

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE & HISTORY
SCIENCE & CULTURE CENTER
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

File No: _____
Theme(s): 22
Neg No(s): _____
USGS Quad: _____
UTM Ref: 17/451580/4346110

DISTRICT . SITE . BUILDING . STRUCTURE . OBJECT

- 1. NAME(S), historic/common: Blennerhassett Hotel
(Mountain Parkersburg MRA)
- 2. LOCATION, street/road: 316 Market St. (S corner of
Market & 4th Sts.)
TAX MAP-LOT# 95-2 city/town: Parkersburg, WV 26101
(incorporated/unincorporated)

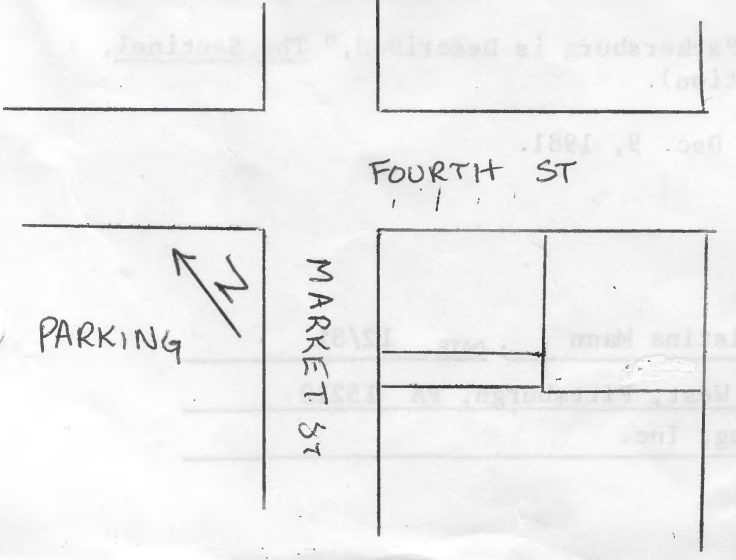
3. USE/FUNCTION, present: vacant (public/private, restricted)
original: hotel

4. OWNER/ADDRESS, present: Keltner, Robert E. (public/private)
Inmate, West Virginia State Penitentiary
Moundsville, W.Va.
original:

- 5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF: 8112-R1-F14, 18-22 7. PLAN (include approx. dimensions):
8201-R1-F9-11, 34-36, R2-F1, 32



- 6. LOCALE/ENVIRONMENT (map):
- 8. ACREAGE (approx): 150' by 100'
City lot No. 95-2
(See No. 2)



COUNTY: Wood
Survey Region: _____
Planning District: _____

9. DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate): See attached

a. Exterior Fabric

stone _____
 brick painted
 concrete _____
 stucco _____
 weatherboard _____
 clapboard _____
 board & batten _____
 shingle _____
 other _____

b. Structural System

masonry X
 frame _____
 log _____
 metal _____
 other _____
 foundation _____

c. Roofing Material

wood _____
 metal _____
 slate X
 tile _____
 asphalt _____
 composition _____
 other _____

d. Associated Structures (use/type):

outbuildings _____

 dependencies _____

 other _____

e. Integrity (include dates):

original site/relocated _____
 alterations 1st floor altered
 all around

 additions _____

f. Condition:

excellent _____
 good X or _____
 fair X _____
 deteriorated _____
 abandoned _____

g. Threats:

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

10. SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):

a. Architect/Builder/Engineer:

 not known

b. Style/Period: Queen Anne

c. Date(s): 1889

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

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

11. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

1908 United Commercial Travelers.

"Social Life Many Years Ago in Parkersburg is Described," The Sentinel, June 1939 (Anniversary Edition).

Miss Frances Inslee, interview, Dec. 9, 1981.

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

a. Address Allegheny Square West, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

b. Organization Landmarks Planning, Inc.

Blennerhassett Hotel

316 Market St. (S corner of Market & 4th Sts.)

95-2(&3?)

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



Blumenthal Hotel
316 Market St. (S. corner of Market & 3rd Sts.)
95-11537

Sited on a prominent corner at the heart of downtown York, this 4-story
attached structure presents a highly textured and picturesque silhouette to the
streetscape. The southmost bay on Market St. rises 3 stories. Its
asymmetrical composition features four 1/2 story bays; bays 1 and 2
bays. The roof includes a mansard on the 1/2 story bays, a mansard (NW),
a chimney (NE), a flat roof (SE), and a standard gable (SW).
at the corner is a taller round, conical roofed tower with a 1/2 story
throughout the roofline includes a cornice and brick and terra cotta
work. The 3rd and some of the 4th story windows, generally grouped 2 per bay,
are 6/8 with arched lintels. The raised brickwork of the 4th story continues
as a swinging course, interrupted only by the buttresses. The 5th story
windows are 6/8 with straight transoms; drip molding in a similar raised
brickwork is used. The 1st story has been remodelled with various



8201-R3-F35