NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

RECEILE 2280 OMB No. 1024-0018
AUG LADAM
L NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Register.

historic name BROWNE-KING HOUSE
other names/site number SE1773
2. Location
street & number 322 King Street N/A not for publication
citv or town Oviedo N/A vicinitv
state FLORIDA code FL countv Seminole code 117 zip code 32765
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this in momination

	ation standards for registering properties in the National Register of quirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property commend that this property be considered significant teet for additional comments.)						
	Signature of certifying official/ itle Date	1/31/2001					
	Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, Division	of Historical Resources					
	State or Federal agency and bureau						
	In my opinion, the property	ational Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional					
	Signature of certifying official/Title Dat	te					
	State of Federal agency and bureau						
4.	4. National Park Service Certification						
l h	I hereby certify that the property is: entered in the National Register See continuation sheet	Signature of the Keeper Date of Action					
	determined eligible for the National Register	National Register					
	See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
	removed from the National	A					

5. Classification							
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)Category of Property (Check only one box)		Number of Resources within Property (Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)					
⊠ private □ public-local	⊠ buildings ☐ district	Contributing	Noncontribu	Noncontributing			
public-State public-Federal	☐ site ☐ structure	3	0	buildings			
	object	0	0	sites			
		0	0	structures			
		0	0_	objects			
		3	0	total			
Name of related multiple property listings (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register					
"N	/A"	0					
6. Function or Use							
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)					
DOMESTIC : single dwelling	·····	DOMESTIC: single dwelling					
DOMESTIC: secondary structure	e	DOMESTIC: secondar	y structure				
			· · ···				
7. Description							
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from	n instructions)				
OTHER: Frame Vernacular		foundation <u>BRICK</u> walls <u>WOOD</u>					
			·····				
		other					

Seminole Co., FL County and State

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
	ARCHITECTURE
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and	Period of Significance
distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	1884
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.	
	Significant Dates
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	1884
Property is:	
A owned by a religious institution or used for	
religious purposes.	Significant Person
B removed from its original location.	<u>N/A</u>
	Cultural Affiliation
C a birthplace or grave.	N/A
D a cemetery.	
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder unknown
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years	
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
9. Major Bibliographical References	
Bibliography Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one Previous documentation on file (NPS):	e or more continuation sheets.) Primary location of additional data:
preliminary determination of individual listing (36	State Historic Preservation Office
CFR 36) has been requested	Other State Agency
previously listed in the National Register	Federal agency
previously determined eligible by the National	Local government
Register	University
designated a National Historic Landmark	Other
<pre>recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #</pre>	Name of Repository
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record	#
	i'

Browne-King	House
Name of Proper	ty

Seminole Co., FL County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.42 acres

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)



Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul D. McC	Queen/Robert O	. Jones.	Historic	Sites Spe	c. & E	Barbara E.	Mattick.	DSHPO	for Survey	/ & Regist	ration

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation

street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street

citv or town Tallahassee

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner					
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	······································				
name Paul D. McQueen					
street & number 522 King Street	telephone <u>407-365-1839</u>				
city or town <u>Oviedo</u>	state FL zip code 32765				

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



date

July 2001

32399-0250

telephone (850) 487-2333



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Section number ____7 Page ___1

BROWNE-KING HOUSE, OVIEDO, SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SUMMARY

The Browne-King House is located at 322 King Street, Oviedo, Seminole County, Florida. The twostory home was built by George Gordon Hazeltine Browne in ca.1884, in H.L.Mitchell's addition to the City of Oviedo. The house is a good example of the Florida Vernacular "I" house design that evolved from the early Florida settlers' cabin, the "singlepen." It is very symmetrical in design, with two equal sized rooms both upstairs and down with an "ell" extending to the rear to complete the basic original structure. The house is constructed of heart pine and cypress with three porches--two on the front and one in the rear. The second floor porch has an original decorative railing surrounding it. Fenestration is single, two-over-two, double hung sash. The house remains very original and has always been a private home.

SETTING

The City of Oviedo lies in the southeast portion of Seminole County in east central Florida. The population of the county is nearly 350,000 with Oviedo's population at 25,000. The main corridors of Seminole County are Interstate 4, U. S. Highway 17/92, State Road 417 and State Road 46. Within the city limits of Oviedo, the main road north and south is State Road 434. State Road 426 is the main east-to-west road. The University of Central Florida is 5 miles south of Oviedo on State Road 434, downtown Orlando lies 15 miles to the southwest, and the Disney Attraction areas lie 40 miles southwest. Lake Jessup lies 3 miles north of Oviedo.

The Browne-King House is within the city limits of Oviedo and is situated one half mile west of downtown and one block north of State Road 426. Originally on the outskirts of Oviedo, today it is well within the city limits. Across the street to the north is the historic First Methodist Church of Oviedo, founded in 1873 and moved to the present site in 1887. Two blocks west is Oviedo High School and 3 blocks south is Lawton Elementary School. The surrounding terrain is flat with a mixture of old orange and grapefruit groves with pine trees and oak trees. Two blocks north is the newly constructed Cross-Seminole Trail.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION Exterior

The Browne-King House is on a north/south axis, with the façade of the house facing north. The symmetrical façade and "I" house layout is evident (Photo #1). The footprint of the original house is an "L" with a short south porch connecting to a side-gable kitchen. The original house has brick and cypress post piers, and the porch and kitchen extension is on concrete block piers. The windows are filled with 2/2, double-hung wooden sashes. Those windows on the first story are full length. Original, functioning wooden louvered shutters are on the first story and gable ends of the northern block. The roof is metal covered. There are three original brick chimneys. One exterior chimney is centered on the east gable end. One internal chimney is

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located within the south slope of the main block's roof where it joins with the "L." An internal chimney is located at the juncture of the south porch and gable end of the "L."

The <u>main, north façade</u> fronts onto King Street, and a yard with oak trees and brick walkways. The wide two-story front porches are the most prominent features of the façade. The first story porch is accessed from two brick steps. Four square chamfered posts support the second story porch and shed roof porch covering. The second story porch has a hand rail and scroll-sawn balustrade. The main entrance is centered on the first story porch. It is a single, wooden panel door with two arched top lights within the upper half. Windows flank the door, centered between the door and corners. The second story has a door and windows aligned with those on the first story.

The <u>west elevation</u> is the gable end of the northern block, and a one-story southerly "L" extension (Photo #2). The gable end had four windows, two up and two down. The "L" has four windows (three full length, one regular size) within it. At the south gable end of the "L" is a short, one story porch with one regular size window. The gable end of the rectangular kitchen unit is connected to the south of the short porch. The gable end had two regular sized windows

The <u>south elevation</u> is the broad side of the kitchen unit which has one small window in the center, and two groups of paired windows toward the east and west corners (Photo #3). The south elevation of the north block is an enclosed porch with a bank of six windows, and second story extension with two windows (Photo #4)

The <u>east elevation</u> is the gable end of the north block (Photo #5). A brick chimney rises through the peak overhang of the roof. The chimney is flanked by windows with shutters on the first and second story. The first and second story extension, and porch extension onto the south side of the north block, with their shed roofs is visible from the east elevation (Photo #6). The first story extension has a single window, and the porch a bank of four windows. The east elevation of the short southerly porch has a door with screened door, accessed by three brick steps, and flanked by windows. The gable end of the kitchen unit is visible.

The interior of the house has wooden floors, plaster walls and ceilings. Within the main door is a central hall with a stairway rising along the east wall. Doors open into the two rooms, east and west, that flank the hall. The stairway has a wooden handrail with large turned newel, and spindle balusters (Photo #7). The east room has historically been a bedroom with a fireplace in the east wall (Photo #8). The fireplace has a wooden surround and mantle with ornamental brackets. A door in the south wall leads to a recent bathroom addition. The west room has been used as a living room, and has a fireplace in the south wall (Photo #9). The fireplace has a Delft tile surround and wooden mantel supported by curved brackets and wooden Doric columns. A door in the south wall of the living room leads to the dining room in the "L." A fireplace backs that in the living room (Photo #10). The dining room, and south wall of the entry hall, have doors onto an enclosed "L" shaped porch. To the south of the dining area is a kitchen and informal dining, and a laundry room. South of the kitchen is a solarium, sitting room which makes a connection to an addition of a bedroom, den, and a bathroom. The bedroom has a door in its north wall.

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Two second floor bedrooms mirror the rooms on the first floor. The second floor, west bedroom has a fireplace in the south wall that shares the same chimney as on the first. It has an elaborate ornamental wooden surround and mantel with Eastlake Style trim and molded mantel brackets (Photo #11). A door in the south wall of the east bedroom leads to a recent bathroom addition.

ALTERATIONS

The first change to the 1884 house was made probably in the late 19th century. The "L" was extended to the south with a porch, and the detached kitchen was attached to it. The next alteration occurred around 1925. A bathroom was added to the dining room area, the porch connection to the kitchen was enclosed, the open deck south of the north block was enlarged. The kitchen was moved to a part of the dining area, and the kitchen attachment became a laundry room. Electricity, a new convenience for the Ovideo, was added at this time.

Non-historic additions were made about 1970. The bath in the kitchen was removed, and added, along with a closet, to the second floor to the south elevation of the north block. A small bathroom was added at the southeast corner of the kitchen. In 1995 the side gable addition with bedroom and den was added to the south end of the house. A bathroom was added to the first floor, beneath the second floor bathroom (Photo #12). The architectural integrity remains high despite additions. The historic form and character is retained with changes being to the rear of the house. The interior materials and fixtures are retained.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

A historic animal or chicken shelter with a metal shed roof is located in the south yard (Photo #13). It is used as a garden storage shed. In the 1920, a garage with front gable roof and two side shed roofs was built (Photo #14). It has shingles on the north elevation and a metal roof. It is used as a workshop.

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Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>1</u>

BROWNE-KING HOUSE, OVIEDO, SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

SUMMARY

The Browne-King House is nominated to the National Register for local significance under **Criterion C** in the area of Architecture. The house is an excellent example of a nineteenth century, modified "I" house vernacular form, and exhibits a high degree of workmanship.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

When Florida was ceded to the United States by Spain in 1821, all of East Florida was known as St. Johns County. On December 29, 1824 Mosquito County was created to include all of central Florida, from St. Augustine on the north to Monroe County on the south, and as far west as Alachua County. In 1845 the residents changed the county name to Orange which comprised what is now the counties of Orange, Lake, Osceola, Seminole, Volusia, St. Johns, Brevard and parts of Polk, Marion and Flagler. The land that now encompasses Oviedo was included in Orange County until Seminole County was created in 1913.

Oviedo is located to the south of the Lake Jesup. Much of the land along the south shore of Lake Jesup was transferred to the new state in 1845, but some was retained by the federal government for distribution to homesteaders. In 1866 Congress put public lands in Florida under the provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862. Land in and around the not-yet City of Oviedo was available for homesteading.

George C. Powell moved into this area in the summer of 1866 or spring of 1867. He had fled the north Florida woods near Live Oak after learning that his son, Lewis Thornton Powell, had been executed by the federal government for his part in the Lincoln assassination plot. Lewis had been found guilty of assaulting Secretary of State William Sewerd. George Powell feared for his family's safety and sought out a safe refuge. He bought land in what is now downtown Oviedo in December 1867, and in September of 1868 he filed to homestead another tract near his first purchase.

John F. J. Mitchell arrived in the Oviedo area as early as 1863, settling near Lake Jessup with his inlaws, the Joseph B. Watts family. In 1868, he homesteaded the land lying west of George Powell's homestead. It is within this tract of land that the stately home of George H. Browne was built.

In the early 1880s, Oviedo was a small village with 150 people, located 3 miles south of Lake Jesup. Vast expanses of marsh bordered the lake and St. Johns River. Adjacent to the marshes were oak, cypress, and pine forests. Several saw mills were located within the area, and crop and citrus cultivation was beginning to develop. Transportation and commerce into the area was by riverboats.

George Browne was born in St. Louis on August 23, 1859. His father was a civil engineer. With his family, he relocated to Key West and there built the Key West Lighthouse. Unfortunately, yellow fever borne by the sailors devastated the family. Mr. Browne sent some of his family back north before he and his wife died of the fever. George was sent back north to be raised by two aunts.

Browne arrived on the south shore of Lake Jessup in 1879 to work for Antonio Solary, the owner and operator of a successful wharf on Lake Jessup. This wharf was the southern terminus of steam ships on the St. John's River. Browne became part owner of this successful business operation. About 1879, he married his

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first wife, Julia Gaulden. She lived less than a year after the marriage. Shortly thereafter, he married his second wife, Della Barnett.

About 1884 he built his stately home in Mitchell's Addition to Oviedo (photo 15). The 1884 date of construction is approximate since early county records were destroyed by fire. The possibility that George Browne was involved with the building his own home is suggested by his signature on a board in a second story bedroom. In 1886, at the age of 27, he was elected to represent Orange County in the Florida House of Representatives. He was subsequently chosen Speaker of the House on May 23, 1887, replacing Samuel Pasco. His election was unanimous. Browne's political life in Tallahassee and his very successful business life in Oviedo came to an end in 1889. Seeking a healthier climate for his ill wife, he sold his lovely home to J. H. King and moved to New Mexico.

In New Mexico, Browne did what he did best; entered into the mercantile business. For 21 years, he operated a very successful business, much of which was with the Indians. After the death of his wife Della, he subsequently married her sister Lillian. They were the parents of 7 children. With failing health, Browne returned to Sanford, Florida, in 1910. He died August 3, 1911 and is buried in the City of Oviedo cemetery, next to his first wife, Julia.

J. H. King, the second owner of the house, arrived in Oviedo with his mother, Martha, and step-father, Meredith "Captain" Brock, in 1868 as a 16 year old youth. He grew to be one of the most respected citizens of this young community. King married Mary Anderson in 1882 and purchased the stately home of George Browne in 1890. King was a very successful businessman and very active in the small community. In 1908-1909, he was elected to represent Orange County in the Florida House of Representatives. Upon his death in 1909, it was said of King, "His word was as good as his bond and his life was that of a perfect Christian, doing little acts of kindness and with a pleasant word for everyone."

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Frame vernacular construction techniques and forms are used by lay or self-taught builders. This building approach is passed from one individual to another, and local traditions, available materials, and prevailing climatic conditions influence the construction. The industrial revolution permitted a standardization of building materials and parts, which exerted a pervasive influence over vernacular house design. Popular magazines disseminated information about building trends and styles throughout the country, and railroads provided affordable distribution of manufactured building products. Of the more common frame vernacular forms is the standard "T"-house is single pile, two stories high, and usually two rooms wide, with external gable end chimneys

The "I" house form traces its origins to homesteaders' cabins where the "single pen," or one room width, could be the most quickly erected to provide shelter. Porches for shade were frequently added to the front and rear. Chimneys were most often erected externally, centered on the gable ends. Separate kitchens were often positioned laterally to the rear of the main block in an effort to isolate the fire hazard. Gabled rear extensions onto the form provided a larger house, and sometimes joined or included a kitchen. The houses were

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usually built on cleared land, and raised on brick, tree stump wedge, or occasionally stone piers. Such off grade construction allowed for air circulation under the house, which reduced moisture damage and cooled the house in the summers. According to McAlester, the form of two rooms wide and one room deep can be traced to traditional British folk forms, and was popular across the Tidewater South. The increased transportation brought by railroads resulted in the form's popularity across the Eastern United States.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Browne-King House is an excellent example of 19th century "I" House vernacular construction. Non-historic alterations do not detract from its historic character and it retains its historic integrity to a high degree. The house is on brick and wooden piers, two feet off the ground. The tall, full-length windows allow breezes to naturally cool the interior. The local heart pine and cypress wood construction has been impervious to termite problems. The "I" house form is displayed by the side-gable construction, central hall with stairwell. The westerly room has an external chimney, centered fireplace. All fireplaces in the house have elaborate ornamental surrounds displaying late 19th century ornamental styles, and collectable tiles. The massive turned staircase newel, spun balusters, chamfered main porch posts, and balcony scroll sawn balusters show a high degree of workmanship. The remaining 2/2 wooden window sashes, and period hardware, contribute to the integrity of the house.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Adicks, Richard and Neely, Donna. Oviedo: Biography of a Town. Oviedo, FL: Adicks and Neely, 1992.

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Hatcher, Carol. email, 22 February 1999.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1986.

Sanford Herald. 11 August 1911.

State of Florida. House Journal. Tallahassee: N.M. Bowen, 1887.

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VERBAL LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Lots 6,7, and 8, Blk E, H.L. Mitchells Addition to Oviedo, PB1 PG51

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This boundary encompasses the property historically associated with the Browne-King House.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Photos Page 1

BROWNE-KING HOUSE, OVIEDO, SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1 1) Browne-King House
 - 2) Oviedo, Seminole County, Florida
 - 3) Paul D. McQueen
 - 4) September 2000
 - 5) 322 King Street, Oviedo, FL
 - 6) N and E elevations, camera facing SW
 - 7) 1 of 15

Items 1-5 are the same unless noted otherwise.

- 2 6) W elevation, camera facing E7) 2 of 15
- 3 6) SW elevation, camera facing NE7) 3 of 15
- 4 6) S (rear) elevation of main block, camera facing N
 7) 4 of 15
- 5 6) E elevation, showing end chimney, camera facing W7) 5 of 15
- 6 6) Rear additions, camera facing W 7) 6 of 15
- 7 6) Main stairway, first floor, camera facing SE7) 7 of 15
- 8) 6) Fireplace in downstairs bedroom, camera facing NE
 7) 8 of 15
- 9 6) Fireplace with Delft tile in living room, carmera facing S7) 9 of 15
- 10 6) Fireplace with Delft tile in dining room, camera facing NW7) 10 of 15

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BROWNE-KING HOUSE, OVIEDO, SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

- 11 6) Fireplace in upstairs west bedroom, camera facing SW7) 11 of 15
- 12 6) Downstairs bathroom, camera facing SW7) 12 of 15
- 13 6) Garden shed (former chicken coop), camera facing S7) 13 of 15
- 14 6) Garage, camera facing SW7) 14 of 15
- 15 3) Unknown
 - 4) ca. 1900
 - 5) Ann Saurman, Winter Park, Florida
 - 6) N and E elevation, camera facing SW (compare to photo 1)
 - 7) 15 of 15



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BROWNE-KING HOUSE Oviedo, Seminole Co.,

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