a one-light six-panel door with applied carving; the bell and lockset are also original. A transom sash is provided. The color scheme, interestingly enough, is also original: this house was always yellow with white trim.

The interior retains its original arrangement on the ground floor. All doors are four panel, with original decorative bronze locksets. Trim is typical, with fluted casings, turned corner blocks, and moulded plinth blocks. The cornices, built up from three

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Item number 7

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mouldings, are noteworthy. The stair in the entrance hall is of two flights, with a landing. The turned newel balusters are restrained, and the stair design is more Colonial than Eastlake. Daylight illumination is provided by the door light and by a circular window identical to those on the south elevation. Interior walls are lined with shiplap, to which muslin and wallpaper were originally applied. This treatment, together with a sample of the original paper, survives in the basement stairwell. It is probable that picture moulding was originally provided throughout; it survives in the ground floor bathroom. One original light fixture survives in the rear bedroom.

Alterations and Modifications

The finished portion of the second floor evidently consisted originally of one large bedroom and a lined storage area. It has not been determined whether a bath was provided at the time of construction. The second floor was remodeled c. 1912 to provide a simple one-bedroom apartment for Buckley's manservant. This included a bedroom, bath and combined sitting room and kitchen. The lined storage area was not altered. The shed dormer on the north elevation was added at this time, and the apartment, although simple, was pleasant and well lighted. It served as an apartment until the 1960s. Between 1972 and 1982 the second floor was finished in keeping with the ground floor, utilizing custom-made reproduction trim where necessary, and converted to two bedrooms with bath. The bathtub is the one originally installed.

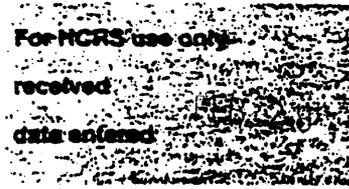
The kitchen was remodeled c. 1925-1935 and the existing cabinets date from that period. The chimney for the range flue was probably removed at that time. The two windows on the north wall of the kitchen may date from the same period. The wall on either side of them was unfortunately covered with imitation brick between 1972 and 1982. A narrow floor-to-ceiling cooler cupboard still exists, but its ventilators are sealed off to conserve energy. These were provided with adjustable grilles (actually floor registers), visible on the north elevation of the house. The small kitchen porch was either open or screened originally. It was later enclosed and provided with four-light sash. The enclosure is a make-shift and should be redone.

The basement, originally a small fruit cellar under the rear bedroom, was enlarged (probably c. 1925) to a two-thirds basement in order to provide space for a furnace and coal room. Basement windows were installed at that time and one of them provided access for coal delivery.

Ground floor rooms were resurfaced with 3/8" gypsum board c. 1963. This was done without disturbing the trim and, although not an ideal solution, is not unattractive and is reversible. Baseboards in parlor and dining room are not original. Those in the other rooms are original but have lost their cap mouldings, as the gypsum board butts directly against their upper edges. These visible joints should be concealed with an appropriate moulding. The bath has been modernized. The dining room is provided with a triple window. This was originally a double window; the westernmost unit was installed during the 1972-1982 period to achieve a balance dictated by the dormer. This is an appropriate and attractive solution. It is believed that the parlor and dining room were originally separated by pocket doors that were removed

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at a relatively early date. If this assumption is accurate, the removal was probably dictated by necessity. The two rooms are small and space was undoubtedly at a premium.

Other Modifications

The roof, originally finished with cedar shingles, has been replaced with composition shingles. The metal ridges have been retained. The wooden front step has been replaced with brick. Aluminum storm sash and doors have been fitted.

The original garage was probably constructed c. 1912-1920. It was enlarged and converted into a modern two-car garage with concrete floor during the 1972-1982 period. The original components were utilized, together with reproduction siding, and care was taken to produce a design compatible with that of the house.

The fence is a relatively rare survival and worthy of special mention, as it is entirely original. The ashlar retaining wall is rock-faced and its capstones are drilled to receive the fence posts. These are tubular iron, as is the top rail. End posts, corner posts, and line posts are provided with cast-iron finials that embody rail sockets. Decorative cast-iron bosses are fitted to the rail and centered between the posts. End posts are equipped with cast-iron ratchet-type tensioning devices to stretch the woven wire fencing. The fencing is woven in an unusual pattern and the overall structure is in excellent condition, considering its age.

Overall condition of the house is excellent. The design is pleasing and possesses considerable grace and charm.

No major design alterations have occurred and none of the modifications are irreversible. The building is sound and well maintained. Wiring, plumbing and heating systems have all been modernized.

## 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 type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/<br>humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799        | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> theater                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899        | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900– | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)         |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   |  |

**Specific dates** 1902 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Anthony-Buckley House, located at 1602 Sixth Street in La Grande, Union County, Oregon, was erected in 1902 for Swiss immigrant John Anthony. Because it is associated with a locally notable citizen, the property is secondarily significant under Criterion "b." Mr. Anthony owned but never occupied the house. Its subsequent ownership by Andrew Buckley also is secondarily significant under Criterion "b." The property is primarily significant under Criterion "c" as a locally distinctive example of late Queen Anne style architecture which displays Stick/Eastlake and Colonial Revival details. The property is also significant for its prominent corner site, mature landscaping, and original stone, cast-iron and woven wire fence.

Distinctive characteristics of the house include assymetrical massing, intersecting gable projections, dominant front elevation slant bay, recessed porch, tent-roofed projecting corner porch extension, turned posts, jig-sawn brackets, sunburst applied ornament, Stick-style ornament, bulls-eye windows and original front door and porch swing.

Neither the builder nor architect are known. The house has always been used as a residence and maintains the same outward appearance today as it did when built. Interior woodwork, mouldings, and metal door fittings on the first floor are intact. The original iron fence with a cut stone wall borders the yard on two sides as do the large old black locust and box elder trees.

The earliest history of the house involves associations with two La Grande residents, John Anthony and Andrew Buckley.

Anthony's history is the more colorful. Born Johann Anton Koelbener on April 8, 1863 to farmer Johann Baptist Koelbener and his wife Magdalen (Strubley), he moved to London c. 1880 and learned the baker's trade.

He arrived in the United States about 1886 and found his way to La Grande in 1888 by way of The Dalles. By the time he had become a naturalized citizen in 1894, Mr. Koelbener had married Mathilda Eichenberger, also a Swiss. By 1893, he was listed in Polk's #1 Directory as "Anthony, John, bakery and confectionary, Adams Avenue, near Depot, residence the same." He had dropped Koelbener from his name, and Union County records referred to him thereafter as John Anthony. By 1898, he was in the bakery and candy business, and was also listed as a grocer. He had moved, with his wife and small daughter, Hilda to a residence on Sixth Street, which is adjacent to the nominated property. In 1902, he sold the Star Grocery for \$5,148.88 and went into the lumber business on Graves Creek with Thomas Millspaugh. The sawmill was a business of short duration, but was an important one. On January 20, 1902, he and Millspaugh formed a partnership, and on November 12, 1902, they sold the mill, and John Anthony was named as defendant in a lawsuit. Court records state that the case involved, among other things, the following:

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name La Grande SE, Oregon

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

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Verbal boundary description and justification The Anthony-Buckley House is located on Lots 9 and 10 of Block 98, Chaplin's Addition to La Grande, Union County, Oregon.

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

state None code county code

state None code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title D. Dale and Virginia Mammen (assisted by Jack Evans)

organization date August 3, 1984

street & number 405 Balsa telephone (503) 963-5758

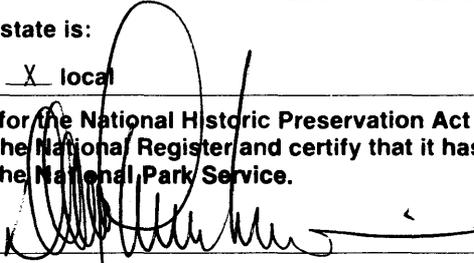
city or town La Grande state Oregon 97850

# 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

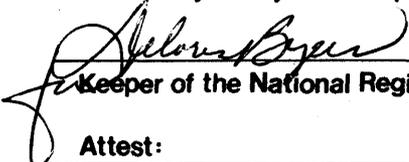
title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date January 11, 1985

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date 2-28-85

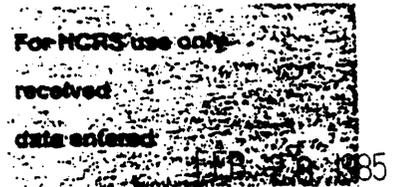
Keeper of the National Register 

Attest: Chief of Registration date

Chief of Registration

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"That a considerable portion of said lumber was delivered by said firm to the defendant at La Grande, and that he used said lumber and applied it to his own use, and agreed to pay said firm therefore, and that the lumber so delivered to him was of reasonable value of not less than \$669.30 for which he should pay and account."<sup>1</sup> Because John Anthony had a year prior to the filing of this suit purchased the lots next to his home (those being Lots 9 and 10 of Block 98), it was speculated recently that the \$669.30 worth of lumber named in the suit was that which was used to build the house at 1602 Sixth Street. Circuit Court records further reveal, however, that in his answer to the plaintiff's suit, Anthony disavowed having taken delivery of the lumber and cross complained for a partnership accounting for sums owed by the plaintiff, Millspaugh, to the defendant. The suit was eventually dismissed because the plaintiff failed to proceed with his claim.<sup>2</sup>

John and Mathilda Anthony were divorced in December 1906, and in March, 1907, John, "for consideration of one dollar and other considerations" deeded the house to Mathilda. Those other considerations probably were her shares in numerous other pieces of property which she quitclaim deeded to John three days later.

By 1909, Anthony had moved to a clearing above Elgin called River Junction. He renamed the spot Rondowa and operated a hotel, grocery and post office in the same building, close to the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company tracks. On August 13, 1910, he was married to Mrs. Estella Taylor, a widow. The former Mrs. Taylor brought her young son, Wayne, to Mr. Anthony's household. In due time, two children were born to this marriage: a daughter, Margaret, and a son, John.

Returning to La Grande in 1917, the Anthonys opened the City Restaurant and Bakery (later renamed Anthony's Cafe) with Estella Anthony's brother, Charles M. Robbins. John Anthony died unexpectedly in 1927, and the second Mrs. Anthony continued to operate the family business until 1931. Estella Anthony died in Toppenish, Washington in 1965.

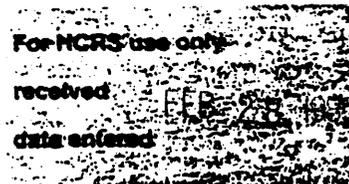
Neither John nor Mathilda Anthony, John's first wife, had ever lived at 1602 Sixth Street. The house was used, instead, as a rental property. On February 4, 1914, Mathilda Anthony sold the house to Margaret Buckley for \$3,650.00.

The Buckleys, Andrew and Margaret, had evidently been renting from Mathilda for a time prior to buying the house, for they were listed in the La Grande Directory for 1912 as the persons living at 1602 Sixth Street. Andrew was an assistant superintendent for the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company and was said to have his own private railroad car and his own manservant. The latter is substantiated by the listing in the 1912 Directory of a John Brown, employee of the O.R. & N. Co., also living at 1602 Sixth Street. It was very probable that the Buckleys had the attic of the house made into an apartment for John, and, consequently, at this time the dormer windows were added and the clawfoot bathtub was brought to the second floor.

In April of 1919, the Buckleys sold the house to Edward Meyersick for \$3,100. Myersick was a farmer from the valley who had come to town to be a carpenter. He died as a result of a fall from scaffolding while building the J. C. Penney building. His son, Ray, sold

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the house for \$3,000 in May, 1938, to Alice M. Hug, who in turn sold it to Arthur and Della Berry in August of 1944. Two years later, George E. Allen brought the house and lived in the apartment upstairs and rented the downstairs. In December, 1963, Allen sold the house to Peter and Lynn Simpson. Then, in May of 1970, the Simpsons sold the house to Keith and Virginia Long, who in the same month turned it over to Don and Mary Nell Coles. The Coles sold to Wendell and Geraldine Schwartz in 1972. Between 1972 and 1983, the Schwartzes restored the house to its original condition and appearance.

<sup>1</sup>Case 5074 in Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Union County, Thomas J. Millspaugh, Plaintiff, vs. John Anthony, Defendant.

<sup>2</sup>Information from Circuit Court records supplied by Margaret E. Couch, 111 South Chestnut, Toppenish, Washington, January 23, 1985.

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date entered 11-28-1985

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Item number 9

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Circuit Court Records of the State of Oregon for Union County.

Polks Directories for Eastern Oregon, #1, 1893; #2 1903; #3, 1905.

La Grande Directory, 1912.

Barklow, Irene. The Old and The New: History of the Post Offices of Wallowa County. 1982, privately printed.

La Grande Evening Observer - November 10, 1955.