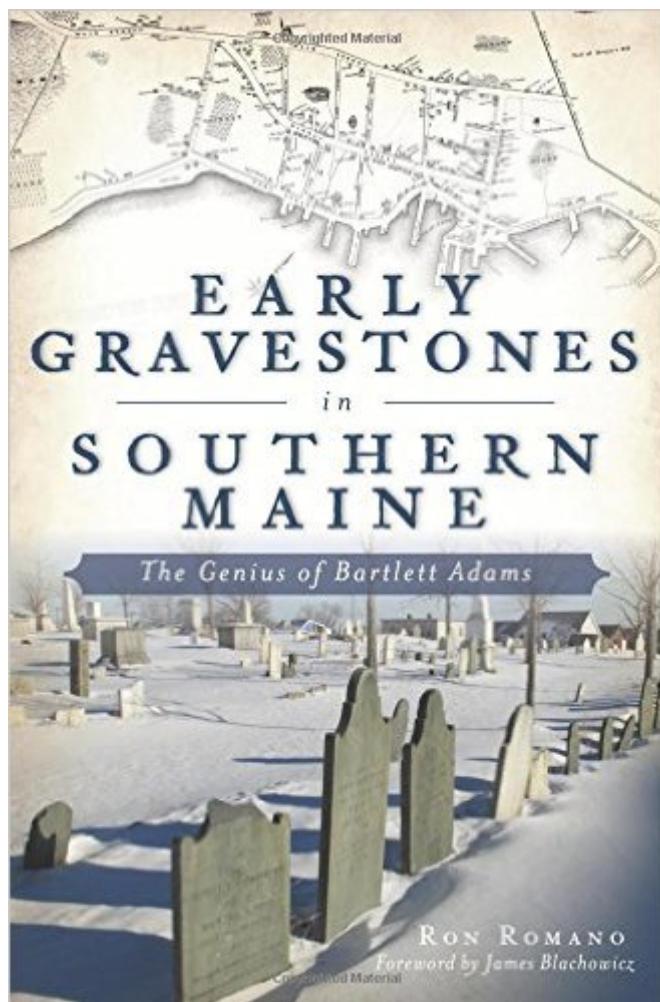


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# Early Gravestones In Southern Maine: The Genius Of Bartlett Adams



## **Synopsis**

The slate gravestones of southern Maine bear evidence to the region's fascinating history, from shipwrecks and famous wartime sea captains to countless ordinary citizens. Master stone-cutter Bartlett Adams memorialized the tragedy and triumph of the region in nearly two thousand gravestones. Examine the artistry of the headstones that mark the resting places of three generations of the same family who all went down with the schooner Charles, and discover the grief that Adams poured into the stones for his own three children. Through deep and original research, author and guide Ron Romano narrates the early history of southern Maine and one man's legacy, carved in stone.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

A wonderful book for cemetery enthusiasts, sculpture lovers, and Maine history fans. The history of ordinary folk is written on tombstones all over Maine. The beautiful work of Bartlett Adams invites people to stop and consider the sacrifices of those who paved the way for modern American life.

For those of you who don't yet have this book in your gravestone-loving hands, let me tell you -- you do NOT want to miss it. Ron Romano has outdone himself. After following Bartlett Adams's career, and giving tour after tour in Portland's Eastern Cemetery highlighting his stonework, Romano was encouraged to write his account of Bartlett's life and craft. Luckily for us, he actually did it!It is a fascinating story from start to finish, and interwoven as it is with Romano's account of his search for

the tale, it had me wanting to go out and search out Bartlett's signature in Maine's graveyards myself ASAP. This is the gauge of quality in Romano's work -- he explains the finer points of gravestone studies in a way that makes you want to join in the gathering, and at the same time paints a picture of Bartlett's own life and times that brings them forth in your mind's eye as things alive. This is a rare thing in a history book. I recommend you buy it and experience this for yourself.

Granted., a book about a guy who carved head stones in the 1800s may not be for everyone, but Ron Romano has delivered much, much more. While the wonderful art of Bartlett Adams is beautifully showcased, the author uses it as a tapestry to weave a well-written tale about life, hope, and the courage to continue despite huge personal loss. The book delivers a wonderful insight into life in the early years of the 19th century. I think history fans will enjoy it just as much as cemetery buffs.

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