

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1620
SEP 28 1990

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name King, Edward Moody, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 512 Finley Street N/A not for publication
city, town Dyersburg N/A vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Dyer code 045 zip code 38024

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	2	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	2	0 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Herbert L. Byrum Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date 9/24/90
Tennessee Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Shelane Byrum 10/25/90

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

CONCRETE

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Edward Moody King House, locally know as the King House, is located approximately three blocks west of the downtown square of Dyersburg (population 17,000), Dyer County Tennessee, on the northwest corner formed by King Avenue and Finley Street. The two-story brick dwelling was built circa 1905-1907 by Edward Moody King and his wife, Mary Stevens King and sits on a one and a quarter acre lot. The King House is an excellent example of Classical Revival style architecture popular in West Tennessee during the early Twentieth century. The massive, symmetrically designed structure has an impressive portico entrance on the south facade facing Finley Street. The portico has colossal, Ionic columns which extend up to include both stories. Another giant portico can be seen on the east elevation which is similar in detail, to the main portico.

The symmetrical houses has a hipped, asphalt composition shingle roof that covers the main portion of the building. Three gabled dormers occur on the south facade, and one gabled dormer each occurs on the porticos. The west facade contains a porte cochere. The house and porches have brick foundation. The exterior foundation is covered with a cementitious layer in depressed joint design. Decks of the south and east porches are concrete which is painted and has concrete steps leading to the front and sideyard concrete walks. The entrance stoop on the west is also of concrete.

The main facade of the house faces south toward Finley Street. A full size, two story porch dominates the house's facade. The center portion of the porch is semi-circular with semi-circular steps to the front walk. This south portico has six wood columns, each two feet in diameter, which support the portico overhang, and two decorative pilasters against the brick wall at the east and west ends. These columns which extend up to include the second story, have Ionic capitals. The portico also has a deep wood frieze with dentils and projecting cornice across the entire facade. The wooden soffit features two dome light fixtures located at the east and west ends, carriage house light fixtures flank the entrance. The main entrance door is of single panel, wood and glass construction with side-lights and a transom having vertical, three-inch leaded glazing. Above the entrance is a pre-cast, concrete flat arch lintel spanning the brick jamb to brick jamb with pronounced keystone. A small balcony with a wood deck and a balustrade of cast-iron in scroll design in front of a Palladian

 See continuation sheet

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window is located over this entrance. This second-story window had a round arch lintel that also has a pronounced keystone. Large double hung windows flank the main entrance on the first story with fifteen over one sashes and pre-cast concrete lintels and sills. The sills are continuous and form a pre-cast concrete water table. Similar windows flank the second story balcony, but have simple lintels. The Palladian window design is repeated in the attic story dormer which is centered over the main entrance. Smaller dormers flank the center dormer and contain round arch windows with vertical division. The flat roofed portico originally had a wooden balustrade at the attic level (can be seen in a 1924 picture of the home). The south facade differs from the remainder of the house with brick quoins at the corners extending from the water table to cornice.

The east facade of the house faces King Avenue. The porch deck of the east facade is a continuation of the porch deck from the main, or south, portico. The massive portico has large wooden Ionic columns and deep cornice wood molding that is identical to the cornice of the south facade. The dentil trim is repeated across the entire facade. There are four columns supporting the soffit overhang with two decorative pilasters against the brick wall at the north and south ends. An end-wall carriage house light is located in the center of the first story, near the east porch steps which lead up from the sideyard walk. There is also a dome light fixture located in the wood soffit. The first story of the east elevation has four large, double hung windows with pre-cast sill, lintels with keystones, and water table. The windows are nine over one sash. The south end of the second story had three similar windows with plain lintels and a casement window and transom with three inch leaded glazing. The dormer in the attic story repeats the Palladian window design of the south facade. The south end of this roof has an end-wall chimney and the north end has an interior chimney, both with corbeled chimney caps. In the early 1920s the northeast corner of the portico was enclosed to form a sunroom, the enclosure is of wood construction. This porch enclosure has a north and south entrance with identical doors of wood panel and half-glass construction. The walls are composed primarily of windows on the north, east, and south side. Window are six over six sash surmounted by a six light transom. The cornice of the porch enclosure has dentil trim. Over the porch enclosure is a second-story balcony which has no access from the dwelling itself. This balcony has a turned wood balustrade. Second story window are nine over one sash with minimal trim. At the north end of the portico there are steps leading to an exterior basement entrance. The entrance includes a single door and a four over four double hung window. The north end of the east facade has a two course brick water table extending from porch level to the north facade.

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The north facade is plain compared with the others. It continues in design with the brick and wood trim, and denticulated cornice. The two-course brick water table continues across the entire north facade. There are two double-hung nine over one windows on the first story and three windows on the second story. The two first-story windows flank a one-story back porch enclosed with lattice screening. This flat-roofed porch appears to have at one time had a wood balustrade end posts remain flush against the brick wall above the porch roof on the west and east ends. The porch is only visible when approaching the garage/servant's quarters on the driveway off of King Avenue. The attic story has a wood gabled dormer with three double hung one over one windows. An end-wall, brick chimney with corbeled caps extends up beyond the height of the roof at the dormer.

The west elevation features a porte cochere. This architectural feature is placed nearest the garage/servant's quarters and the driveway accessible from Finley Street. The porte cochere is well detailed with architectural elements compatible with those of the south and east facades. The porte cochere has a flat roof surrounded by a wood balustrade similar in style to the one over the one-story porch enclosure of the east facade. The cornice of the porte cochere has dentil trim which matches the denticulated cornice on the enclosed porch on the east facade. There is a very large, single insulated glass, double-hung window located in the center of the roof over the porte cochere with a one-over one light sash. The west side of the porte cochere has a brick wall which is seventeen-inches thick with two Doric columns at the north and south ends. The base of the columns rest on raised brick pedestals. The entrance stoop is flanked on the north and south by wood Doric columns and pilasters which rest on short brick walls which extend out to the concrete driveway. The steps leading up from the driveway are steep, providing a step area for access from automobiles of an early nineteen hundred vintage. To the north of the west entrance is a small, double-hung window with six over six light sashes. The door is wood paneled and half-glass construction with a four pane sash. There are six other windows on the first story with similar windows directly above on the second story, except the north end, second-story window is only a single window centered over the first-story double window. The windows on the south end of the west facade have fifteen over one light sashes. The windows north of the porte cochere have one light sashes. All these windows are double hung with pre-cast concrete sills. The first-story windows have pre-cast concrete lintel; the one on the south ends have keystones, while the north end windows are plain. Second-story windows have no lintels. The dormer window in the attic story repeats the Palladian window design noted on the south and east facades. There is an

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interior chimney on the south end of the roof with corbeled chimney caps. The interior chimney on the north end is plain brick. The basement windows, except on the north end of the west facade. Here, under the paired first-story window, there are paired four over four light sash, double hung window. There is a two-course, brick water table which extends from the north facade to the corner before the porte cochere. There is no water table under the porte cochere enclosure.

The fifteen room interior of the King House features wood strip flooring with ten-inch high baseboards, wood lath and gypsum plaster with paper wall covering, and wood framing. On the first and third floors the wood strip flooring is placed in a north-south alignment, while on the second floor it has an east-west alignment. The ceilings are of the same construction as the walls, except for the east parlor, dining room, and breakfast room which are finished with a painted surface of gypsum plaster-fresco. There are transoms over all the doors except the kitchen and bathroom and the majority can be opened for ventilation. All of the hanging light fixtures in the house are original. There are eleven fireplaces in the house with varying designs, many with brick fireboxes inscribed with "Evans and Howard, St. Louis." All fireplaces have projecting chimney breasts except one fireplace located in the bedroom to the north of the main stairway on the second floor. Door casings are plain with plinth blocks placed at the bottom of each jamb. Interior window sills are wood with plain wood casement surrounding.

The entrance hall is flanked by spacious parlors. The entrance door with side-lights and transoms provide natural lighting. A large, solid brass chandelier hangs down in the center of the entry hall. It has a large, three foot dome with four arms extending out to hold four frosted globes. The wide entrance hall opens onto a large stair hall, these two spaces are visually divided by wood columns on square bases. The round columns have Ionic capitals that support a cornice molding. Spacious parlors on the west and east of the entry hall open through large double doorways that have sliding wood paneled doors.

The west parlor has a large window on both the south and west walls. The fireplace is on the north wall with a plain wood mantel enclosing the white ceramic glazed firebrick and hearth. There are gas logs fixed in this fireplace which, of course, were a recent addition. Over the mantel is a gold bordered mirror which extend up to the ceiling and is permanently fixed there. The chandelier hangs in the center of the room by four long

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chains attached to a circular, solid brass frame which had a big glass dome globe with four matching smaller globes. Around the large central globe are large crystal prisms.

The east parlor, called the living room by the King family, is twice as large as the west room and has two doorways, one opens from the entry hall and the other from the main stair hall. This living room has two fireplaces, one on the south end of the east wall and the other on the middle of the north wall. The east wall fireplace is flanked by windows. The fireplace has wood Doric columns which are interrupted at the mantel level then extend up to enclose a mirror. The green ceramic glazed fire bricks and heath enclose a cast-iron coal grate. The fireplace on the north wall has two fluted wood columns with Corinthian capital which support a mantel with an egg and dart motif. There is a carved dragon coat-of-arms style design between the upper part of the columns which together form the green ceramic glazed fire brick an hearth with cast-iron coal grate. East of fireplace on the north wall is a wood and half-glass door with three vertical wood panels below a large single-light sash window with a large transom overhead. This door opens into the enclosed porch on the north end of the east portico called the sun room by the family. The floor of this room is the same concrete deck of the east porch. This space is equipped with running water to facilitate the care of green plants. Besides the natural lighting provided by all the windows, there is lighting provided by a brass mission style light fixture with four Holophane glass shades. These shades are ribbed and fluted with a patent date of 1910. In the east parlor there are identical chandeliers at north and south ends of the room. Each chandelier has four chains which attach to a solid brass, open circular frame and a center chain. At the end of each chain is a frosted, cut and etched globe. The center globe on the north chandelier has been replaced with a plain, frosted globe.

Located in the main stair hall on the north wall is a fireplace located between the dining room door opening on the west and the rear stair hall door opening to the east. Simple in design, the fireplace has glazed ceramic tile with a plain wood mantel. It has an arched fireplace opening with a keystone. Several of the interior brick are inscribed "Gilmore, Tenn." The main stairway to the second story is to the west and features a broad staircase with a square, wood paneled newel post and a balustrade of carved wood spindles. Located near the stairway is a two arm, brass mission style light fixture with white globes. The stairway landing has a large picture window which provides natural lighting. Also located on the landing is a one drop light fixture with a fluted Holophane glass shade. To the south of the stairway is a built-in wood panel box for seating and

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storage. This hallway extends west and leads to a small vestibule containing the west entrance from the porte cochere and a half bath. This area has small, hexagon-shaped, white tile flooring.

Off the main stairway hall, is the dining room which is entered through double sliding wood door. Two exterior windows on the west wall and one on the west end of the north wall provide natural lighting for the room. There is a solid brass, silver-plated chandelier centrally located in the room that hangs down from the ceiling with a single chain. The chandelier has five concentric circular rows of teardrop crystal prisms with the lights hanging inside the prisms. The rim that houses the first row of prisms is ornately decorated. In each corner of the room is matching accessory lighting which has single bulbs close to the ceiling and is surrounded by large crystal prisms. The north wall has an ornately designed fireplace. It has a double tier enclosing a beveled edged mirror over a cabinet mantel. The cabinet has leaded glass door panels. The red ceramic gazed firebrick and hearth with coal grate is enclosed by two wood columns which are half smooth and half fluted which rest on plain pedestals. Above these are four columns, two on the east side and two on the west side, which are also half smooth and half fluted resting on ornately carved wood pedestals. These columns support cornice with an egg and dart motif. This fireplace is conveniently located near the swinging wood paneled door of the breakfast room which is on the east end of the north wall. The entry doors are placed so that all air circulation is provided at the most convenient end of the dining space. The walls have a wainscot of painted plaster to the ceiling with original wallpaper. Six feet above the floor is wood molding with dentils separated by an egg and dart motif dividing the two different wall finishes.

To the north of the dining room is the breakfast room with built-in base and wall cabinets along the north wall and a double wide window located on the west wall. An interesting feature of this space is the warming cabinet set into the hot water radiator placed between the north wall cabinets and an east door which opens into the kitchen. Another east door opening on the south end of the room opens into the rear stair hall. The floor is covered with linoleum that was installed in the 1948 remodeling of the house. There is a painted, solid brass light fixture hanging down in the center of this room which has four arms that extend out from an approximate six inch ball. They arms extend upward with four frosted mission style shades. The arms originally extended downward, but have been changed to provide indirect lighting.

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To the east of the breakfast room is the kitchen. This room was completely remodeled in 1948. The floor is covered linoleum and the walls have pine paneling with a natural finish. The ceiling is made of an unpainted, composition material. There are built-in metal cabinets along the south and east walls. There is a window on the north end of the east wall and on the east end of the north wall. There is a door opening on the west end of the north wall to the north back porch. There is also a southwest door opening into the rear stair hall. In the northwest corner of the kitchen is a door leading to a pantry which extends west with built-in shelves on the south wall and window on the north wall.

As you exit the kitchen through the south door into the rear stair hall, there is a narrow staircase to the second floor along the west wall. These stairs have an electric chair lift mounted to the wall, the lift was added in 1970. The wood strip oak floor in this hall was covered with linoleum in 1948 and the walls and ceilings are of plaster covered with wallpaper. There is a brass mission style light fixture in this rear stair hall which has two arms that hold frosted, ribbed shades.

On the east wall of this rear hall is a door opening to a small room known as the den. The double-hung sash window opening on the east wall look out into the enclosed porch on the north end of the east portico. There is a brass mission style light fixture in this room, the original globes are missing. The wallpaper in this room is original.

Under the stairway in the rear stair hall extending north is a stairway for entry to the basement. The basement consists of servant quarters, wash room with related utilities, coal storage area, heating and hot water heater equipment area, and general storage area. This space is outlined by the full area of the house. The foundation walls are solid brick. Ceilings are exposed wood framing and interior walls are sheathing over wood framing.

The second floor consists of six bedrooms and three bathrooms. The main stair hall has a hanging light fixture with a circular brass frame, about eight inches in diameter, with three drops that hold three frosted glass shades. Walls and ceilings of all second floor spaces are plaster, finished with wallpaper. The doorways all have solid wood panel doors. The bedrooms all have their original fireplaces mantel with white glazed ceramic firebrick and hearths and original cast-iron heating elements.

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At the south end of the second floor main hallway there is a sitting area located directly over the entry hall on the first floor. Columns on wood bases, identical to the ones on the first floor, divide this sitting area from the remainder of the hall. A Palladian window on the south wall is the focal point of this sitting area. A small closet is located on the west wall and a ceiling fan was hung in the sitting area during the 1948 remodeling.

To the east of the sitting area is a door opening to the southeast bedroom. The light fixture in this room is a half dome frosted and etched globe which fits close to the ceiling. It has large crystal prisms hanging around the perimeter. A large window is located on the south wall and on the east wall is a fireplace between two windows. This fireplace has a plain wood mantel supported by plain columns. There is a small closet located on the west end of the north wall. Next to this closet door is a doorway which exits to the north into a corridor which connects this bedroom to another bedroom. A bath is entered from this corridor to the east. In the 1948 remodeling of the house, this bathroom was modernized. This two bedroom and bath arrangement has been referred to as "the apartment." The northeast bedroom of the apartment has a small closet on the southwest wall and a door on the west wall which enters into the main stair hall. There is a window on the east wall and a fireplace on the north wall. This fireplace has a very simple wood mantel without columns or trim. The light fixture in this room has a contemporary shade that fits up close to the ceiling which appears to be one of only two of this style in the house.

To the west of the sitting room is a bedroom on the southwest which has an entrance from the main stair hall. There are two windows in this room, one on the south wall and one on the west wall. There is a fireplace on the east end of the north wall between a closet door to the west and the entry door to the east. This fireplace has a plain wood mantel. The closet is a small walk-in closet which extends east. The light fixture in this bedroom is identical to the one in the southeast bedroom.

To the north of the main stair hall is a bedroom which had a large walk-in closet on the south end of the east wall with a built-in chest of drawers. There are two windows on the west wall and one window on the north wall. The fireplace is on the east end of the north wall. It is the only fireplace in the house without an extending chimney breast. It has a simple wood mantel. The small solid brass light fixture in this room hangs down from the ceiling and has three arms holding three frosted, bell-shaped glass shades.

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The second floor rear stair hall extends north from the east end of the main stair hall and includes the two north bedrooms, a full bath, a half bath, and the rear stairway. On the west side of the hall, the stairway goes down to the first floor in a north direction and rises up to the ballroom access in a south direction. There are two single drop-light fixtures in this hall with ribbed and frosted shades. The bathrooms in this section of the house retain their original appearance and were not modernized in 1948. The flooring in these bathrooms is the same as that found in the first-floor bathroom.

The northeast bedroom has a door from the rear stair hall on the west side of the south wall and a small closet on the east end of the south wall. There is a single window on the east wall and there are two windows on the north wall with a fireplace between them. The fireplace has simple smooth wood column resting on pedestals which supports the rounded mantel. There is a door on the west wall which connects it to the northwest bedroom. The light fixture in this bedroom is identical to the other contemporary light fixture noted in the northeast apartment bedroom.

The last bedroom to mention is the one to the northwest which has two entry doors on the east wall, one from the northeast bedroom and one from the rear stair hall. On the east end of the south wall is a large walk-in closet with a built-in chest of drawers, and to the west of it is a fireplace. The fireplace has a simple wood mantel and there is a window on both the west and the north walls. The light fixture in this bedroom is identical to the one in the bedroom to the north of the main stairs except it no longer has shades.

The third floor, or attic, consists of a large ballroom and a china painting room. The entry door to this floor from the rear stair hall enters into the large open space of the ballroom proper. It has the view of the three Palladian window designs noted from the south, east, and west facades. The Palladian windows on the south and east walls actually have door in the arrangement which provide access to the south and east portico roofs as well as the shingled roof of the house itself. the painted plaster ceiling follows the outline of the room. the ballroom area conforms with the outline of the house and is fourteen feet high at the center of the space. The walls and sloping ceilings are plaster with the original wallpaper. There is a two-arm mission style light fixture in a central location with a triple bulb spotlight fixture in each corner of the room. The china painting room entrance is to the north of the ballroom near the stairway exit. It is equipped with a cast-iron, gas-fired kiln in the

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northeast corner of the room. This was a necessary component for the china painting as was the spacious storage areas provided in this room. On the west wall is a built-in chest of drawers and large walk-in closet with numerous large shelves. This area was located to have a north exposure, making sure of glare-free light necessary for true color renditions. The north gabled dormer with the triple window design provides the natural lighting for this room. There is a light fixture identical to the central one in the ballroom.

There is a two-story outbuilding on the northwest corner of the lot built at the same time as the house. This building, known as the Garage/Servants' Quarters, is constructed of wood sheathing and wood framing with metal panels serving as the roof components. The first floor consists of spaces for three automobiles plus base cabinets necessary for general storage and maintenance of three cars. It has a pit covered with boards in the last car space to the east. This apparently was used to enable someone, after removing the board cover, to slide up under a car to service. On the south end of the west wall there is an entrance to a stairway going up to the second floor. There is also an entrance to this stairway from the exterior directly south. The second floor contains five rooms and plumbing necessary for servants quarters.

The concrete driveway enters the lot on the southwest corner from Finley Street and goes north to the garage/servant's quarters and then heads east along the north corner of the lot (known as Lot 23) to King Avenue. There are the remains of a formal garden to the north of the driveway in the area known as part of Lot 25, which the Kings purchased when they originally bought the lot on which the house, outbuilding and driveway are located. The driveway from Finley Street divides to pass through the porte cochere and connects again on the drive which goes to King Avenue. There is a concrete retaining wall at the Finley Street entrance to the east and west which is leaning considerably in towards the drive. The formal garden area has only concrete pathways with various shaped planing beds and curbing left. There is a circular, concrete flower box on the west edge. There is a flat concrete pad to the east with a metal, circular stake in each corner. The garden was a rose garden with an arbor where this flat concrete path is located. There were trellis over and around the sides of the arbor. In particular there were black, blue, and sweetheart rosebushes.

The house is in stable condition but in need of some immediate attention; the column on the east of the main entrance steps has been damaged by bees and the whole front of the Ionic capital has broken away. Another column

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on the east portico also has bees living in it and there is beginning to be evidence of the damage. There is also other wood damage noted around the base of some of the columns on the south and east porticos. Part of the balustrade on the west side of the porte cochere has just recently fallen. The house has been vacant for several years and is for sale.

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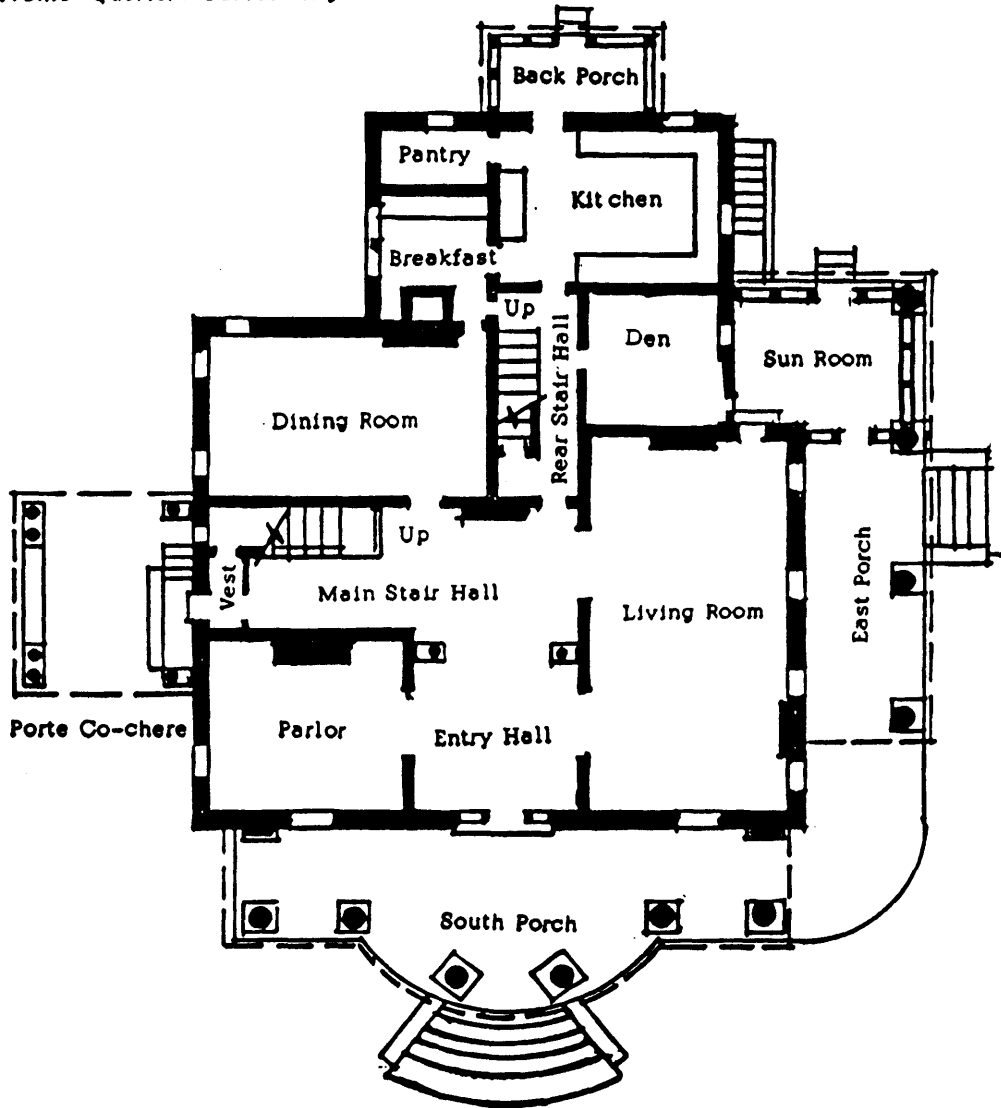
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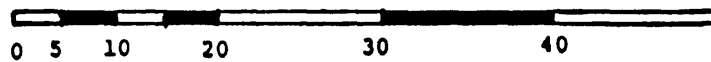
Garage/Servants' Quarters Outbuilding

Remains of Formal Garden



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

graphic scale

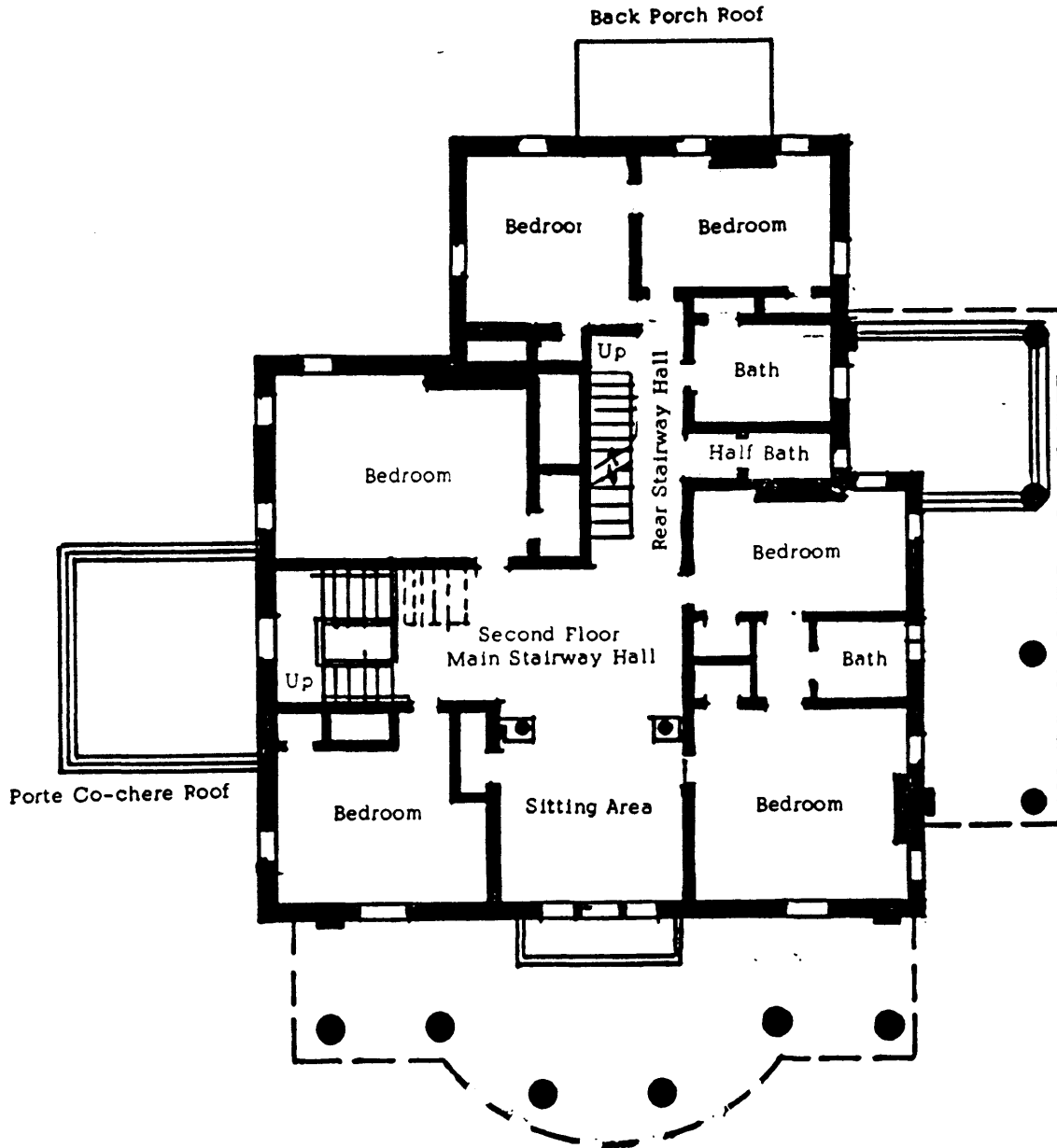


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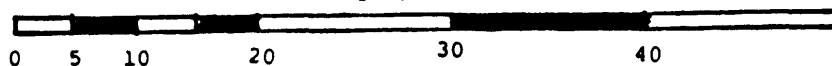
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SECOND FLOOR PLAN

graphic scale

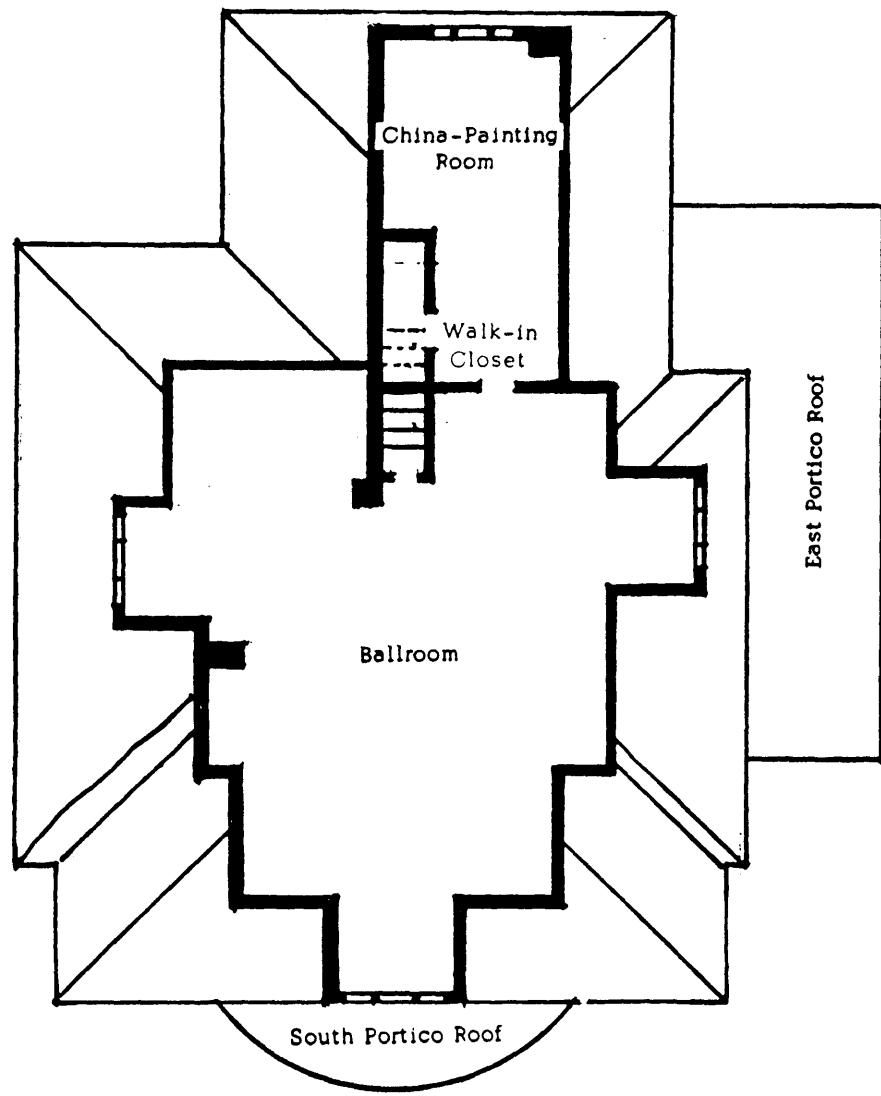


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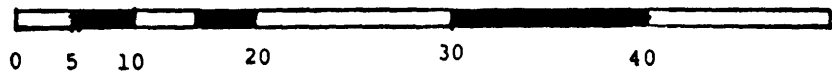
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THIRD FLOOR PLAN

graphic scale



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RESIDENCE OF E. M. KING

Historic View, 1924.

From: Dyersburg, Tennessee: Dyer County 1924.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1905-1907

Significant Dates

ca. 1905-1907

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Edward Moody King house on the corner of King Avenue and Finley Streets in Dyersburg, Dyer County, Tennessee, is nominated under National Register criterion C for its architectural significance to Dyer County. The King home is an excellent example of the Classical Revival style. The features of this house are typical of the Classical Revival style including the grand size, giant portico, Ionic columns, symmetrical facade and large, single-light sash windows. Few changes have been made to the house since its construction circa 1905-1907, thus it retains integrity of design and workmanship. It remains the largest, most intact example of a Classical Revival residence left in Dyersburg.

Edward Moody King was the son of Laura and Tom King. Born in Bartlett, Tennessee, in 1863, he moved to Dyersburg with his family in 1882. Then in 1884 he married Mary Stevens, the daughter of Captain Mack Stevens. Captain Stevens came to Dyersburg in 1848 and, with his brother, started a saw mill on the Forked Deer River. This eventually became a large lumber company known as The Stevens Lumber Company. After Captain Stevens' death in 1888 the family operated the company for many years. Then, during early 1909, it became known as the E.M. King Lumber Company.

In 1900, Mary and Edward King built a home next to his father's house on King Avenue. It was a two-story frame house described as "Gingerbread or Steamboat Gothic." That same year they also bought the lot where the present King Home is located. On November 2, 1900, Mary and Edward King paid \$1,750.00 for lot #23 and part of lot #25 in the Fowlkes Addition, an 1884 addition to the city of Dyersburg. This area of town was once noted for its fine homes and described as "one of the prettiest residential areas in Dyersburg for many years."

In 1905 their frame house burned. They then bought the "Minnick House" for \$2,500.00 and lived there until 1908 when it was sold to Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Burke. This house was built in 1900 by G. R. Minnick in the Classical Revival style of architecture. Although not as large a residence

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property one and one quarter acres

UTM References

A

1	6
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2	8	4	5	8	0
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3	9	9	0	2	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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 Zone Easting Northing

D

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Dyersburg, TN 420 SW

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Edward Moody King House is shown on the accompanying Dyer County Tax Map #99B, Group, parcel 25 as lot 23 and part of lot 25.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the house and garage/servant's quarters. It is bounded on the south and east by city streets and on the west and north by property lines. The boundaries include all land historically associated with the Edward Moody King House.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kyran L. Davis, Bruce Overton, Norma Haynes
 organization N/A date September 1990
 street & number 2029 Evergreen Place, 2201 Parr Avenue telephone 901-285-4130, 901-285-9775
 city or town Dyersburg state Tennessee zip code 38024

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as the King house, it has a striking resemblance. It is told that they liked the Minnick House so much that they used it as the design idea for their new home. This house, now known as Whitehall, still stands on the corner of Phillips Street and Sampson Avenue and has 6,420 square feet.

Lot #23 and part of lot #25 have been owned by the King family since it was purchased and the house was built. Both Edward and Mary King died in 1940. At that time ownership of the King House passed to Zelda Gilbert, a widowed daughter. She sold the property to her brother, E. M. King, Jr., in 1959. His children, E.M. King, III and Mary Louise King presently own the property.

According Edward M. King, III, family traditions states that a Memphis architect, Mr. Mahan, designed the house, although there has been no documentation to prove this has been found. An architect, George Mahan, Jr., was professionally active in Memphis from 1907-1967. Mahan designed three public schools and the Baird-Delaney Hospital in Dyersburg and it is probable that he designed this house for the King family.

The house itself is indeed grand, not only in size, but in design as well. This massive structure (16,500 square feet) has an impressive columned entrance and is an excellent example of the Classical Revival style. The colossal portico has Ionic columns which extend the full two stories of the house. The portico is crowned with a balustrade at the attic story. The center door is flanked with side-lights, corner-lights and transoms. Over it is a small balcony with cast-iron balustrade enclosing a Palladian window. This window design is repeated in the attic story. Other windows are large with pre-cast concrete lintels and pronounced keystones typical of this style architecture.

The interior is also characteristic of the Classical Revival period and has retained integrity over the years. The reception hall is flanked by spacious parlors and leads into a large stair hall. The formal stairway is to the left and leads to a second story of like design, which has six bedrooms. The third story, or attic, contains a ballroom where many affairs was held. The floors, the woodwork, the mantels and light fixtures remain unchanged. There are eleven fireplaces adorned with differing mantels. Many have cast iron grills with decorative panels. Some are flanked by pilasters with elegant wood trim. The only remodeling to the interior occurred in 1948 when the kitchen area and a bathroom were remodeled. A newspaper article in Dyersburg's State Gazette (February 8, 1912) gives us an idea about the King home:

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"The home of Mr. and Mrs. King is palatial. There is nothing approaching it in elegance, comfort, beauty and refinement in the city, or for that matter, in this section of the State. All its appointments are in keeping and full harmony with the stately structure of brick and stone. The spacious rooms, the polished floor, the tinted walls, the frescoed ceiling, the beautiful paintings, the elegant furniture, the classic tapestry and many other marvels of adornment in hall and parlor and library and private apartment are beyond the descriptive power of the writer, but they abundantly attest to the refined and cultured taste of those who planned and built that home and furnished it."

Presently the King House is surrounded by commercial property and small residences not comparable in size nor grandeur. Although the area has changed significantly over the years, the house remains much the same and retains its architectural integrity. In the early 1920's the northeast corner of the wrap-around portico was enclosed. It was sensitively done and is unobtrusive within the columned porch. Then in 1948 the kitchen was remodeled and modernized along with the second-floor southeast bathroom. Several light fixtures on the second floor were changed and a ceiling fan was added.

Only three buildings in Dyer County have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and only two of these remain standing. This house is the largest residence in Dyersburg and remains the most intact example of Classical Revival style of architecture left in this area. One of the older brick homes in Dyersburg is the Nichols/Parker/Biesel House, now called Lakewood, on Poplar Street. The main part of the Nichols/Parker/Biesel House was built in 1863 by Mr. Nichols, who owned a brick factory in Dyer County. When Mr. J. N. Parker purchased it in about 1911, he remodeled and added a concrete portico on the west and south sides with Ionic columns. The south portico has a large wood pediment. These changes give it a Classical Revival look but no particular attention was given to the way the pediment was tied to the old gabled roof. The size of this house is 6,892 square feet. A house located at 1011 Troy Avenue most nearly compares with the King House both in size (8,383 square feet) and architectural integrity. This house is a two-story brick dwelling with a porte cochere built circa 1911-1913. No information has been found on any other house past or present, in Dyersburg compares in overall size and architectural integrity to the Edward M. King House.

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- Dyer County Deed Records: Book 24, page 553.
- Dyer County Deed Records: Book 29, pages 9, 289.
- Dyer County Deed Records: Book 63, pages 259-265.
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- Interview with Peggy Hodges, real estate agent and family friend. September 13, 1989.
- Interview with Edward Moody King, III, present owner. September 1989.
- Interview with Mary Louise King, present owner. September 15, 1989, June 11, 1990, June 15, 1990.
- Official Souvenir Booklet Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Dyer County, Tennessee 1823-1973. Newbern, Tennessee: Anderson Printing Company, Inc., 1973.

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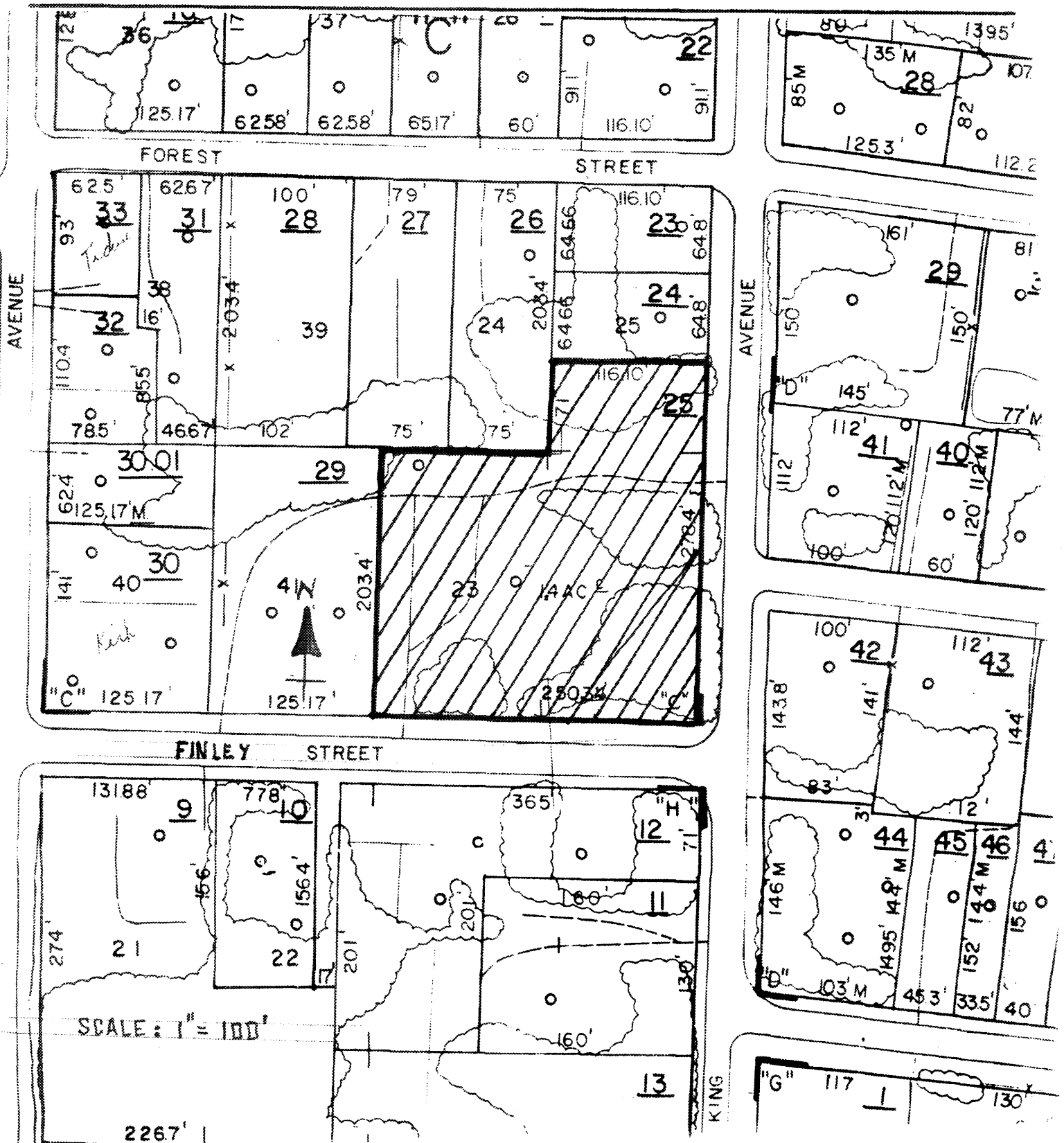
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State Gazette Newspaper, Number 6. "Ed King's Birthday." by T.C.G.
February 8, 1912.

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OWNERS:

Edward Moody King, III
11 Belleair
Memphis, Tennessee 38104

Mary Louise King
3409 Princeton
Dallas, Texas 75205

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King, Edward Moody, House
512 Finley Street
Dyersburg, Dyer County, Tennessee
Photo by: Travis Miles
Date: February 1990
Neg: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

Facing north, south facade
#1 of 22

Facing north, south facade, entrance detail
#2 of 22

Facing north, south elevation, Carriage House
#3 of 22

Facing east, west facade
#4 of 22

Facing south, west facade, porte-cochere
#5 of 22

Facing south, north facade
#6 of 22

Facing west, east facade
#7 of 22

Interior detail, main entrance hall
#8 of 22

Interior detail, southeast parlor
#9 of 22

Interior detail, northeast parlor
#10 of 22

Interior detail, main stairway hall
#11 of 22

Interior detail, main stairway hall
#12 of 22

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Interior detail, dining room
#13 of 22

Interior detail, dining room
#14 of 22

Interior detail, breakfast room
#15 of 22

Interior detail, back stairway hall
#16 of 22

Interior detail, main stairway landing, facing second floor hall
#17 of 22

Interior detail, second floor hall
#18 of 22

Interior detail, sitting room
#19 of 22

Interior detail, bathroom
#20 of 22

Interior detail, third floor ballroom
#21 of 22

Interior detail, kiln in China painting room
#22 of 22