

*G. Timothy Cranston's*

*The View From Swamptown*

*Volumes V – VIII*

*April 2003 thru December 2006*

APR 1 5 2009

NORTH KINGSTOWN FREE LIBRARY



3 0073 00296 7777

R97457  
JLP

# **The View From Swamptown**

## **Volumes V - VIII**

### **April 2003 thru December 2006**

#### **Written By**

**G. Timothy Cranston**

#### **Published By**

**Swamptown Enterprises Inc.**

**All Rights Reserved**

North Kingstown Free Library  
100 Boone Street  
North Kingstown, RI 02852

## Authors Note

Still at it after all these years!! This volume includes the unedited text of the 194 columns which I wrote during years five through eight of the existence of the NorthEast Independent. More than 320 pages of text and, well heck, more photographs than I care to count. For consistencies sake, this compilation follows the basic set up of the previous two as much as is possible.

I'd like to thank all the wonderful people who have aided and abetted me over the last four years. Lets start with the staff of the NorthEast Independent, particularly my editor Kristin and local lad Mike Derr, my photographer and friend. As always, many thanks to the staff, volunteers, and "Friends" at the North Kingstown Free Library, particularly the "Council of Susans" that keep things running so smoothly. Also, a "tip of the hat" to all my comrades at the North Kingstown Genealogy Society, especially Doris Moon, who seems to have an answer for every impossible question that I come up with. Thanks as well, to Althea MacAleer and Henry Beckwith for their contributions and friendship. I'd be remiss if I also didn't mention the support, generosity, and encouragement I receive from the NK Arts Council and all the good folks at HistWick as well. And as always thanks a million to my friend and fellow local history buff Karen-Lu LaPolice – who said history isn't fun. Again as always, thanks to all my loyal readers for their feedback, questions, and encouragement. Finally, thanks to my wife Linda and my sons Ryan and Eric for helping and encouraging me as I continue to chase after the next intriguing story. I could never do it without your support.

This book of stories is dedicated to the man who told many of them to me. Thomas Peirce, almost single-handedly, has saved the history of our fair town for all of us to enjoy. He is a mentor and a true gentleman and I cherish our friendship. This one's for you Tom.

## **Library Note**

The North Kingstown Free Library is pleased to present “The View From Swamptown Volumes V-VIII” in this electronic format and thus make it available to a larger audience. The articles that make up this publication are in their original unedited form. They appeared in an edited form in “The North East Independent” between April 2003 and December 2006. Tim Cranston then published the articles in a bound volume.

The historic photos are from Tim Cranston’s collection of images. Newer photos are courtesy of the [North East Independent](#). You can use the Find feature on your web browser to search by a word or phrase. Please contact the library if you have any questions or comments.

The North Kingstown Free Library and Tim Cranston would like to thank David and Petra Laurie and the North Kingstown Arts Council for their generous support of this project.

North Kingstown Free Library  
100 Boone St.  
North Kingstown, RI 02852

(401) 294-3306

[edonovan@nklibrary.org](mailto:edonovan@nklibrary.org)

In this online version, “The View From Swamptown Volumes V-VIII” has been divided into five sections:

**[Wickford](#)**

**[Mill Villages and Farming Villages](#)**

**[Saunderstown, Smith’s Castle, Local Folks, All Over Town](#)**

**[Opinion Pieces, Special Projects](#)**