

## **GEHR Watershed Minute #43**

### **Jeffers Landing: (241 words)**

If you go about a mile South of Somers Point-Mays Landing Road on Jeffers Landing Road in Egg Harbor Township you come to an old landing right on the banks of the Great Egg Harbor River. In earlier days this landing was important commercially and was named for the John Jeffryes family which had a plantation on the River.

In 1819, John Jeffryes was named as the wharf master at Jeffers Landing. His job was to collect fees from sailing vessels that loaded and unloaded at the shipping docks there and to keep those wharfs in repair.

By the mid 1800's the wharfs fell into disrepair and were removed. For a time, large wheeled wagons carrying produce and cordwood from surrounding farms and wood lots were driven body deep into the water along side of sailing sloops and scows. The produce was transferred and awaited the next tide to be taken to Atlantic City, Philadelphia, and elsewhere.

By the late 1800's Jeffers Landing became a favorite bathing site where the sandy shore of the Cove sloped gently to deeper water making a safe bathing place. Hollingsworth Boarding House near the River took boarders who came down from the city for fishing, bathing, hunting, or just a quiet vacation in the country. Today you can view the nationally designated Scenic Great Egg Harbor River Estuary and see birds and wildlife like Bald Eagles in the Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area from Jeffers Landing.