

D-665

Leonard D. Zeller Funeral Home  
East New Market  
private

c. 1880-1900

The Leonard D. Zeller Funeral Home is a prominent two-story gable-front frame building that stands just north of the main intersection of this small Dorchester County town. The symmetrical pedimented main facade with a lunette window piercing the gable is not a common architectural form in East New Market. Not much is known about the early use of the building, but architectural features suggest a meeting or work related original use. Since the World War II the structure has been used as a funeral home.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common LEONARD D. ZELLER FUNERAL HOME

## 2. Location

street & number North Main Street  not for publication

city, town East New Market  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Dorchester

## 3. Classification

| Category  | Ownership  | Status  | Present Use                                    |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied        | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture           | <input type="checkbox"/> museum            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private        | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both                      | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress           | <input type="checkbox"/> educational           | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                          | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment         | <input type="checkbox"/> religious         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government            | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific        |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered          | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted          | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial            | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation    |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no                         | <input type="checkbox"/> military              | <input type="checkbox"/> other:            |

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Leonard D. Zeller

street & number North Main Street telephone no.:

city, town East New Market state and zip code Maryland 21631

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester Clerk of Circuit Court liber

street & number Dorchester County Courthouse folio

city, town Cambridge state Md. 21613

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date 1985  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Md. 21401

# 7. Description

Survey No. D-665

|  |                                       |   |   |                    |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved                    | date of move _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |   |                    |

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Leonard D. Zeller Funeral Home stands on the west of side of North Main Street in the town of East New Market, Maryland. The two-story, gable-front frame funeral home faces east with the gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Probably built during the last decades of the nineteenth-century, the two-story, three-bay gable-front frame building is supported by a minimal brick foundation and sheathed with aluminum siding. The medium sloped gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the north side of the main block is a single-story modern addition covered by a hip roof.

The east (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The replacement front door is sheltered by a gabled stoop supported by Tuscan columns. Aluminum shutters flank the windows. The second floor is lighted by a pair of six-over-six sash windows that line up vertically with the first floor windows. Above the second floor windows is a gabled pediment pierced by a lunette window.

The south side of the main building is an asymmetrical elevation with an exterior, double-shouldered brick chimney and flanking six-over-six sash windows. A side entrance protected by a gabled hood marks the westernmost bay of the main building. The north side of the main block is largely covered by the modern single-story addition. Lighting the second floor are three six-over-six sash windows. The west (rear) facade of the main block is mostly covered by a two-story gable roofed section that houses the elevator used to raised caskets to the second floor showroom. Surviving above the elevator room is a section of board-and-batten siding that was not covered with aluminum. A large service entrance opens through the west wall of the elevator room.

The interior has been reworked extensively as a funeral home. The first floor is devoted largely to a room used for funeral services. A partially enclosed stair rises against the north wall. A heavy turn of the century newel post anchors the molded handrail. The second floor is divided into two rooms separated by a partition with sliding four-panel pocket doors. An access hole into the attic reveals circular sawn lumber. An old platform elevator with exposed works survives in the west room. One large gear is inscribed, "James Bates No. 1."

Standing behind the funeral home is a single-story work shed that has been reworked extensively in the recent past. Board-and-batten siding has been added to a circular sawn frame.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. D-665

| Period  | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below    |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric          | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/<br>humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> theater                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)         |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   |  |

| Specific dates   | Builder/Architect |
|--|-------------------|
| check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D<br>and/or   |                   |
| Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G |                   |
| Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local  |                   |

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Leonard D. Zeller Funeral Home was evidently erected during the last years of the nineteenth century. The surviving woodwork and construction features suggest the building was erected as public oriented structure with large squarish meeting or work spaces on the first and second floors. The pedimented two-story principal elevation is a notable variation for buildings in East New Market. The building has been used as a funeral home since before World War II. One of the most significant features of the building is the old platform elevator that allowed for caskets to be raised to the second floor showroom.





D-665

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
21 STATE CIRCLE  
SHAW HOUSE  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET  
Individual Structure Survey Form

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:

PRESENT FORMAL NAME:

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:

PRESENT USE:

ORIGINAL USE:

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:

Excellent ( ) Good ( )  
Fair ( ) Poor: ( )

THEME:

STYLE:

DATE BUILT:

COUNTY: Dorchester

TOWN: East New Market

LOCATION: Main Street  
Route 16  
East New Market

COMMON NAME:  
The Zeller Funeral Home

FUNCTIONAL TYPE:

OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. Len D. Zeller  
ADDRESS: same as above

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:  
Yes (x) No ( ) Restricted ( )

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
Local (x) State ( ) National ( )

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

1. Foundation: Stone ( ) Brick ( ) Concrete ( ) Concrete Block ( )
2. Wall Structure
  - A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam ( ) Balloon (x)
  - B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick ( ) Stone ( ) Concrete ( ) Concrete Block ( )
  - C. Iron ( ) D. Steel ( ) E. Other:
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard ( ) Board and Batten ( ) Wood Shingle ( ) Shiplap ( )  
Novelty ( ) Stucco ( ) Sheet Metal ( ) Aluminum (x) Asphalt Shingle (x)  
Brick Veneer ( ) Stone Veneer ( )  
Bonding Pattern: Other:
4. Roof Structure
  - A. Truss: Wood ( ) Iron ( ) Steel ( ) Concrete ( )
  - B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate ( ) Wood Shingle ( ) Asphalt Shingle ( ) Sheet Metal (x)  
Built Up ( ) Rolled ( ) Tile ( ) Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:

Appendages: Porches ( ) Towers ( ) Cupolas ( ) Dormers ( ) Chimneys ( ) Sheds ( ) Ells ( )  
Wings ( ) Other:

Roof Style: Gable (x) Hip ( ) Shed ( ) Flat ( ) Mansard ( ) Gambrel ( ) Jerkinhead ( )  
Saw Tooth ( ) With Monitor ( ) With Bellcast ( ) With Parapet ( ) With False Front ( )  
Other:

Number of Stories: 2 Story

Number of Bays: 3 x 4

Approximate Dimensions: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrance Location: Center

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:

No Threat ( ) Zoning ( ) Roads ( )  
Development ( ) Deterioration ( )  
Alteration (x) Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:

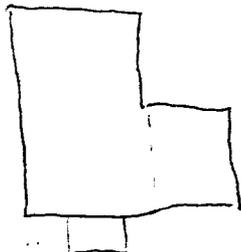
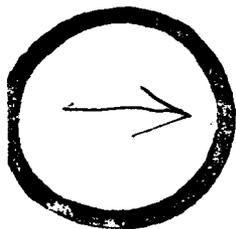
Positive (x) Negative ( )  
Mixed ( ) Other:

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North in Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Open Lane( ) Woodland( ) Scattered Buildings( )
- Moderately Built Up( ) Densely Built Up( )
- Residential( ) Commercial( )
- Agricultural( ) Industrial( )
- Roadside Strip Development( )
- Other:

RECORDED BY:

East New Market Historic District Commission

ORGANIZATION:

Summer, 1985

DATE RECORDED:

The Leonard Zeller House

T-shaped structure; 2½ -story; asphalt tile roof. Brick foundation. Aluminum siding.

The main block is 2 bays wide with 2 over 2 windows. (Original doorway used to be where 2nd bay is now located and a window where the 1st bay is located). The right hand projection has 3 bays; 1st and 3rd bay are on a diagonal. The center bay in projection is unusual with narrowed pair 1 over 1 windows. Other 2 bays have 2 over 2 windows. Front projection is predominant feature of building. At one time there was a wide front porch extending almost to the sidewalk. Roof has overhangs in either corner. Decorative small balusters with ornamental dropped pendant  on each side.

In front gable is a Gothic window with louvers for ventilation surrounded by imbricated shingles--many styles--saw tooth and fish scale.

Entrance in main block in 1st bay. The framework around door is new; wood surround with dentel cornice. Wood porch overhangs with gabled roof; acorn ornamental pendants. Knee braces support the overhang.

Right side has 2 bays. Modern addition added. One inside end chimney.

Back facade has the original addition; 2 over 2 windows. Roof same as main building; gabled; with overhang over porch, portion of which has been enclosed. Narrow concrete block chimney used for heating or cooking. One bay wide.

Left side has 2 bays; 1 bay is in an addition. Inside end chimney.

No basement.

The Zeller Funeral Home

Rectangular building; aluminum siding; part gabled roof; 2 story. Front facade is 3 bays wide with pedimented entrance supported by 2 round columns. 6 over 6 windows. One half round window in the gable. Tin roof. Left side is four bays deep. In the 4th bay there is an off-center overhang supported by regular knee braces. Back is 3 bays deep, gabled roof covered with tin. Frame has vertical boards with vertical sliding door that opens to the "lift." \*

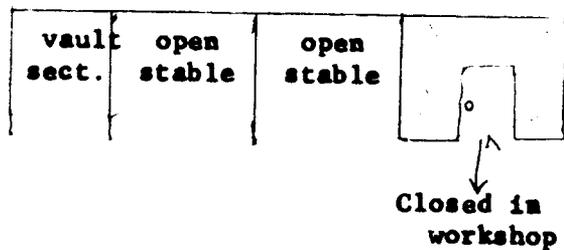
\*The lift is used to transport caskets to the 2nd floor showroom.

Sara Rossing

The Zeller Property

## Three Outbuilding:

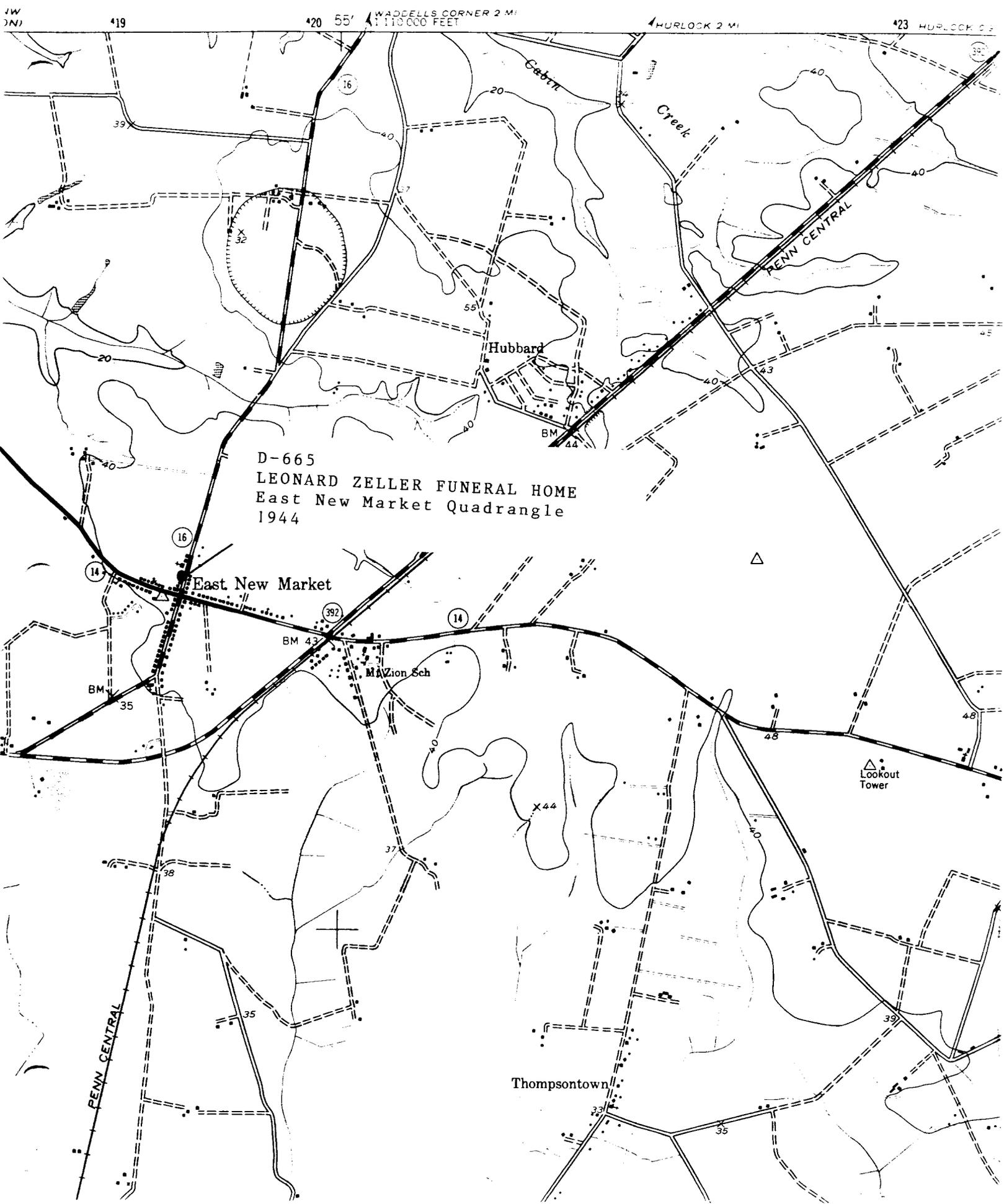
1. Three vehicle garage; wood and concrete block with stepped gable.  
Built 1936-37. (Constructed by Mr. Howard Willoughby, Mr. Will Hayward,  
& Mr. Tom Harper).
2. Gray wood structure known as "the barn" consisting of a closed in workshop,  
stables, & vault portion. Tin shed roof with overhang.



3. The Carriage House is of board and batten design with tin roof placed over cedar shingles. Barge board on gable ends and font in undulating or wavy-like pattern; a portion in saw tooth pattern.

All 3 structures are 1 story.

EAST NEW MARKET QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



D-665  
LEONARD ZELLER FUNERAL HOME  
East New Market Quadrangle  
1944

East New Market

MaZion Sch

Thompsontown

Lookout Tower

Hubbard

PENN CENTRAL

PENN CENTRAL



LEONARD ZELLER FUNERAL HOME D-665

East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD

~~Source~~ East elevation

10/87 Paul Touart photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust



LEONARD ZELLER FUNERAL HOME      D-665  
East New Market, Dorchester Co., Md  
East elevation  
10/87 Paul Touart    photographer  
Negative/MD Historical Trust



D-665

Zeller Funeral Home

East New Market