1. **NAME(S), historic/common:** "Briarwood"  
   R.H. Merrill House

2. **LOCATION, street/road:** 1240 Staunton Road
   **city/town:** Charleston

3. **USE/FUNCTION, present:** residence
   **original:** residence

4. **OWNER/ADDRESS, present:** John B. Merrill  
   (address above)
   **original:** Rhuell H. Merrill

5. **PHOTO/SKETCH OF:**

6. **LOCALITY/ENVIRONMENT (map):**

7. **PLAN (include approx. dimensions):**

8. **ACREAGE (approx):** 2½ acres
9. **DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate):**
   
   a. **Exterior Fabric**
   - stone
   - brick (X)
   - concrete
   - stucco (X)
   - weatherboard
   - clapboard
   - board & batten
   - shingle
   
   b. **Structural System**
   - masonry (X)
   - frame
   - log
   - metal
   - other
   - foundation
   
   c. **Roofing Material**
   - wood
   - metal
   - slate (X)
   - tile
   - asphalt
   - composition
   - other

   d. **Associated Structures (use/types):**
   - outbuildings
   - Stable/garage
   - dependencies
   - other

   e. **Integrity (include dates):**
   - original site/relocated
   - alterations: **NONE**
   - additions: **NONE**

   f. **Condition:**
   - excellent (X)
   - good
   - fair
   - deteriorated
   - abandoned

   g. **Threats:**
   - **NONE EVIDENT**

10. **SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):**

   a. **Architect/Builder/Engineer:**
   - Fred Crowthers

   b. **Style/Period:**
   - English

   c. **Date(s):**
   - 1892

   "Briarwood" is an outstanding example of the work of well known architect Fred Crowthers. It is also significant as the home of Dr. Rhuell Hampton Merrill, the minister of the Kanawha Presbyterian Church from 1898 to 1907.

   Fred Crowthers was an English born architect who worked in Charleston for several years before permanently establishing his business in Detroit, Michigan. He was the architect of the Manor Place Cottages, which are in Charleston's East End Historic District, on the National Register of Historic Places. He also designed the Barnes/See Continuation Sheet.

11. **BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

   Brown, Jean M. *A Brief History of Kanawha Presbyterian Church*. 1947.

   Interview with Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Merrill. June 29 1983.

12. **FORM PREPARED BY Alice Carter DATE Sept. 1983**

   a. **Address**
   - 4011 Kanawha Ave., Charleston, WV 25304

   b. **Organization**
R.H. Merrill House

Wellford House in South Hills.
"Briarwood" is the most creative of Crowthers' buildings in Charleston. It is a romantic English Tudor style house marked by varying roof lines and asymmetrical massing.

13. Verbal Boundary Description.

Beginning at the southern intersection of Staunton Road and a private drive, thence in a line 400 feet northeast; thence 200 feet Southeast; thence 400 feet southwest to where Staunton Road terminates at a private road; thence 200 feet northwest to the point of beginning; encompassing approximately 2½ acres.