

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Downtown Parkersburg Historic District

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location Portions of Juliana, Market, Avery, and Second through Eighth Streets \_  
Street & number and Williams Court Alley and Phillips Court Alley

City or town: Parkersburg State: WV County: Wood

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide \_\_\_x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

x A \_\_\_ B x C \_\_\_ D

<u>Susan M. Pierce</u>	Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	<u>10/2/2023</u>
<b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>		<b>Date</b>
<u>West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Arts, Culture and History</u>		
<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>		

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____	_____
<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>47</u>	<u>11</u>	buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>48</u>	<u>19</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 12

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/business

RELIGIOUS/church

RELIGIOUS/church-related residence

COMMERCE/bank

GOVERNMENT/post office

RECREATION & CULTURE/theater

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/business

RELIGIOUS/church

RELIGIOUS/church-related residence

COMMERCE/bank

GOVERNMENT/post office

RECREATION & CULTURE/theater; museum

LANDSCAPE/parking lot

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/

Neo-Classical Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

OTHER/Commercial

MODERN MOVEMENT: Other

MODERN MOVEMENT/Art Deco

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, STONE, CONCRETE, STUCCO,  
SYNTHETICS

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Downtown Parkersburg Historic District is a largely commercial district of c. 28 acres, located on the banks of the Little Kanawha and Ohio Rivers, in Parkersburg, the county seat of Wood County, West Virginia, approximately 80 miles northwest of the state capitol of Charleston. The district contains 79 resources, of which 48 contribute to the character of the district; 13 properties were previously listed in the National Register and contribute significantly to the overall character and historicity of the district. Most of the buildings in the district are commercial in character, incorporating a traditional storefront and an upper facade of varying numbers of stories and forms of fenestration; some buildings incorporate a cornice along the roofline.

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As noted in the Summary Paragraph above, the Downtown Parkersburg Historic District is a largely commercial district of c. 28 acres, located north of the Little Kanawha River and southeast of the Ohio River, which intersect in Parkersburg, the county seat of Wood County, West Virginia, approximately 80 miles northwest of the state capitol of Charleston. Contributing resources are those which date from within the district's c. 1848-c. 1976 Period of Significance and retain integrity in most of its component qualities. The Period of Significance begins with the approximate date of construction of the previously-listed George Neale, Jr. House (239-331 Juliana Street; NR 1979)<sup>1</sup> and extends to c. 1976, the approximate date of remodeling of the former c. 1940 Kresge 5 & 10 as the St. Francis Xavier Parish Center at 609 Market Street.<sup>2</sup> Non-contributing resources are those that post-date the Period of Significance or have been significantly altered; the district's non-contributing sites are all surface parking lots that are widely scattered throughout the nominated area.

As noted above, the district is essentially flat in its topography and incorporates a grid of streets including portions of Juliana, Market, and Avery Streets, that run generally east-to-west, and the intersecting streets of Second through Eighth Streets and Williams Court Alley and Phillips Court Alley.<sup>3</sup> Most of the buildings in the district are commercial in character, incorporating a traditional transparent storefront and an upper facade of varying numbers of stories and forms of fenestration; some buildings incorporate a cornice along the roofline.

Religious institutional buildings include the 1869 Saint Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church at 530 Market Street (NR 1978) and the 1878 Episcopal Church at 424 Juliana Street with an attached 1881 addition (NR 1982); both were previously listed in the National Register.

Three substantial governmental properties are in the district. The previously-listed 1899 Wood County Court House at 1 Court Square is a monumental Richardsonian Romanesque rock-faced granite building with a prominent tower and a memorial fountain (Resource No. 71) and the

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<sup>1</sup> The Resource Number refers to the Resource Inventory appearing at the end of Section 7 of this document; the WD- numbers are the SHPO survey numbers, and, as appropriate, the NR number refers to the date of a property's National Register listing.

<sup>2</sup> The Period of Significance is extended three years beyond the conventional 50-year National Register cutoff; this determination is explained in Section 8.

<sup>3</sup> Juliana, Market, and Avery Streets run in a southwest-to-northeast direction and are intersected at 90 degrees by Third through Eighth Streets.

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Colonial Revival-style Federal Building/Post Office of 1923 with a 1961 addition is at 425 Juliana Street. The Bureau of Fiscal Service building is a multi-story 1974 office building at 200 Third Street.

In addition to commercial and institutional architecture, the Downtown Parkersburg Historic District was also home to several theaters. The earliest of these is the 1896 Auditorium Theater at 322-326 Fifth Street, a performance hall that originally featured a stage, balconies, scenery, footlights, etc., and was described as Parkersburg's most elegant house, lit by electricity and gas. Movie houses in the district include the c. 1927 Parker Theater at 716 Market Street and the previously-listed Smoot Theater at 213 Fifth Street.

Only a small number of residential buildings are in the district. These include the c. 1920 Colonial Revival-style Rectory of the St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church at 532 Market and the 1863 French Second Empire-style Rectory of the Trinity Episcopal Church at 430 Juliana Street, both previously listed. Also in the district is the previously-listed 1888 Tudor-Revival-style home of Stephen C. Gould, owner of the Parkersburg Mill, at 720 Juliana Street (NR 1982), the c. 1890 Christian Arendt House at 406 Avery Street, and the adjacent 4-story c. 1920 Colonial Revival-style Parker Apartments at 418 Avery Street.

Most of the district's buildings are two or three stories in height. The tallest contributing building in the district is the previously-listed 7-story 1903-1904 Union Trust and Deposit Bank Building at 700 Market Street (NR 1982).

Several formal architectural styles appear in this district, including the Federal and Greek Revival styles, seen as a combined transitional form in the aforementioned c. 1848 George Neale, Jr. House. Italianate-style commercial buildings include 403 Seventh Street, 619-621 Market Street, 531 Market Street, and 517 Market Street. The Art Deco style, with its geometric surface motifs, is seen in the c. 1920 Dils Brothers Department Store at 521-527 Market Street. The Neo-Classical Revival style appears in the 1913 Parkersburg National Bank Building at 514 Market Street and the Smoot Theater. The French Second Empire with its distinctive Mansard roof is represented by the previously-listed 1863 Trinity Episcopal Church Rectory at 430 Juliana Street.

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The Gothic Revival style, characterized by the use of lancet-arched fenestration, is represented by the previously-listed 1878 Trinity Episcopal Church at 420 Juliana Street and its interconnected 1881 Trinity Hall at 822 Fifth Street. The previously-listed 1869 St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church (NR 1978) is Romanesque Revival in style, with its characteristic round-arched fenestration, as is the c. 1900 Central Bank and Trust Company Building at 615-617 Market Street.

Many of the buildings in the district reflect no particular architectural style but are vernacular in character, interpreting that often-misinterpreted term as it is defined in Ward Bucher's **Dictionary of Building Preservation**: "a building built without being designed by an architect or someone with similar formal training, often based on traditional or regional forms."<sup>4</sup>

By the mid-1960s, the entire district was essentially built-out, with most buildings lacking front- or side-lot setback. Over the years, some buildings have been replaced by parking lots, although the district's boundaries have been carefully drawn to avoid such features whenever possible and the presence of such noncontributing sites does not materially impact upon the otherwise acceptably high degree of integrity of the district as a whole. The district retains integrity of all the component qualities required for National Register designation, including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.<sup>5</sup>

Demolition in the district has resulted in some surface parking lots that are identified as non-contributing sites within the context of the district as a whole. Several previously-listed buildings have been demolished, including the adjacent Citizens National Bank Building at 219 Fourth Street and the Mather Building at 401 Market Street (both NR 1982; razed 2018; now a non-contributing site), and the Parkersburg City Hall at Fifth and Market Streets (NR 1979; razed 1980). Both demolitions occurred because of the deteriorated condition of the respective buildings.

In addition to the buildings in the Downtown Parkersburg Historic District, as noted above, the nominated area includes public streets and two alleys that are counted collectively as a single

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<sup>4</sup> Ward Bucher, **Dictionary of Building Preservation**: (New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1996).

<sup>5</sup> National Register Bulletin 16A, "How to Complete the National Register Registration Form," (Washington, DC; National Park Service, 1977; rev. 1986). p. 4.

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contributing structure. The various paved surface parking lots are all non-contributing sites. Overhead wiring is present throughout the district and street lighting employs cobra-head instruments mainly mounted on wood and metal utility poles. Some streetscape improvement has occurred along Market Street, with new lighting mounted on pedestrian-scale cast metal poles with acorn-topped globes and underground wiring.

Summarizing, the Downtown Parkersburg Historic District is a mixed-use, largely commercial district of c. 28 acres located in the central business district of Parkersburg, the county seat of Wood County, West Virginia, at the confluence of the Ohio and Little Kanawha Rivers. The district contains commercial, religious, and secular institutional architecture, along with a small number of residential properties, reflects a variety of architectural styles as well as vernacular property types, retains integrity in all of its component qualities, and encompasses a Period of Significance from the early 1840s to c. 1976.

## **RESOURCE INVENTORY**

The following properties are found within the Downtown Parkersburg Historic District. The numbers are reflected on the map prepared in conjunction with this nomination document. All are considered to be contributing to the character of the district except those followed by (NC), indicating their non-contributing status as described above.

1. 402 Avery Street: This is a painted brick former residence with a symmetrical 5-bay facade that incorporates a centered entry with a single-leaf entry door enframed within sidelights and a transom. The placement of the front door suggests a central-passage interior plan. Fenestration is flat-top, 6/6, with plain stone lintels and stone sills. Non-historic fixed exterior shutters are noted. Interior brick chimneys are on both gable ends and on a rear wing. Several early brick additions are on the rear elevation. The home of Abijah Hays (1871-1944), a local attorney, it had been converted into offices by the 1920s. (c. 1850; WD-0753\_Rev01)



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2. 406 Avery Street: This brick house exhibits an unaltered original façade with a wrap-around denticulated open porch supported by paired attenuated Doric columns, set singly and in clusters. The main door has been modified with a modern glass entryway with transom and sidelights. The porch has a triangular pediment over the front door. Above the porch is a 1-bay second-floor balcony, accessed by a single-leaf door with a transom. An elaborate pedimented gable is offset on the right side of the facade with 3 round-arched windows capped by an entablature. On the right side of the roof is a gable dormer. A 2-story bay window is on the left side elevation and a substantial 2-story block and brick addition is on the rear, likely added when the building was apartmentized. It was the home of Christian Arendt, a German-born grocer (1854-1927), who lived here with his daughter, Jesse and Harry Arendt, a meat cutter for Burnside and Simpson. (WD-0752\_Rev01)
  
3. 418 Avery Street: The Parker Apartments, this 4-story brick apartment building has an asymmetrical 10-bay façade, with the main entrance off-center on the left half, with a recessed entry with a glass block transom, shielded by a flat marquee canopy supported by chains. Single-leaf doors along the sidewalk access the basement apartments. Fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with 1/1 windows set singly, in pairs and in threes and fours, resting on stone sills and most capped by plain stone sills; glass block windows are along the sidewalk. Irregular bay spacing on the facade is defined by shallow brick pilasters. (c. 1920; WD-0751\_Rev01)
  
4. 403 Seventh Street: This is an Italianate-style painted brick former residence converted into a funeral home. Fenestration is segmental-arched and flat-topped, and 2-story bay windows are on the façade and side elevations with brackets beneath the eaves. Wrap-around veranda and several additions dating from various undetermined times. (1880s; WD-311\_Rev01)
  
5. 328 Seventh Street: 2-story vernacular brick commercial building with a 2-bay altered storefront that retains a traditional window-to-wall ratio, and a 5-bay upper façade penetrated by flat-topped windows. Centered on the upper façade is an inset stone inscribed

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with **PEPPAS** and the date **1949**. Among the first commercial occupants were the Travelers Lunch restaurant and Household Finance. (1949)

6. 350 Seventh Street: Single-story gable-front stucco-finished commercial building that appears to post-date the Period of Construction (c. 2000; NC)
7. 327 Seventh Street: Paved surface parking lot (NC)
8. 325 Seventh Street: This is a 2-story vernacular commercial building finished in blue glazed brick, with an asymmetrical first story with one entrance off-center, shielded by a flat marquee canopy. Storefront areas feature oversized display windows. The second story is 3 bays in width with square windows above which is a stone bearing the inscription RICHARDSON 1939. Among the first occupants were the Wilmar Restaurant, operated by Lloyd and Dorsey Williams, and Wacks Furs, operated by Albert Wacks who was described as a “fur specialist and stylist” in the 1940 city directory. It remains in the original family to this date; a portion is occupied by the law firm of Richardson, Richardson, and Campbell, established by William Richardson, Sr. in 1951. (1939; WD-0331\_Rev01)
9. 214 Eighth Street: This is a 2-story brick commercial building with an unornamented facade with a recessed entry bay enframed with a modern glass surround, beside which are flat-topped windows lacking notable trim. A modest corbeled course of brickwork caps the facade. It is a minimally-altered early twentieth-century commercial building. (c. 1930; WD-0356\_Rev01)
10. 220 Eighth Street: This is a modern 2-story brick commercial building with an unornamented facade with a recessed entry bay enframed with a modern glass surround. It post-dates the Period of Significance. (c. 1980; WD-0358\_Rev01; NC)
11. 720 Juliana Street: This is a previously-listed 2½-story brick house with a hipped roof with eave brackets on the facade and a shed-roofed open porch across the facade with a

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triangular pediment over the door finished in stylized Tudor Revival-style half-timbering. The main entrance is offset on the west side of the façade, with a double-leaf entry door. Fenestration is flat-topped, with openings enframed within contrasting brick surrounds. Hipped dormers are located on the façade and west elevation and a 2-story bay window is on the west elevation as well. District. It is a minimally altered late nineteenth-century detached residence, the home of Stephen C. Gould (1843-1923) and his wife, Amanda (1848-1928). He was employed by a local lumber company and operated the Parkersburg Mill. (1888; WD-0014\_Rev02; NR 1982)

12. 724 Market Street: This is a two-story corner building built of buff-colored brick, with a principally solid storefront area. The second story is penetrated by 5 flat topped openings, enclosed with louvered shutters fixed shut; these are set within a slightly recessed blind flat-topped arch trimmed with masonry trim, including egg and dart molding and other foliated motifs. In the pediment of the gable end oriented facade is a circular oculus and the upper edges of the roofline are similarly trimmed. It is the home of a local performing arts organization. Historically, this part of Market Street was residential into the early twentieth century. (c. 1910; WD-1344\_Rev01).

13. 716 Market Street: Formerly the Parker Theater, this is a 3-story vernacular commercial building finished in buff-colored brick with a remodeled first story finished in red brick, with the main entrance offset on the eastern half, with a modern glass single-leaf door. The upper stories are penetrated by a series of eight flat-topped 1/1 windows, set on stone sills, with a continuous stone lintel. Bay spacing is divided by brick pilasters. Capping the façade is a modest molded stone beltcourse. Changes in brick color suggest that the western three bays may represent an addition. The theater was operated by Rosa Thomas (1900-1988), a Syrian native. A single-screen house with 600 seats, the Parker was smaller than either the contemporaneous Smoot Theatre (Resource No. 29) or the Burwell Theatre, the facility had a small ticket booth on the right-hand side of the entrance. It was comprised of a small lobby and the auditorium consisted of both a main floor and a balcony (which was

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not often open). Prices in 1960 were 25 cents for under 12's and \$1 for adults. Major unsympathetic exterior alterations. (1927; WD-1343\_Rev01; NC)

14. 710 Market Street: This is a two-story L-shaped mid-block vernacular building built of buff-colored brick, with a nearly solid storefront area. The first story is finished in modern red brick and is penetrated by a series of seven 1/1 flat-topped residential-scale windows and a glass entry door on the western end. The second story is penetrated by two longitudinal bands of flat-topped windows. The building wraps around the adjacent Union Trust & Deposit Building (Resource No. 14) and has a secondary façade on Seventh Street. (c. 1950; remodeled 1976)
15. 700 Market Street: This previously-listed Parkersburg National Bank and Union Trust Building is a Neo-Classical Revival-style 7-story U-shaped commercial building with a Classical columnar design of base, shaft, and capital. The base is a smooth-dressed stone pilaster-and-window system with corner arches and a modillioned cornice; the "capital" is a modillioned and denticulated metal cornice with cartouches below and acroterions above. The "shaft" consists of wide window apertures with brick relieving arches and stone keystones and sills, containing replacement windows. The centermost bay contains a projecting bay window system. The building was commissioned by Senator Johnson N. Camden (1828-1908), the first president of the bank that institution. (1903-1904; WD-0036\_Rev01; NR 1982)
16. 725 Market Street: This is a substantial corner brick building with a formal façade and stylized Mansard roof penetrated by a series of 4 gable dormers on the façade and 5 on the east side elevation. The first story has been remodeled and incorporates a masonry finish and an entrance offset on the west half shielded by a segmental-arched structural marquee. The upper story of the facade exhibits four flat-topped oversized multi-stage windows, each with a lower balustrade and capped with a molded entablature with corner modillions. The corners are timed with oversized stone quoins. What appears to an elevator tower is at the northeast corner. It was built on the site of a 2-story frame house and is a building

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that was long the local Montgomery Wards Store. It now houses the Parkersburg Art Center that was chartered in 1938, making it West Virginia's oldest cultural agency in continuous operation. Five gallery spaces are available to display works of artists and crafters from this region and beyond, and artists also offer their work for sale in the Center's Gift Shop. (c. 1930; WD-1345\_Rev01)

17. 713-717 Market Street: This is a 2-story vernacular commercial building finished in dark-colored brick with two remodeled storefronts, one of which is linked to the building to the immediate east. The upper façade is 3 bays in width with altered window sash. Masonry trim is executed in geometric patterns, some of which is repeated over the centered second-story entry door, a single-leaf unit with a transom. A modest masonry cap terminates the roofline. It represents commercial design from the first quarter of the twentieth century. (c. 1920; WD-1342\_Rev01)

18. 705-711 Market Street: This is a substantial 2-story vernacular commercial building finished in buff-colored brick trimmed with smooth-dressed stone. The first story contains a series of 4 storefront, each recessed from the plane of the building in the course of remodeling. The upper façade is penetrated by flat-topped 1/1 windows, set singly and in groups, some with 3-part units and others conventional single units. A continuous sill is present, as is a continuous stone lintel. Above the windows is a series of louvered vents and the roofline is finished with a simple masonry cornice. It represents commercial design from the first quarter of the twentieth century. (c. 1920; WD-1340\_Rev01)

19. 703 Market Street: This is a 3-story commercial building with the entire upper façade, including windows, clad in non-historic material. Because of its degree of alteration, this would be a non-contributing building within the district. (WD-1339\_Rev01; NC)

20. 701 Market Street: This is a 3-story brick vernacular commercial corner building with an angled front corner and an early storefront that retains a traditional window-to-wall ratio, a recessed entry, and a Luxfer-glass prism transom. The upper façade incorporates an

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angled corner on the left side addressing the corner siting of the building. Fenestration is flat-topped, 1/1, with stone sills and plain stone lintels. A corbeled brick cornice extends across the facade and wraps around the 10-bay west elevation, with windows set in pairs with bay spacing divided by brick pilasters. It appears in the 1893 Sanborn Map showing the angled corner, a general store on the first floor, and a coffee roasting business in the basement. In 1921 the Williams Drug Store was here, managed by Philip I. Grinter (b. 1879), who had worked as a drug clerk as early as 1905; the 1910 Census listed him as a prescription clerk. (c. 1890; WD-1338\_Rev01)

21. 625 Market Street: This is two-story Neo-Classical Revival-style former bank building with an exterior of smooth dressed granite. The original opening on the facade has been infilled with glass block, and the corners feature modest pilasters. A cornice extends across the facade, trimmed with dentils and incorporating small gargoyles. Beneath the cornice is an entablature bearing the inscription **SECOND NATIONAL BANK**. Side elevations are five bays in width, with the first story windows infilled with glass block and the second story windows unaltered. (1915; WD-4345)
22. 623 Market Street: This is two-story building of brick construction, whose façade has been nearly completely clad in modern wood siding, with a loss of integrity. (WD-1336\_Rev01; NC)
23. 619-621 Market Street: This is 2-story 7-bay Italianate commercial building of brick construction, with the storefronts remodeled. The upper facade is penetrated by seven 1/1 windows, one bricked over. Most are segmental-arched with corresponding stone lintels. The westernmost window opening features a paired flat-topped window unit. A corbeled brick band caps the facade at the roofline, It is characteristic of the type of Italianate-style commercial architecture that was being built in Parkersburg during the latter quarter of the 19th century. Historic occupants include a tobacconist, a printer, an electric supply shop, and a plumber. (c. 1890; WD-1329\_Rev01)

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24. 615-617 Market Street: This is a distinctive 3-story 3-bay Romanesque Revival-inspired commercial building with a stone façade and remodeled storefronts. The upper façade incorporates flat-topped fenestration on the second story and round-arched on the third. Bay spacing is defined by stone pilasters with alternating smooth- and rock-faced units. The second-story windows are capped with large keystone lintels and those on the third with foliated panels and corner pilasters. A metal cornice with modillions, dentils, and egg-and-dart molding caps the façade. Window spacing suggests that the building may have been built in two stages. Its stone façade makes it architecturally distinctive in the downtown. It served a variety of uses including the Central Bank and Trust Company, and Kathryn McGrail's millinery shop on the first story and a variety of business and professional offices above. The bank was established in 1900 and was headed by W. H. Smith (b. c. 1856) a native of Nottingham, England, with his brother, attorney Levin Smith (1861-1950) as Vice President. (c 1900; WD-4344)
25. 613 Market Street: This is a 2-story vernacular commercial building of brick, with the first story remodeled. The three-bay upper façade is original, with bay spacing defined by brick pilasters and flat-topped fenestration with multi-light original sash units capped by smooth-dressed masonry lintels. Centered on the second floor is a recessed semi-circular brick lunette. Various corbeled brickwork. This was the home of the When Store, with the tailor shop of James Jackson above, along with the residence of John Jackson, a machinist and Elzie Jackson a steel worker. (c. 1910; WD-1334\_Rev01)
26. 609 Market Street: This is a 2-story commercial building of brick, with the first story remodeled and the second story featuring a buff-colored brick finish, set in a geometric criss-cross pattern and penetrated by a series of flat-topped 1/1 windows set singly and in groups and separated by stone spandrels with foliated corner blocks. It is a social service facility associated with the local Roman Catholic parish. (WD-1329\_Rev01; c. 1973)
27. 601 Market Street: This is a three-story commercial building with a storefront remodeled and upper story windows blocked up. On the side elevation is what appears to have been 2

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two-story oriel windows. It was once a skating rink and in the 1920s was the home of the White Star Laundry Company, an organization with several locations throughout the city. It was headed by George McDonald, with Thomas Logan as Vice President, C. L. Shaw as Secretary-Treasurer, and R. M. Shaw, General Manager. (c. 1900; WD-1328\_Rev01)

28. 610 Market Street: This is a 3-story vernacular commercial building of brick, with the first story retaining a traditional window-to-wall ratio, with display windows flanking a recessed centered entrance with a single-leaf entry door. The upper stories are penetrated by multi-stage flat-topped windows. Above the second-story windows are three round oculi. Some decorative brickwork is noted above the second-story windows. The Rogers Jewelry Company was on the first story and offices were above. Rogers Jewelry was managed by Eugene Rothmann who was a German native born to Russian and Hungarian parents who emigrated in 1927 and was naturalized in 1940. (c. 1900; WD-1333\_Rev01)
29. 225 Sixth Street: This is a single-story brick-finished commercial building with four bays on the facade and display windows, each of which are flanked by single-leaf entry doors to the interior spaces. Original awning hardware is retained. The building lacks notable ornament. It was formerly the Gus Meintel Economy Shoe Repair Shop, and it is thought that a shoe repair shop has been at this location for decades. (c. 1950; WD-0297\_Rev01)
30. 211 Sixth Street: This is a 4-story 6-bay vernacular commercial building of painted brick, with a remodeled first story finished in smooth-dressed granite with Art Deco-style elements. The upper story windows on the facade are flat topped 1/1, set on extended stone sills and capped with rock-faced stone lintels. The façade terminates in a single-step stepped parapet. The brick finish on the façade wraps around a portion of the north elevation, with bay spacing defined by brick pilasters. The side elevation is 10 bays in width with windows set in pairs. (c. 1900; WD-0296\_Rev01)
31. Sixth Street: This is an elevated single-track railroad trestle the rests upon a series of substantial rock-faced stone piers. It connects with a previously-listed bridge crossing the



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Ohio River that dates from 1870; Assessor's records indicate that this portion was built in 1914. (WD-1370\_Rev01)

32. 531 Market Street: This is a brick Italianate-style building with the storefronts altered and partially in-filled with non-historic brick. Upper facade bay spacing is defined by brick pilasters. Fenestration is segmental-arched, with flat-topped replacement window units. The cornice is of corbeled brick. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps indicate this to have been the home of the O. J. Stout & Co. Drug Store. Okey J. Stout (1877-1964) began as an oil well tool dresser and eventually operated a drug store here as early as 1918 when he registered for the Draft. (c. 1900; WD-1325\_Rev01)
33. 529 Market Street: This 2-story vernacular commercial building has an altered storefront and most of the upper facade windows in-filled. The remaining storefront has a traditional window-to-wall ratio and recessed centered entry. It was the home of the Johnson Soda Grill, listed as confectioners in city directories. The confectionery was operated by James Johnson. (c. 1920; WD-4342)
34. 521-527 Market Street: This Art Deco 3-story commercial building has a 7-bay upper facade of terra cotta with geometric ornament and multi-unit flat-topped windows with pilasters defining the bay spacing. The cornice is defined by a series of seven horizontal spandrels. The storefront has been altered but retains a historic flat marquee metal canopy. It was the home of the Dils Bros. Department Store and also the Surprise Store, also a department store. Henry Dils was president and his brother Samuel was Secretary Treasurer of Dils Bros. and the Surprise Store was a ladies' dry goods outlet managed by R. D. Blankensop. (c. 1920; Photos 1, 2, 26; Fig 4; WD-1324\_Rev01)
35. 517 Market Street: This appears to be an interconnected Italianate commercial brick commercial building with an altered storefront and upper facade penetrated by segmental-arched windows with replacement flat-topped sash and one oversized 5-part flat-topped unit. A single-leaf entry door on the left side of the facade accesses the upper stories. Bay

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spacing is defined by brick pilasters and the cornice is of corbeled brick. It was formerly a hardware store. (c. 1900; WD-4341)

36. 515 Market Street: This 3-story 5-bay brick building has a completely modern exterior finish in stucco, with a resulting loss of integrity. (c. 1920; WD-1322\_Rev01; NC)

37. 501 Market Street: Paved surface parking lot (NC)

38. 213 Fifth Street: This previously-listed historic Smoot Theater has a Classical facade. Above the entrance and marquee, a giant-order Ionic screen gives relief to an otherwise blank brick wall. The burgundy- and cream-colored interior has a number of original features, including gilt moldings. The theater was closed in 1986 and was threatened with demolition in 1989. (1926; WD-0030\_Rev01, NR 1982)

39. 214 Seventh Street: 4-story brick-finished office/commercial building with primarily residential-scale flat-topped windows with fixed single-light sash, some 1/1 and some sliding. (1958; WD-0337)

40. 212 Seventh Street: Mixed-use gable-front frame building with retail on first story and residential above. Storefront remodeled but retaining traditional window-to-wall ratio with display windows and a recessed entry. (WD-0328; c. 1900)

41. 502 Market Street: Paved surface parking lot (NC)

42. 514 Market Street: This Neo-Classical Revival-style former bank building is of painted construction, with a symmetrical stone facade and a round-arched recessed entry bay flanked by flat-topped windows. Classical Revival-style light fixtures flank the entry and other similar motifs are elsewhere on the facade. The inscription PARKERSBURG NATIONAL BANK and its 1839 date of establishment are along the cornice. (c. 1913; WD-1321\_Rev01)

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43. 530 Market Street: This is St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church. The previously-listed Romanesque Revival-style brick church has a symmetrical 3-bay facade that is dominated by a substantial tower with a belfry. St. Francis Xavier is one of the four original churches of the Diocese of Wheeling. Architect Patrick Keeley (1816-1896) was a prominent Roman Catholic architect from Brooklyn, New York City and Providence, Rhode Island. He was a prolific designer of nearly 600 churches and hundreds of other institutional buildings for the Roman Catholic Church or Roman Catholic patrons in the eastern United States and Canada, particularly in New York City, Boston, and Chicago in the latter half of the 19th century. He designed every 19th-century Catholic cathedral in New England. Several other church and institutional architects began their careers in his firm. St. Francis Xavier is the only West Virginia Church identified with him. (1868; WD-0031\_Rev01; Lysander Dudley, builder, Joseph Deris chief carpenter; NR 1978)
44. 532 Market Street: This is a 2½-story 5-bay common bond brick residential building with a symmetrical facade and a recessed centered entry enframed within a stylized pedimented frontispiece of wood, clad in non-historic siding. Fenestration is flat-topped with 1/1 sash, set on extended stone sills and capped with plain stone lintels. The hipped roof is penetrated by hipped dormers with three flat-topped windows. Interior corbeled brick chimneys are on the side elevations. It was built as the Rectory for the St. Xavier's Catholic Church (Resource No. 43) that is located adjacent to the right. A brick Rectory has been on this site since the 1880s. (c. 1920; WD-1326\_Rev01)
45. 426 Market Street: vacant lot (WD-4340; NC)
46. 422 Market Street: This was the Strand Theater, a vernacular brick building with an altered storefront and a centered entry flanked on each side by two fixed residential-scale windows. The upper facade is penetrated by paired oversized windows on the second story and 1/1 windows on the third, each story having a centered blind-arched void. The cornice area has three blind lancet-arched voids in the center and rectangular brick panels on each

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side. The Strand Theater was located here in the 1920s, under the management of Percy Weyer Barrett (1882-1937) formerly of Cincinnati, was similarly employed when he registered for the Draft in 1917. (c. 1910; WD-1315\_Rev01)

47. 420 Market Street: This is a two-story vernacular brick commercial building with an altered storefront and an upper facade consisting of a single bay with an oversized window unit trimmed with contrasting red brick trim. The cornice area incorporates additional red brick trim. The building exhibits no additional ornament. It housed the Whitsted & Rafferty Grocery, operated by Andrew Whitsted and Thomas Rafferty. Andrew Whitsted (1875-1939) emigrated from County Galway, Ireland and became a U S citizen in 1906 and was living at this address by 1917. He rose in prominence in Parkersburg and by the late 1930s was treasurer of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association (c. 1910; WD-1314\_Rev01)
48. 418 Market Street: This is a two-story vernacular building finished in buff colored brick, with an altered storefront that incorporates a standing-seam metal awning. Single-leaf entry door is on the left side of the facade that accesses the second story. The upper facade is penetrated by an oversized 4 unit flat-topped window. This was the home of the W. B. Wood Piano Company, William B. Wood advertised as being a purveyor of “pianos, player pianos, and talking machines.” He was at this location as early as 1921. (c. 1920; WD-4339).
49. 414 Market Street: This is a two-story vernacular building finished in buff colored brick, with the storefront in-filled with Neo-Colonial Revival style red brick and trim. The upper facade is penetrated by flat-topped windows, some oversized, with a variety of red brick geometric trim work. Louvered flat vents are at cornice height. This was the home of the local J. C. Penney’s Department Store in the 1920s. (c. 1920; WD-1312\_Rev01)
50. 406 Market Street: This is a two-story 2-bay vernacular brick building with the storefront altered but retaining the upper facade that is penetrated by four fixed single-light windows.

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The remodeled storefront is recessed behind the plane of the building, with large display windows. The original storefront cornice is retained, with a band of small dentils. The upper façade is otherwise unadorned. (c. 1910; WD-1311\_Rev01)

51. 400-402 Market Street: This is a two-story stucco-finished commercial building with a three-first story and a two-bay second. The main entrance is centered on the facade with a recessed entryway with two doors accessing the interior spaces. The upper story is penetrated by three fixed single-light windows. A recessed bay on the west elevation has an interior stair accessing the second story. The building lacks notable ornament and the complete cladding in stucco renders it non-contributing. (c. 1920; WD-1308\_Rev01; NC)
52. 320 (originally 316) Market Street: This is the previously-listed Queen Anne-style Blennerhassett Hotel, a monumental 4-story 10-bay building of brick with a fanciful facade, a Mansard roof, both hipped dormers and gable wall dormers. Fenestration is flat topped and round arched, and the facade is dominated by a round corner tower capped with a conical roof. A 3-story addition is on the Fourth Street elevation. It was built by Colonel William Nelson Chancellor. Construction on the original part of the hotel began in 1883, and after six years of construction, the doors were officially opened to the world on May 6, 1889. Chancellor wanted a hotel grand for its time and second to no other hotel in the state of West Virginia, which the Blennerhassett was. (1883-1889; D-0004\_Rev01; Fig. 3; Photo 6; NR 1982)
53. 401-405 Market Street: Vacant grassy corner lot, formerly occupied by two previously-listed historic commercial buildings, the Citizens National Bank (WD-1313\_Rev01) and the Mather Building, (WD1312\_Rev01), both demolished in 2018 because of serious deterioration. (NC)
54. 409 Market Street: This is a sparsely-detailed concrete block commercial building of two stories, with a brick facade, with the storefront recessed within the plane of the building

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and the upper facade penetrated by 5 segmental-arched voids each containing oversized fixed-light windows. (c. 1940; WD-1313\_Rev01)

55. 415 Market Street: This is a steel-and glass modern bank building with an attached drive-through on the east side, post-dating the Period of Significance (c. 2000; NC)

56. 429 Market Street: This is an Art Deco-style corner bank building with a 5-bay west-side elevation; smooth-dressed granite exterior finishes trimmed with characteristic geometric Art Deco-style motifs. (c. 1930; ED-1317\_Rev01)

57. 322-326 Fifth Street: Built as the Auditorium Theater, this common bond brick commercial building has some round-arched windows with rock-faced stone lintels and some circular windows, some of which have been brick-enclosed. A small number of upper-story windows are round-arched and conventional in form. The section on the north side is one-story in height. At 322, on the north side, is a traditional storefront with a prism-glass transom; the rest does not appear to have ever had a traditional storefront. a performance hall with a stage, scenery, footlights, etc., described as Parkersburg's most elegant house, lit by electricity and gas. It opened in October 1896 with a performance by Clay Clements. It later was home to a hardware store and the Parkersburg Office Supply Company, whose "ghost" signs remain painted on the exterior walls. At 322 Fifth Street was the F. A. Lang Marble & Granite Co. The architect, Crapsey & Brown, also designed the Presbyterian Church and the City building. (1896; Resource No. 57; WD-0279\_Rev02; Photo 7)

58. 320 Fifth Street: Gravel-finished surface parking lot (NC)

59. 318 Fifth Street: This Colonial Revival-inspired commercial building is finished in pressed brick, with an asymmetrical facade incorporating an entry door capped with a broken pediment frontispiece. Fenestration is flat-topped; windows on the first story are set within blind semi-circular-arched voids. The massing of the facade suggests that it may have been built in two sections. Window openings on the second story are set in segmental-arched

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voids with keystones. A corbeled brick cornice, also of two sections, extends across the façade below the roofline. The building was built as the local headquarters of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company of West Virginia. The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of West Virginia, originally part of the Bell System, was founded on January 1, 1917. C&P of WV took over telephone operations in West Virginia being served by Central District and Printing Telegraph Company, Southern Bell, and The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Maryland. (c. 1917; WD-0260\_Rev01)

60. 312-314 Fifth Street: This is previously-listed, fanciful, Romanesque Revival-inspired lodge hall built of brick with a buff-colored brick facade. The 3-bay facade incorporates a centered entry with a rock-faced stone frontispiece; side bays have been partly-infilled but retain the stone voussoirs. A corbelled brick cornice is above the second story windows which include three semicircular windows flanked by three smaller flat topped fixed windows. Third floor windows are flat-topped, all infilled. Centered above these windows are paired stepped gables and centered on the façade is a datestone beneath which is the three interlocking-rings motif of the Masonic fraternity. The building was built as a local fraternal lodge hall that served the Paran Encampment No. 3 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Parkersburg Court No. 1 of the Order of the Tribe of Ben Hur, and St. George's Commandery No. 7 of the Knights of St. John, among others. (1897; H. Rus Warne, architect; NR 1982; Photo 11)

61. 310 Fifth Street: This is a distinctive 2-story painted brick late Victorian commercial building whose storefront has been remodeled significantly. The upper facade is generally unaltered, with two flat-topped windows, an enclosed former door, and a variety of corbelled brickwork. The roofline features an arcaded corbel brick cornice and brick pinnacles along with a portion of the original metal cresting. It appears as a "Chinese Laundry" on Sanborn maps; Charles "Charlie" Moon is shown as the proprietor in City Directories; he lived above his shop. He was born in China in 1857 and emigrated in 1880.

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He lived and operated the On Kee Star Laundry in this building as early as 1907. (c. 1890; WD-0273\_Rev01; Photo 11)

62. 327-331 Juliana Street: This is the previously-listed George Neale, Jr. House, consisting of a 3-bay brick section (327 Juliana St.) and a 5-bay Federal-Greek Revival-style 5-bay section (329-331 Juliana Street). The 5-bay brick Federal-Greek Revival style residential building with a side-gable roof and a full return of the cornice on the gable ends. The main entrance is centered on the façade, shielded by a raised 1-bay portico supported by plain wood posts. A semi-circular lunette is in the pediment of the gable on the right side elevation; Otherwise, fenestration is flat-topped throughout, with windows set on stone sills and capped with plain stone lintels trimmed with bull's-eye corner blocks. The center window on the second story is three-part, with a larger center unit flanked by tall narrow side units. Interior gable-end brick chimneys are retained. The 3-bay vernacular brick section has a centered single-leaf front door and a shed-roofed open porch extending across the facade. Fenestration is flat-topped, with multi-light replacement windows lacking true divided lights, set on stone sills and capped with plain stone lintels. Above the second story windows are three louvered vents. A 1-story wood frame addition is evident on the rear (1848; WD-0023\_Rev01; NR 1979)
63. 128-130 Fourth Street: This is a 3-bay, common bond brick vernacular building with a first story storefront incorporating display windows and a centered entry. The second story is penetrated by three flat-topped windows, with 6/6 replacement sash lacking true divided lights, set on extended sills and capped with plain stone lintels. Bay spacing on the second floor is divided by brick pilasters, and above the windows are three segmental-arched rectangular vents. The flat roof line is capped with tile coping. It may be interconnected to the adjacent building at 327-331 Juliana Street [Resource No. 57] (c. 1870; WD-0254\_Rev01))
64. 425 Juliana Street; This is the Colonial Revival-style Federal Building/U. S. Post Office that has a formally-massed façade consisting of a 3-bay projecting entry section flanked by



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5-bay sections on each side. Fenestration is flat-topped, 1/1, throughout. The façade is trimmed in smooth-dressed limestone including quoins at the corners. Three single-leaf entry doors access the interior with transoms capped with polychrome tile panels. It cost approximately \$325,000, opened November 13, 1931, and also housed the Treasury Dept. and Internal Revenue Dept. A 1961 addition has a cornerstone noting that it was built during the Administration of President John F. Kennedy. (1931; 1961; Photo 9; WD-1095\_Rev01)

65. 424 Juliana Street/210 Fifth Street: This is the previously-listed Gothic Revival-style Trinity Episcopal Church and its appended Trinity Hall. The church is gable-roofed and of stone, 3 bays by 8, attached to the Rectory to the northeast by a newer wing. Its asymmetrical façade rises to a corner tower with a turreted gable roof. A second turret rises at the west corner; it is joined to the central gable by a single flying buttress. The main entrance is below. The gable end is filled by a rose window above a triad of lancet-arched windows flanked by colonettes. The side walls are pierced by lancet-arched fenestration with the bays defined by buttresses. Trinity Hall is a brick addition oriented to Fifth Street, with a centered gable-end-oriented bay with an oversized window and topped with a pinnacle. Centered on this feature is an inset stone bearing the legend **TRINITY HALL 1881**. The side elevations are 6 bays in length with bay spacing defined by brick pilasters. (1878; 1881; Photo 20; WD-0035\_Rev01; NR 1982)

66. 412 Juliana Street: 1-story brick bank building with attached drive-through facility and a forward-projecting steel-and-glass entry vestibule. (1975; WD-0035)

67. 408 Juliana Street: 2-story brick office building with a steel and glass façade and a short marquee canopy shielding the side entrances on the north elevation. (WD-1086; 1961)

68. Paved surface parking lot formerly occupied by the Blennerhassett Club, (WD-1088; 1997; NC)

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69. 430 Juliana Street: The Trinity Episcopal Church Rectory, this is a 5-bay 3-story French Second Empire-style brick house with a centered entrance shielded by a modest portico and a Mansard roof with dormers. (1863; WD-0034\_Rev01; NR 1982)
70. 1 Court Square: Wood County Court House: previously-listed Richardsonian Romanesque-style county court house of rock-faced stone with a massive square central tower. (1899; WD-0040\_Rev01; NR 1979; Photo 27)
71. Memorial Fountain: This is a stone fountain capped with a bronze bust of J. J. Jackson in front of the Market Square entrance to the Court House. It is a contributing structure within the historic district (1899; WD-0040\_Rev01; Massey Rhind, sculptor; NR 1979)
72. 317 Market Street: Judge Donald F. Black Courthouse Annex, a 1-story modern office building with a pyramidal-roofed central tower on the Market Street elevation, post-dating the Period of Significance (1984; NC)
73. 119 Third Street: This is the previously-listed Oil and Gas Museum, formerly the W. H. Smith Hardware Co. It is an Italianate-style commercial building with a retained storefront and generally unaltered upper facade that is penetrated by flat-topped and round-arched 1/1 windows. Quoins and pilasters are on the facade that is capped by a corbeled brick cornice. A mural is painted on the side elevation facing Juliana Street and on the south side, along Juliana Street is a gassy plot containing a variety of oil and gas-related memorabilia. (1899; WD-0236\_Rev01; NR 2003)
74. 137 Juliana Street: The Blennerhassett Museum of Regional History, an Italianate-style commercial building converted for use as a regional history center. The storefront area has been remodeled. Upper facade fenestration is flat-topped, with fixed-light replacement sash. The front right corner is angled, addressing the corner siting, with stone quoins. A vertical course of quoins illustrates the original west end of the building; a matching 6-bay section was added in the 1920s. Corbeled brickwork is at cornice height.

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The side elevation is 5 bays in width. Built as the Starr Grocery Co. Starr's ended business in the 1940s and the building was sold to the Guthrie-Morris Campbell Company of Charleston. In 1983 the Blennerhassett Historical Park Commission acquired the building which opened as a history center in 1988. (1902; 1920s; WD-1092\_Rev01)

75. 200 Third Street: This is a 5-story steel, glass, and masonry office building built on the site of the Hotel Monroe and a variety of frame and brick commercial buildings. It houses the Bureau of Fiscal Service, the Wood County Assessment Office, and other public and private -sector offices. (1974; WD-1307)

76. 501 Avery Street: This 9-story rectilinear, flat-roofed, modern commercial office building, United Square, is of steel and glass construction, with a recessed first story of glass and bands of fixed flat-topped windows on each floor. (1974; WD-0754)

77. Fourth & Avery Streets: Paved surface parking lot (NC)

78. 614 Market Street: This is a 5-story contemporary commercial building of brick, with a glass section dominating the northwest corner, dating from outside the Period of Significance of the district. (2011; WD-4343; NC)

79. 225 Seventh Street: This is a 3-story brick commercial building with a traditional storefront and a 2-story wood oriel that dominates the second story. Second-story windows are flat-topped, with 8/8 replacement sash. The building is capped with a stepped parapet.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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 distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

**Period of Significance**

c. 1848-1976

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Crapsey & Brown, architects

Keeley, P. C., architect

Rhind, J. Massey, sculptor

Thomas, W. Lewis, architect

Warne, H. Rus, architect

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

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The Downtown Parkersburg Historic District is locally significant and meets National Register Criterion A for its long-time close association with *Commerce* both in Parkersburg and throughout this area of West Virginia and southeastern Ohio and with *Politics/Government* in Wood County, and for Criterion C for *Architecture*. The Period of Significance begins c. 1848, the approximate date of construction of the district's earliest extant building, and ends c. 1976, a date corresponding to the date of the most recently-constructed historic building in the district; this Period of Significance is extended three years beyond the conventional 50-year cut-off, as permitted by National Register guidelines. The POS extension from 1974 to 1976 encompasses only a small number of buildings that nonetheless are essentially architecturally the same as those dating from the late 1960s and very early 1970s.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Parkersburg, in northwestern then-Virginia, developed at the confluence of the Little Kanawha and Ohio Rivers and would go on to become the county seat of Wood County; the fifth Wood County Court House of 1899 anchors the western edge of the historic district. The earliest settlers came from eastern Virginia following the America Revolution, and a section of land was acquired by Alexander Parker (1753-1791), following his service in the Revolution. Known as Newport until 1810, the settlement gained a charter in 1820 and bore the name of Parker, whose daughter and her husband gave the land for the Wood County Court House, although Parker himself never set foot in his namesake community. The town's early prominence was due to its strategic siting on the two rivers and early development included hotels and taverns, while planters were attracted to the airable lands along both waterways. The town was rechartered as a city in 1860.

Parkersburg marked the western terminus of both the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike, begun in 1838 and completed by 1850, that ran from Virginia's northern Shenandoah Valley northwestward to the Ohio River, and the Northwestern Turnpike. "The old Northwestern Turnpike, extending from Winchester, Virginia on a general westward course to Parkersburg, [later] West Virginia on the Ohio, is a historic highway which deserves more

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mention than it has ever received as a factor related to the American westward movement and to the problem of communication between East and West. It was the inevitable result of the call of the West and the need of a Virginia state road."<sup>6</sup>

Rail service to Parkersburg began when the Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad was chartered on March 8, 1845, first as the Belpre and Cincinnati Railroad, to connect Cincinnati to either Parkersburg or Harmer, north of Parkersburg in Ohio. The M & C built the massive railroad bridge spanning the Ohio River and connecting to a viaduct that spans the center line of Parkersburg's Sixth Street within the Downtown Parkersburg Historic District.<sup>7</sup> In 1857 the Baltimore and Ohio built a branch south to Parkersburg from Wheeling, although travelers wanting to connect westward via the Ohio, Marietta, and Cincinnati Railroad--one of the east-west lines along the Ohio River--had to ride the steamboat north about 14 miles to Marietta, Ohio. Jacob Linville was responsible for the design of the railroad bridge, under the B & O in 1868-1870 between Parkersburg and Belpre, Ohio, as part of the B & O's main line from Baltimore to St. Louis, Missouri.<sup>8</sup>

Oil was discovered in Titusville, Pennsylvania in 1859, and the middle decades of the nineteenth century witnessed the widespread discovery of industrial uses for petroleum; Parkersburg became a leading West Virginia industrial center, serving the oilfields located upstream along the Little Kanawha River. Parkersburg's 1850 population stood at 1,218, a figure that grew to nearly 2,500 ten years later. With the advent of the Civil War, Parkersburg served as a transportation and medical center for Union forces and grew further as a transportation hub in the Reconstruction-era gas and oil boom. The population more than doubled to 5,546 in 1870, 6,582 in 1880, and 8,400 in 1890.

As seen in the map in Fig. 1, some early street naming was changed as the community grew. Within the nominated area, Harriett Street became Market Street and Harriett, Littleton, and Washington Streets assumed numbered names.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Dr. J. M. Callahan, *Semi-Centennial History of West Virginia*, 1913, pp. 106-9.

<sup>7</sup>"Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad." <https://abandonedonline.net/location/marietta-cincinnati-railroad/>, accessed December 6, 2022.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>9</sup> Other than Washington and Avery, the etiology of the other surnamed-named streets is unknown.

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The character of Parkersburg's architecture changed as the town matured. Early development was along the rivers (Fig. 2). The earliest property within the historic district is the previously-listed Federal/Greek Revival-style c. 1848 George Neale, Jr. House at 331 Juliana Street (NR 1980). It is comparatively close to the Ohio River and represents the first generation of extant architecture within the nominated area.

In 1982, a National Register Multiple Resource Area (MRA) nomination was approved, entitled *Downtown Parkersburg Multiple Resource Area*. This MRA document identified two long spans of decades that relate specifically to this survey area. The historic context, *Railroads, Oil, and the Civil War: The Beginnings of Urban and Industrial Development* runs from 1860-1890 and is followed by *Transportation Improvement: Growth of a Commercial Center* begins in 1890 and extends until 1940. The majority of the built environment within this survey area dates from within these two periods.

The *Railroads* context noted that Parkersburg's major period of growth began with the Civil War era, when the railroad, industrial development, and the War itself all contributed substantially to the town's growth and economy. An oil boom in the 1860s and again in the 1880s infused the local economy with capital. Transportation improvements dramatically increased the town's capacity for growth and prosperity, and river navigation was improved in the in the '60s with the help of the Little Kanawha Navigation Company. The Ohio River branch of the B&O Railroad opened in 1884.<sup>10</sup> The *Transportation* context stated, "beginning in the late 1880s and into the early 20th century, tremendous technological advances were made contributing to Parkersburg's growth as a commercial center."<sup>11</sup>

Among the areas of significance cited in the MRA was architecture, and the document noted that the community's significant architectural resources reflect the various stages of its development. The MRA also noted that among the earliest extant buildings within the boundaries of the MRA area was the aforementioned Neale House. "The majority of the downtown's

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<sup>10</sup> Eliza F. Smith and Christina Mann, "Historic Resources of Downtown Parkersburg." National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, 1982, Section 8, Page 2.

<sup>11</sup> **Ibid.**



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architectural resources, dating to the late 19th century, express the commercial and industrial character of Parkersburg which developed in the late 19th century. They are distinguished not only because of their generally intact architectural integrity but for the assortment of sizes and types of buildings sited throughout the town, lending a 19th-century influence to nearly every streetscape.”<sup>12</sup>

The 50-year Period of Significance for the MRA would have ended in 1952; significant buildings have been built since that date and others have attained fifty years of age, hence the nomination of an entire district rather than individual properties that might not meet individual listing criteria but do contribute to a greater collective significance.

Institutional growth, religious and secular alike, developed in Parkersburg and in the district early in the nineteenth century. The previously-listed 1870 St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church and its adjacent Rectory are at 530 and 532 Market Street (NR 1978). At 424 Juliana Street is the 1878 Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church; its adjacent 1868 Rectory is at 430 Juliana Street. Both were listed in the National Register in 1982. Architecture associated with the secular institutional development of the survey area includes the previously-listed 1897 IOOF Lodge Hall at 312-314 Fifth Street, the work of architect H. Rus Warne, that was home to the Paran Encampment No. 3 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Parkersburg Court No. 1 of the Order of the Tribe of Ben Hur, St. George’s Commandery No. 7 of the Knights of St. John, as well as the Modern Woodmen of the World.

As the nineteenth century progressed, Parkersburg grew to become a major oil refining center, serving nearby oilfields at Volcano and Burning Springs. The Volcano oil field was discovered in 1860, according to the West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey (WVGES), the oil field at White Oak was discovered in 1860 and gas flaring at night made the skyline appear like a volcano, hence the name change. From 1865 to 1870, drilling was very active, producing from the salt sand at a depth of about 360 feet. The heavy lubricants produced led to the development of West Virginia's first oil pipeline, from Volcano to Parkersburg, in 1879. Volcano became a ghost town after an 1879 fire destroyed it in its entirety. Writing in 1898,

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<sup>12</sup> **Ibid.**

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Goodspeed notes that “one of the oldest and most profitable oil fields in Wood County is the Volcano.” The Burning Springs field, southeast of Parkersburg, dated to 1861 and at its heyday, just prior to the Civil War, 10,000 citizens made their home here. In the case of both oil fields, however, Parkersburg and this historic district were always their major commercial centers, and the growth of downtown Parkersburg was certainly due to the pervasive influence of these extractive industries.<sup>13</sup> The Camden Consolidated Oil Company was established in Parkersburg in 1866 by Johnson Newlon Camden, who dominated the Parkersburg refining business. Camden (1828-1908) was a prominent oilman, industrialist, banker, railroad tycoon, and politician who was estimated to have \$25 million at his death. The company was sold to John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil Company in 1875, and Camden himself became a Standard director and vice president and, along with John W. Davis, dominated West Virginia politics until the early 20th century. He built the 1903 Union Trust and Deposit Building at 700 Market Streets (NR 1982), a major 7-story anchor in the nominated area.<sup>14</sup>

By the 1890s, much of the area along both rivers (outside the nominated area but reflective of the community's development) contained a variety of industrial buildings such as the Upsom Oil and Soap Company, the Arlington Machine Shop, the Farmers and Merchants Mill, the B & O Freight Depot, the Parkersburg Engine & Foundry Works, and the massive lumber yard of the Parkersburg Mill Company with an average of five million board-feet of finished lumber.<sup>15</sup>

In addition to banks and buildings catering to general commerce, several hotels and theaters anchored the downtown. Most historic hotels are no longer extant, but the National Register-listed Blennerhassett Hotel at 320 (previously 316) Market Street (NR 1982) remains as a rehabilitated and popular hostelry.

At the turn of the twentieth century, the city's population stood at 11,700 and in 1910 at 17,800. Much of the architecture of the district post-dates 1900. The largest is the aforementioned 1903 Union Trust and Deposit Building that at seven stories, towered over the downtown until the

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<sup>13</sup> Howard R. Lee, *The Burning Springs and Other Tales of the Little Kanawha*, (Morgantown: West Virginia University Press 1968).

<sup>14</sup>“Johnson Newlon Camden,” <https://archive.wvculture.org/hiStory/businessandindustry/camdenjohnson02.html>, [from the “**Parkersburg Sentinel**,” **April 25, 1908**], accessed December 7, 2022.

<sup>15</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1893.

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arrival of multistory steel-and-glass office buildings in the 1950s and thereafter. Properties dating from the beginning of the new century harken back to the Italianate style of the previous century, with tall, narrow window proportions and cornices, typically of corbeled brickwork. Nearly all the buildings in the district are the product of anonymous designers and builders and make up the backbone of the district.

Parkersburg's growth and prosperity in the 1940s can be attributed to a variety of economic factors, not the least of which was the 1942-1943 construction of the Defense Plant Corporation on a tract outside the district boundaries that was previously occupied by the Standard Oil Refinery. Following World War II, Parkersburg became a leading industrial center in the Ohio Valley, with Corning undertaking the production of optical glassware. "Before the decade had run its course, two more major corporations (American Cyanamid and DuPont) had decided to build plants in the Parkersburg area--one to the north and one to the south of the city. Hence Parkersburg economic base was being solidified as the great nation of which the city is a part assumed the position of being the most powerful nation the world has ever seen."<sup>16</sup> The community became known for the production of chemicals, glass, tools, textiles, plastics and polymers, iron, and steel. Although these production facilities were outside the district boundaries, the district was heavily influenced by their presence, since workers and managers alike shopped, dined, were entertained, and conducted business within the district at shops, offices, banks, restaurants, and theaters.

The 1950 population stood at 29,600 and the community of South Parkersburg was annexed into the city, adding more than 10,000 residents to the population. In 1950, a massive 10,400-foot-long floodwall was constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers to protect the city from the Ohio and Little Kanawha Rivers' flooding that had been a nearly annual plague since its earliest days.<sup>17</sup> Low-lying portions of the district are protected by the floodwall. In 1954, the Bureau of the Public Debt, an agency of the U.S. Treasury Department, was relocated from the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and headquartered in Parkersburg. In October 2012, it was merged with the Financial Management Service to form the Bureau of the Fiscal Service. The

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<sup>16</sup> Allen, **Op. Cit.**, p. 120.

<sup>17</sup>"Parkersburg Floodwall," [www.theclio.com](http://www.theclio.com), accessed June 2, 2023.

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Bureau is headquartered in the multi-story 1974 office building at 200 Third Street and employs more than 1,000 within this facility; more than 95% of the agency's employees work in Parkersburg.<sup>18</sup> In 1957 Mabon (later Borg Warner) Chemicals opened a Parkersburg plant, Also in 1957 the community's first shopping center, the Park Shopping Center opened, clearly drawing customers away from the downtown.

Between 1961 and 1971 a substantial Urban Renewal program significantly changed the face of portions of the downtown, primarily west of Third Street, outside the historic district, and in 1983 a major downtown revitalization program was instituted.<sup>19</sup> Typical of Urban Renewal across the nation, this endeavor removed unsightly and likely deteriorated properties that by current standards would perhaps have been deemed historic. It resulted in the demolition of a large number of commercial, industrial, and residential buildings between Third Street and the confluence of the Little Kanawha and Ohio Rivers and clearly changed the face of that portion of the community.<sup>20</sup> The program resulted in the construction of modern public- and private-sector commercial and office buildings and surface parking lots.<sup>21</sup> The 1974 Public Debt Building at 200 Third Street is the only building within the district that was built in the Urban Renewal Area. Urban Renewal did not result in a substantive negative effect on the overall integrity of the district.

By the later decades of the twentieth century, Parkersburg was West Virginia's fourth-largest city and had expanded to an area of approximately 12.35 sq. mi. including both aforementioned substantial waterways and Worthington Creek, a tributary of the Little Kanawha that flows through the eastern part of the city. More than 50 acres of City parks are in Parkersburg, along with Blizzard Park and Veterans Memorial Park, near the regional airport; Jackson Park is located in nearby Vienna, downstream along the Ohio River. Upwards of fifty individual religious denominations make their home in the City, including Episcopal and Roman Catholic congregations whose historic churches and rectories are within the district.

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<sup>18</sup> Bureau of Public Debt," [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bureau\\_of\\_the\\_Public\\_Debt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bureau_of_the_Public_Debt), accessed June 12, 2023. The reasoning behind the Bureau's location in Parkersburg can only be surmised, but it is an undisputed fact that West Virginia Congressman Jennings Randolph and Senator Robert Byrd were leading powers in Congress for decades.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 130-132.

<sup>20</sup> Correspondence from Robert Enoch, former chairman of the Wood County Historic Landmarks Commission, February 2023.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*

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At the end of the 1976 Period of Significance of the Downtown Parkersburg Historic District, the population was 44,200 and city's diversified products included glass, ferrous metals, chemicals, plastics, and laboratory equipment and industrial endeavors also encompasses dairying and fruit and vegetable harvesting.

Nowadays, in addition to being a major industrial center for the state, Parkersburg is host to a variety of arts and cultural events and organizations, including the Players Guild, located within the historic district. The Mid-Ohio Valley Multi-Cultural Festival, an international traditional dance and music festival with an international marketplace is held in June, and the Parkersburg Homecoming Festival occurs in August and features a parade, fireworks, half-marathon, competitions, and entertainment. The Taste of Parkersburg is an event held around Memorial Day annually since 2006 which features food and drinks from local vendors, and since 2014, Downtown Parkersburg, Inc., along with the local Jaycees, has conducted the Downtown Throwdown, a barbecue and beer festival held in September. The Parkersburg Art Center, a gallery and instructional venue, is at 725 Market Street within the district area, and across the street, at 724 Market, is the Actors Guild Playhouse.<sup>22</sup>

Several museums are located in Parkersburg, including the Blennerhassett Museum of Regional History at 137 Juliana Street and the Oil and Gas Museum in the W. R. Smith Hardware Building at 119 Third Street (NR 2003), and the Artcraft Studio at 521 Market Street, all within the historic district.

### **Criterion A**

The Criterion A local significance of this district for *Commerce* is vested in its position as the commercial center of this section of West Virginia that extended northward and northwesterly to Belpre, Marietta, and Athens, in Ohio, including the rural reaches in the counties of Wood, Wirt, Ritchie, Jackson, and Pleasants, in West Virginia, and Washington, Meigs, and Athens, in Ohio. Throughout its c. 1848-1976 Period of Significance, the district was home to department stores,

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<sup>22</sup> "Parkersburg, West Virginia," [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parkersburg,\\_West\\_Virginia--](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parkersburg,_West_Virginia--) Wikipedia, accessed January 12, 2023.

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specialty shops, and banks, along with churches and fraternal lodge halls whose worshipers and lodge members patronized the district. The district's Criterion A significance for *Politics/Government* is derived from the presence of the U. S. Post Office/Federal Building that occupies the entire block between Fourth and Fifth Street on the north side of Juliana Street and houses a variety of federal-level offices as well as the local post office. As the County seat, Wood County government is anchored by the previously-listed county Court House. Further, as noted above, the federal-level Bureau of Fiscal Service moved to Parkersburg lately through the efforts of Senator Robert C. Byrd, occupies the entire block at Second and Market Streets.

### **Criterion C**

With respect to Criterion C for *Architecture* the Downtown Parkersburg Historic District is locally significant as a cohesive collection of primarily, although not exclusively, commercial architecture dating from c. 1840 through 1976. The district's built environment includes properties built in the Federal and Greek Revival styles, along with Romanesque and Gothic Revival-style churches and commercial buildings executed in the Italianate, Queen Anne, Neo-Classical and Colonial Revival styles, as well as Art Deco and Modern styles, and a variety of buildings reflecting no formal styles but rather emblematic of the building traditions of the area as interpreted by anonymous builders.

The Criterion C significance is enhanced by the presence of the work of prominent nineteenth-century architects in the district. Crapsey & Brown, headed by Charles Crapsey and William R. Brown,<sup>23</sup> were responsible for the Auditorium Theater, mentioned earlier. This Cincinnati firm was particularly noted for its design of religious buildings.<sup>24</sup> Canton, Ohio architect Lewis Thomas designed the Wood County Court House and architect P. C. Keeley was responsible for the St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church, both previously-listed. H. Rus Warne (1872-1954), credited as being the state's most prominent architect of the late nineteenth-

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<sup>23</sup>“Charles Crapsey,” [www.wikiwand.com/en/Charles\\_Crapsey](http://www.wikiwand.com/en/Charles_Crapsey), accessed December 21, 2022.

<sup>24</sup>“Churches by Crapsey and Brown,” *American Architect and Building News*, 38:822. November 19, 1892. Also **Biographical Dictionary of Cincinnati Architects, 1788-1940** ([architecturecincy.org](http://architecturecincy.org)), accessed December 20, 2022.

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and early twentieth century, designed the National Register listed IOOF Lodge Hall at 312-314 Fifth Street.<sup>25</sup>

## INTEGRITY

It cannot be denied that significant demolition has taken place within downtown Parkersburg, a fact that is true for nearly all downtowns within communities the size of Parkersburg. However, that being said, neither can it be denied that significant streetscapes remain within the specifically nominated area, and that a potential National Register district does lie along portions of Juliana, Market, and Avery Streets and portions of their intersecting streets between Second and Eighth Streets. Also, several modern high-rise commercial buildings lie close to but outside of, the nominated area. Also, several surface parking lots and modern buildings are found near the nominated area. However, the proposed National Register district boundaries have been carefully drawn to exclude as many of these intrusions and non-contributing properties are possible. Typical alterations include the modification of storefronts on the commercial buildings in the district, again, not an unusual treatment in most older downtowns and not resulting in a deleterious effect on the district as a whole. Of the unlisted properties within the proposed district 54 are considered to be contributing.

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<sup>25</sup> Smith, Judie. "H. Rus Warne." e-WV | H. Rus Warne (wvencyclopedia.org)e-WV: **The West Virginia Encyclopedia**. 09 December 2015. Web. 12 Accessed January 12, 2023.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

### **Published Materials**

Allen, Bernard L. **Parkersburg: A Bicentennial History**. Parkersburg; Woodruff Enterprises, 1985.

Black, Donald F. **History of Wood County, West Virginia**. Marietta, Ohio: Richardson Printing Co.

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<sup>1</sup>"Johnson Newlon Camden," <https://archive.wvculture.org/hiStory/businessandindustry/camdenjohnson02.html>, [from the "Parkersburg Sentinel," April 25, 1908], accessed December 7, 2022.

"Charles Crapsey." [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Charles\\_Crapsey](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Charles_Crapsey), accessed December 1, 2022

"Massey Rhind." [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J. Massey Rhind](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Massey_Rhind), accessed January 13, 2023.

"Parkersburg Nostalgia Gazette," <http://www.parkgaz.com/>, accessed November 2022.



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Smith, Judie. "H. Rus Warne." e-WV H. Rus Warne (wvencyclopedia.org)e-WV: **The West Virginia Encyclopedia**. 09 December 2015. Web. 12 Accessed January 12, 2023.

Fowler, Thaddeus Mortimer. "Parkersburg, West Virginia." [bird's-eye view], 1899, accessed December 2, 2022.

**National Register Documents**

Smith, Eliza F. and Christina Mann. *Downtown Parkersburg Multiple Resource Area*. Charleston: West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, 1982.

**Maps**

"An Atlas of Wood County." Philadelphia: D. J. Lake & Co., 1883.

"Atlas of the City of Parkersburg." Chicago: George F. Cran & Co., 1901.

"Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Parkersburg, West Virginia." New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1889, 1893, 1898, 1904, 1909, 1916, 1926.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Wood County (WV) Historic Landmarks Commission

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** c. 28 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                  |                   |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 17 | Easting: 451518  | Northing: 4346504 |
| 2. Zone: 17 | Easting: 451716  | Northing: 4346291 |
| 3. Zone: 17 | Easting: 452094  | Northing: 4346375 |
| 4. Zone: 17 | Easting : 451863 | Northing: 4346761 |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of this district are shown on the attached map drawn directly from the GIS system of the City of Parkersburg, at the scale shown on the map.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)\

The boundaries of this district reflect only the remaining resources within the historic central business district of the city of Parkersburg. Excluded from the district are areas containing significant expanses of paved parking lots and modern commercial and governmental buildings.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: David L. Taylor, Historic Preservation Consultant  
organization: o/b/o Wood County Landmarks Commission and Downtown Parkersburg, Inc.  
street & number: 19 Cherry Alley  
city or town: Brookville state: PA zip code: 15825  
e-mail tta.david@gmail.com  
telephone: 814-648-4900  
date: June 2023

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Figure Log

Fig. 1 of 6: Undated map of much of the district, showing original street naming.

Fig. 2 of 6: Undated panoramic drawing of Parkersburg

Fig. 3 of 6: Blennerhassett Hotel c. 1897

Fig. 4 of 6: Dils Brothers Department Store, 1930s.

Fig. 5 of 6: Central Bank & Security Building, c. 1900

Fig. 6 of 6: Parkersburg National Bank, c. 1913

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered, and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

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**Photo Log**

Name of Property: Downtown Parkersburg Historic District

City or Vicinity: Parkersburg, West Virginia

County: Wood

State: West Virginia

Photographer: David L. Taylor

Date Photographed: September 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 27: Streetscape, north side of Market Street, looking west, with Dils Brothers Department Store in the center.
- 2 of 27: Streetscape, north side of Market Street, looking northeast, with Dils Brothers Department Store in the center.
- 3 of 27: Streetscape, north side of Juliana Street, looking northeast, showing the previously-listed George Neale, Jr. House and Federal Building
- 4 of 27: Streetscape, south side Market Street looking northeast, with the Parkersburg National Bank Building in the foreground followed by the St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church; B & O Railroad overpass is in the background.
- 5 of 27: Parking lot at Market and Fifth Streets, looking southeast
- 6 of 27: Blennerhassett Hotel, northeast perspective looking southwest at the corner of Market and Third Streets.
- 7 of 27: Streetscape Fifth Street at Avery Street, with the Auditorium Theater Building in the foreground, looking northwest
- 8 of 27: B & O Railroad trestle, looking north along Sixth Street
- 9 of 27: Federal Building/Post Office, façade, looking northwest
- 10 of 26 Streetscape, south side Market Street at Third Street, looking southeast
- 11 of 27: Streetscape, west side Fifth Street, looking southwest from Market Street, with one of the Market Street streetlights in the foreground and the Odd Fellows Lodge Building beyond the parking lot.

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- 12 of 27: Streetscape, Market Street, east side looking west from Seventh Street with the Union Deposit Bank Building in the background
- 13 of 27: Streetscape, north side of Market Street, looking west from Seventh Street
- 14 of 27: Streetscape, south side Market Street, looking east from Seventh Street
- 15 of 27: Union Deposit Bank Building, northwest perspective looking southeast
- 16 of 27: Highmark Building at Fifth and Market Street, northeast perspective looking southwest
- 17 of 27: Streetscape, north side Market Street at Sixth Street, looking northeast
- 18 of 27: Streetscape, north side Market Street at Seventh Street, looking northeast
- 19 of 27: Streetscape, east side Sixth Street looking south showing the Parkersburg News Building and the Smoot Theater
- 20 of 27: Trinity Hall, northwest perspective, looking southwest.
- 21 of 27: Richardson Block, facade, looking northeast
- 22 of 27: Gould House, northwest perspective, looking southeast
- 23 of 27: Christian Arendt House, 406 Avery Street, façade, looking south
- 24 of 27 St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church, façade, looking southwest.
- 25 of 27: Episcopal Church Rectory, facade, looking southwest
- 26 of 27: Dils Bros. Department Store, façade, looking southwest
- 27 of 27: Wood County Court House, façade, looking north

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct, or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours

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Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

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Fig 1 of 6

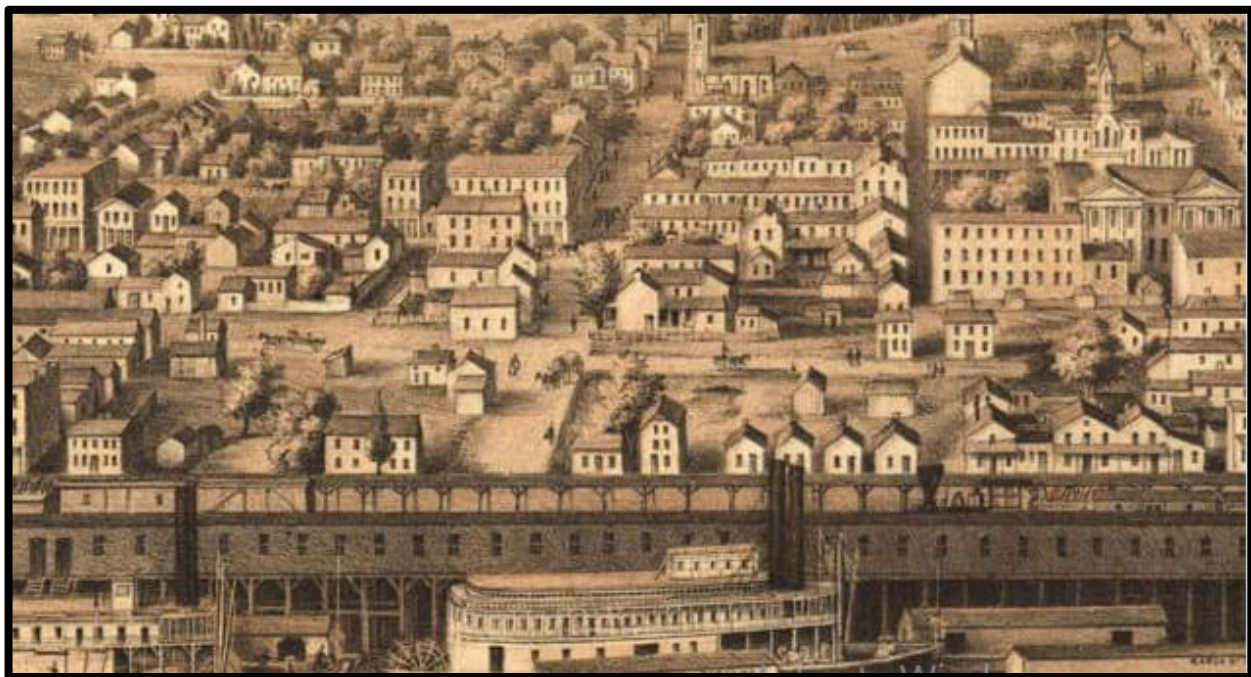


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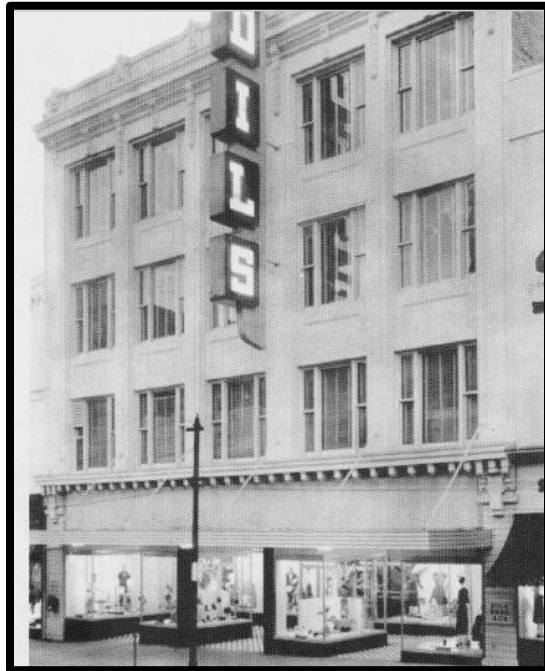


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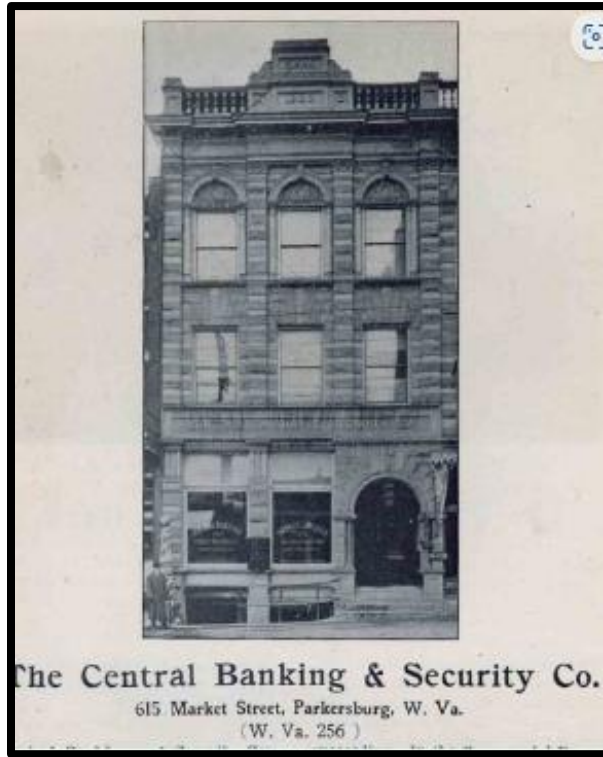


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Name of Property

Wood County, WV  
County and State



Photo 23 of 27



Photo 24 of 27

Downtown Parkersburg Historic District  
Name of Property

Wood County, WV  
County and State



Photo 25 of 27



Photo 26 of 27

Downtown Parkersburg Historic District  
Name of Property

Wood County, WV  
County and State



Photo 27 of 27



**DOWNTOWN PARKERSBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT**

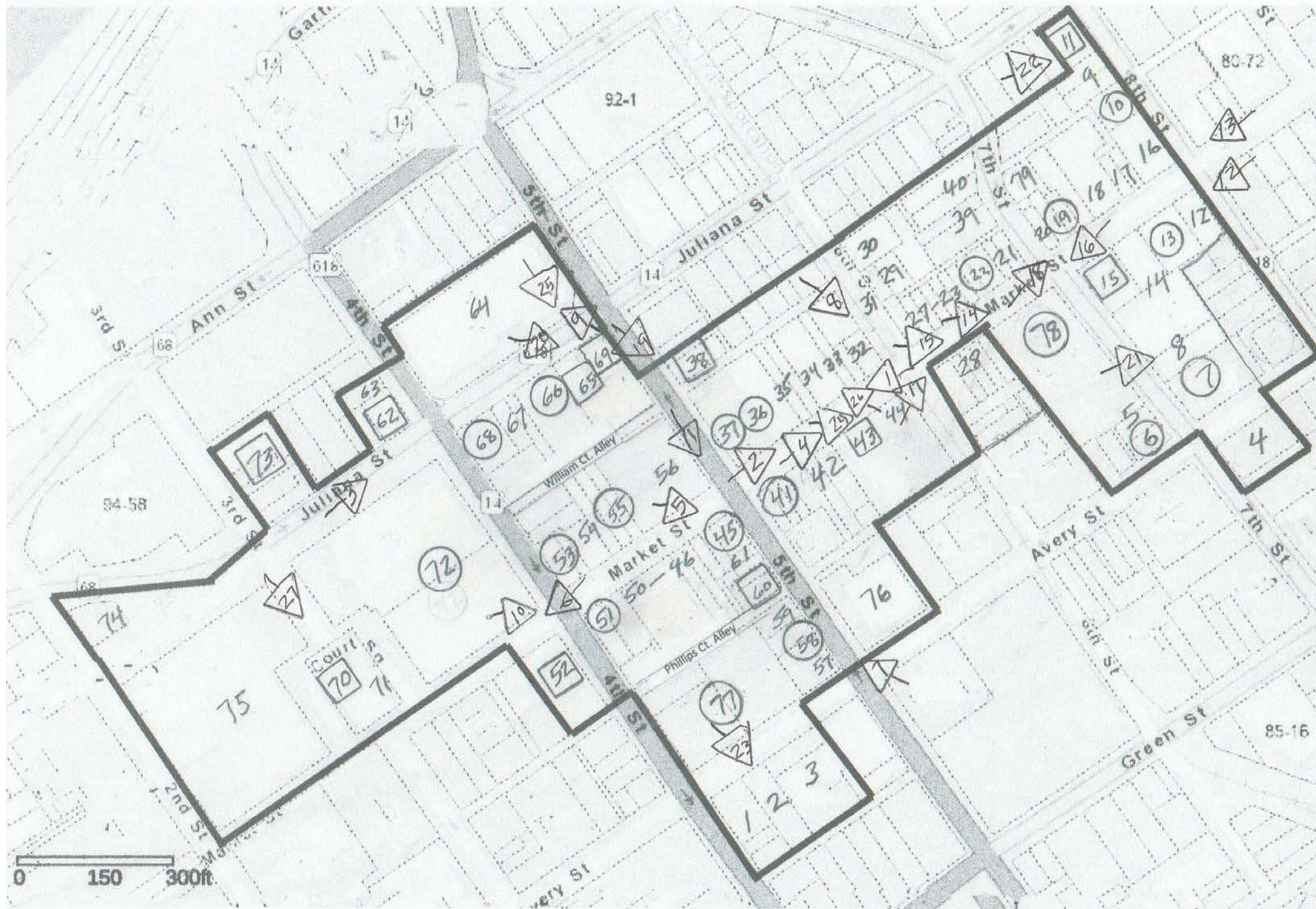
**District Boundary shown by black lines**

**Numbers refer to Resource Inventory**

**Non-Contributing Properties are encircled**

**Previously-listed Properties are within squares**





**DOWNTOWN PARKERSBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT**

**Photo Orientation Map**

- District Boundary shown by black lines**
- Numbers refer to Resource Inventory**
- Non-Contributing Properties are encircled**
- Previously-listed Properties are within squares**
- Photo Numbers & Orientations are within triangles**