National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received MAY 2.8 1986 date entered 6-26-86

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

1. Name

.

| historic | Young, Andrew, Ho | use Number of | contributing reso | urces 1 |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| and or common | Nielsen, Jens, Ho | use Number of | non-contributing | resources 0 |
| 2. Loca | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | |
| street & number | 3720 Duane Avenue | | | N/A not for publication |
| city, town | Astoria | N/A vicinity of | First Congression | onal District |
| state | Oregon code | 41 county | Clatsop | code 007 |
| 3. Clas | sification | | | |
| Category district _X building(s) structure site object | Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition N/A in process N/A being considered | Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible _X_ yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no | Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military | <pre> museum park _X_ private residence religious scientific transportation other:</pre> |
| 4. Own | er of Proper | ʻty | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| name | Kristian and Jenn | ie Thompson | | |
| street & number | 496 37th Street | | | |
| city, town | Astoria | \mathbb{N}/\mathbb{A} vicinity of | state | Oregon 97103 |
| 5. Loca | ntion of Lega | al Descriptio | o n | |
| courthouse, regis | stry of deeds, etc. | Clatsop County C | ourthouse | |
| street & number | | 749 Commercial S | treet | |
| city, town | | Astoria | state | Oregon 97103 |
| 6. Repr | resentation | in Existing | Surveys | |
| title | Statewide Invento Historic Propertie | • | perty been determined el | igible? yes _X no |
| date | 1984 | | federal _X stat | te county local |
| depository for su | rvey records | Oregon State 525 Trade Str | Historic Preservat eet Se | ion Office |
| city, town | | Salem | state | Oregon 97310 |

7. Description

| Condition excellent deteriorated good ruins fair unexposed | Check one unaltered X altered | Check one original site _X_ moved date <u>(rotated on lot) date unk</u> nown |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
|--|-------------------------------------|---|

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Andrew Young House in Astoria, built c. 1875, is a simple, vernacular house whose antecedents lie in the Gothic Revival tradition. One of the first houses constructed in what was then known as Upper Town, the residence once faced north towards the Columbia River. It was rotated on the lot at an unknown date, and today faces south. Its dominant veranda is of a later, unknown date. The building is well maintained and retains a high degree of integrity.

Constructed on a slightly westward sloping parcel, the Andrew Young House is set far back on the 75×100 foot Lot 7 of Block 14, Adair's Addition to Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon. Nineteenth and twentieth century houses are part of the neighborhood in which it stands. The house is said to be of box, or rigid vertical plank construction.

The original mass of the house is a one and one-half story rectangle with a composition shingled gable roof oriented in an east/west direction. Modest four-over-four, double-hung sash windows with cornice moldings are formally disposed on the weatherboard-sheathed elevations. It is doubtful if the glass paneled door on the south (front) elevation is original.

It can be postulated that the falsefront, squared-off wing with pent roof on the east elevation dates to the construction of the Italianate-style porch. The porch is composed of square posts, jig-sawn brackets, and a plain balustrade with decorative cross bracing. Its raised deck is skirted by vertical boards of an unknown date. The porch meets the east wing at the corner boards. The channel siding covering most of the walls in markedly different than that covering the main mass. The north and south elevation walls are falsefronts, and partially conceal the pent-roofed kitchen wing from view. Windows on this wing are practically identical to those found on the main section of the house. An extension of this wing, which follows the angle of the roof pent, is also sheathed differently. Horizontal siding of different dimensions cover the exterior, and windows are fixed, or double-hung, one-over-one sash. The window in the attic on the east elevation appears to have been altered.

The interior of the main block is simply finished, as would be expected in a vernacular dwelling place of such modest scale. Door and window trim is exceedingly plain. While the plank wall surfaces have been covered with papers, plasterboard or with modern paneling, the dining room displays its original board and batten ceiling.

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications | community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement | Iandscape architectur Iaw Iterature military music philosophy politics/government | e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify) |
|----------------|--|--|---|---|
| Specific dates | 1075 | Builder/Architect | 0wn | |

1875 Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Builder/Architect Unknown

The modest, one and one-half story house of box construction located near the northeast corner of Duane Avenue and 37th Street in the Upper Town section of Astoria, Oregon, is thought to have been built in 1875. It is locally significant under National Register criterion "c" as a rare, intact example of a vernacular type once common in the historic port at the mouth of the Columbia River. Astoria is the oldest permanent Euro-American settlement in the Oregon country, having been established as a trading post in 1811 by representatives of John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company. Owing to attrition and a disastrous fire in 1922, Astoria retains almost none of the wooden buildings dating from its earliest period of development, 1847 through the 1860s. With the emergence of the canning industry, from 1864 onward, Astoria's upbuilding began in earnest. Small houses faintly reflecting current architectural fashions, including Classical Revival, Gothic Revival and Italianate styles, were commonplace in Astoria and the satellite settlement of Upper Town, east of Mud Scow Bay. Today, however, simple, vernacular houses in such well-preserved condition as the one erected for newly-arrived Swedish emigre Andrew Young in 1875 are far less frequently encountered. The Andrew Young House was enlarged by a kitchen shed addition with a false front presumably at the time it was rotated on its original lot, possibly after its acquisition by second owner, Jens Nielsen, in 1887. The kitchen addition and the wrap-around veranda having porch posts with jig-sawn brackets evidently are early, if not original features, and the main, gable-roofed volume with its bilaterally symmetrical composition remains discrete, its workmanship and materials fully apparent. The cornice moldings of exterior window and door frames are particularly fine for a building of such modest scale. Further, documented examples of box, or vertical plank wall construction in Astoria are few.

The house is significant secondarily as the first Astoria residence of Andrew Young (1850-1929), a native of Sweden, who exemplified the Scandanavians who flocked to the port in the later 19th century, drawn by the fishing and packing industries. Young pursued a prosperous career in salmon packing on the Lower Columbia and in British Columbia and Alaskan waters, though his fortune appears to have been exceeded by that of his older brother and sometime partner, Benjamin Young (1843-1911). Together, the brothers contributed materially to Astoria's prominence as a center of salmon packing on the northern Pacific Coast. Andrew Young occupied his house in Upper Town about 13 years before branching into real estate and ranching and moving elsewhere in the Astoria area. While unquestionably the oldest, the subject property is not the only property linked with Andrew Young. A ranch on the Youngs River, a town house built in 1906 at 12th and Harrison Streets, and the Young Building (1916) at 14th and Commercial in downtown Astoria also are associated with the successful businessman.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Weekly Astorian - 12/25/1886; 1/28/1888
Daily Morning Astorian - 8/23/1898; 3/23/1899; 9/23/1891; 1/31/1919; 11/29/1929
Astoria Daily Budget - 6/5/1900; 12/18/1905; 12/22/1905; 7/10/1916; 6/7/1925

| 10. G | eographic | al Data | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| | name <u>Astoria</u> , Ore | | on | | Quadrangle scale 1:24000 |
| | 4 3 8 2 8 0 5 | 1 1 5 5 6 0 | B | Dine Easting | |
| c [] [_ e [] [_ g [] [_ | | | D F H | | |
| T. 8N., R of Upper / property | . 9W, W.M., on a Astoria Addition is otherwise desc | 75 x 100 foot to the origin cribed as Tax | : parcel kno nal plat, As Lot 1400, C | wn as Lot toria, Cla latsop Cou | e is located in SW ¹ 4, NE ¹ 4,Sec. 7 of BLock 14, Adair's Port tsop County, Oregon. The nty Assessor's Map Ref. No. 9A |
| LIST AII STA T | tes and counties for | code | county | or county bo | code |
| state | N/A | code | county | | code |
| organization | Contractor f | or City of Ast | toria | date | July 5, 1985 |
| organization | Contractor f | <u>or City of As</u> t | toria | | |
| street & num | ber Box 223 | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | telephone | (206) 642-3860 |
| ity or town | Seaview | rie Dree | | state | WA 98644 |
| | d significance of this p | | | | er Certification |
| 665), I hereby | | ty for inclusion in t | he National Reg | ister and certi k Service. | ervation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– fy that it has been evaluated |
| State Historic | c Preservation Officer | signature | MA CY | Tolle | af |
| For NPS | | Historic Pres | | | date April 1, 1986 |
| $ \alpha$ | MoresBy | en " | ational Regi | K A | date 6-26-86 |
| Keeper of Attest: | the National Register | r | <u> </u> | | date |

Chief of Registration

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NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



| Continuation sheet | ANDREW YOUNG HOUSE | Item number 8 | Page 2 |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------|
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The Andrew Young House is one of the oldest in Upper Town. In the 1870s, Upper Town was a distinct community from the city of Astoria, which lay two miles to the west. A large body of water and mud called Scow Bay separated the two communities. Boats had to be used to travel from one community to another. Later, a wooden trestle connected the two sections of town, and still later, Scow Bay was filled in with river channel dredge spoils. Today, Upper Town is considered the eastern section of the city.

Andrew Young was born in Malmo, Sweden, on January 13, 1850. His brother Benjamin, born in 1843, had left home and had emigrated in 1868 to San Francisco, where he was employed in a sugar factory. In 1871, Benjamin returned to Sweden to marry Christine Sevenson, and then the young couple returned to San Francisco. Andrew is thought to have come to the United States with his older brother at this time.

In 1874, both Benjamin and Andrew Young appeared in Astoria and began working in the fishing industry. The two were almost immediately involved in organizing the Fisherman's Packing Company and the Scandinavian Packing Company, concerns with which both were identified until 1886.

In 1874, Andrew Young married Johanna Frederickson of Denmark, and in the following year he built the house on Duane Street. In 1888, his brother Benjamin built an imposing Queen Anne style house only one block west of the more modest Andrew Young home. The Benjamin Young House was earlier listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1886, Andrew and Benjamin became interested in the British-American Packing Company on the Fraser River in British Columbia and invested in it. The two brothers and others built another cannery on the Skeena River, and a few years later were involved in forming the Alaska Packing Company, whose plants were located on the Nushagak River and Chignak Bay. In 1896, the Young brothers sold their interests to a British syndicate and returned to Astoria.

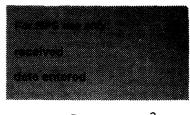
Andrew Young, while financially involved in the Alaska fishing industry, spent most of his time during the years from 1886 to 1896 in Astoria and the Lower Columbia area. He acquired a ranch in the Youngs River district, a few miles from Astoria, in 1885. He sold his house on Duane Avenue to Jens Nielsen in 1887 and moved to the ranch. In 1906, Andrew Young built a new residence at 12th and Harrison in Astoria. Young's grandson, also named Andrew Young, now lives on the ranch on Youngs River. The name of Youngs River was not taken from Andrew Young, but was named in 1792 by the British Royal Navy exploring expedition led by Captain George Vancouver. The name commemorates Sir George Young of the Royal Navy.

In 1891, Andrew Young was one of the incorporators of the Ben Young Land Company. During the next few years he was elected county commissioner, county road supervisor and a member of the Astoria school board.

In 1916, he hired Palmberg & Mattson, contractors, to build the Young Building in downtown Astoria at the corner of 14th and Commercial. This was one of the few downtown buildings to survive the great Astoria fire of 1922, and even today is one of the principal business buildings in that area.

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Continuation sheet ANDREW YOUNG HOUSE Item number 8 Page 3

Andrew and Johanna Young had seven children before she died in 1902. One son, Edward, died in Manila in 1898 during the Spanish American War. He had been a member of the Oregon Volunteers. Another son, Julius, died at the age of 18 in 1899. The other children were William, Daniel, Edwin and Agnes.

Andrew Young remarried in 1905, marrying Emma Harer of Indiana. She died in 1925. Andrew Young died in Astoria on November 28, 1929 at the age of 79.

Jens Nielsen, the man who bought the Andrew Young House in 1887, was a gillnet fisherman who had "high boat" for one year during his career and received a gold medal for the record catches he sustained. The house remained in the Nielsen family possession until 1973, when it was sold to Chris Thompson.

Jens Neilsen and his wife Marit had five children while living in the house. Two of them, Margaret and Johanna, became teachers. One son, Niels, was killed during World War I and is buried in France. The other son, Carl, was a mail carrier. The youngest daughter, Elsie Nielsen Thomson, is still living.

