1. NAME(S), historic/common: Blennerhassett Hotel

2. LOCATION, street/road: 316 Market St. (S corner of Market & 4th Sts.)
   city/town: Parkersburg, WV 26101
   (incorporated/unincorporated)

3. USE/FUNCTION, present: vacant
   original: hotel

4. OWNER/ADDRESS, present: Keltner, Robert E.
   Innate, West Virginia State Penitentiary
   Moundsville, W.Va.
   original:

5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF:
   8112-R1-F14, 18-22
   8201-R1-F9-11, 34-36, R2-F1, 32

6. LOCALE/ENVIRONMENT (map):

7. ACREAGE (approx): 150' by 100'
   City Lot No. 95-2
   (See No. 2)

Survey Region:
Planning District:
COUNTY:
Bolton
9. **DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate):** See attached

a. *Exterior Fabric*  
   - stone  
   - brick  
   - painted brick  
   - concrete  
   - stucco  
   - weatherboard  
   - clapboard  
   - board & batten  
   - shingle  
   - foundation  
   - other

b. *Structural System*  
   - masonry  
   - frame  
   - log  
   - metal  
   - other  
   - foundation  
   - other

c. *Roofing Material*  
   - wood  
   - metal  
   - slate  
   - tile  
   - asphalt  
   - composition  
   - other

d. *Associated Structures (use/type):*  
   - outbuildings  
   - dependencies  
   - other

e. *Integrity (include dates):*  
   - original site/relocated  
   - alterations/1st floor altered  
   - all around  
   - additions  
   - other

f. **Condition:**  
   - excellent  
   - good  
   - fair  
   - deteriorated  
   - abandoned

g. **Threats:**  
   - Currently vacant except for one 1st story restaurant, the building faces some threat of demolition until a new use for it is devised.

10. **SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):**  
   a. **Architect/Builder/Engineer:**  
      - not known
   b. **Style/Period:** Queen Anne
   c. **Date(s):** 1889

   Once Parkersburg's premier hotel (of 11 in 1898) serving railroad and traveling men, the Blennerhassett has seen a decline in the city's commercial prowess and a corresponding decline in its own stature. Until recent years, it was a residential hotel. The building suffered a fire in 1978. Now it is vacant.

   The picturesque silhouette and fine detailing of the Blennerhassett nonetheless make it one of the major visual elements of the downtown streetscape. Faced with the possibility of demolition, the building warrants study for adaptive use.

11. **BIBLIOGRAPHY:**  
   - 1908 United Commercial Travelers.
   - Miss Frances Inslee, interview, Dec. 9, 1981.

12. **FORM PREPARED BY:** Eliza Smith, Christina Mann  
    **DATE:** 12/81

   a. **Address:** Allegheny Square West, Pittsburgh, PA 15212
   b. **Organization:** Landmarks Planning, Inc.
Blennerhassett Hotel
316 Market St. (S corner of Market & 4th Sts.)
95-2(63?)

Sited on a prominent corner at the near of downtown Parkersburg, this 4 story, attached structure presents a highly textured and picturesque silhouette to the streetscape; the southernmost bay on Market St. rises 5 stories. Its asymmetrical composition measures roughly 4 bays square; buttresses define the bays. The roof includes a mansard on the 2 street facades, pierced by Chateauesque dormers, a chimney (NE), a flattened gable (NE), and a standard gable (NW); at the corner is a taller, round, conical roofed tower with a finial; ornament throughout the roofline includes a corbeled cornice and brick and terra cotta work. The 3rd and some of the 4th story windows, generally grouped 2 per bay, are d/s with arched lunettes; the raised brickwork of the arches continues as a springing course, interrupted only by the buttresses. The 2nd story windows are d/s with straight transoms; drip molding in a similar raised brickwork frames the pairs. The 1st story has been remodeled with various facing materials and an Art Deco corner entrance.