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## Carved in Stone: The Artistry of Early New England Gravestones

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#1247225 in Books Wesleyan 2012-11-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.34 x .65 x 9.24l, 1.86 #File Name: 0819573019138 pages | File size: 65.Mb

**From Brand: Wesleyan : Carved in Stone: The Artistry of Early New England Gravestones** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Carved in Stone: The Artistry of Early New England Gravestones:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I really like this book the more I look at it the ...By Mary F. CarrollI really like this book the more I look at it the more I enjoy it.At first I bought it for the photos .but it has some good info also Could be used as a refrence for gravestone styles,carvers and localities.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Joseph JordanGreat price on a very interesting book2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good Tombstone ResourceBy Nelson HartBook is well written with excellent photos. An good resource on tombstone symbols from the Massachusetts and Boston area cemeteries.

Gravestones are colonial America's earliest sculpture and they provide a unique physical link to the European people who settled here. Carved in Stone book is an elegant collection of over 80 fine duotone photographs, each a personal meditation on an old stone carving, and on New England's past, where these stones tell stories about death at sea, epidemics such as small pox, the loss of children, and a grim view of the afterlife. The essay is a graceful narrative that explores a long personal involvement with the stones and their placement in New England landscape, and attempts to trace the curious and imperfectly documented story of carvers. Brief quotes from early New England writers accompany the images, and captions provide basic information about each stone. These meditative portraits present an intimate view of figures from New England graveyards and will be enjoyed by anyone with an interest in early Americana and fine art photography.

From Library Journal In a culture that shared image making as idolatry, the emergence of gravestone art in 17th-century Puritan communities marked a shift, one in which the spiritual world could be conveyed with dignity and grace as well as represent the deceased's deeply held religious faith. The Gilson brothers - photographer Thomas and writer William - have captured the essence of these somber, touching memorials. William writes of his burgeoning interest in gravestones and the immediacy of his reactions to them as well the historical background of the markers themselves and of the little-known sculptors who carved their images. Thomas's excellent photographs are interspersed with writings from the period that give voice and personality to the small band of faithful who struggled and sometimes failed to survive. Cold, hunger, disease, and infant mortality are all recorded in the inscribed memorials under the carving of angels, winged skulls, fanciful scrolls, and leaf forms carved into the hard stone of the land.

VERDICT An excellent look at a fascinating subject and a fine introduction to the field. Paula Frosch, Metropolitan Museum of Art Library., New York. "The artistry of these gravestones is remarkable...For all the temptation to use the data from these cemeteries for demography, this remains a study of art..." Christopher Cumo, Connecticut History, Spring 2013 "...a revealing and fascinating essay...magnificent tribute...beautiful book..." "While Carved in Stone deals with death at its core, it is never morbid." Kathryn Franklin, Portland Book "A rare and unusual contribution to cemeterist publications...William Gilson's prose is spare but elegant, heartfelt but unsentimental, Thomas Gilson's photographs are beautiful, well-lit, and well shadowed...in combining the respective talents of both brothers, a great book was created." Antoinette LoSchiavo, Association for Gravestone Studies Quarterly, Fall 2014 "One of the most interesting books of photography, and history, published in recent years..." Chris Rawley, Shawangunk Journal These solid chunks of the past are strange and wonderful, irresistible and repellent, sign posts to our past as well as our future. There's never a crowd. Above ground that is. If a case can be made for visiting these lonely, eerie, open air exhibits, two brothers, Thomas and William Gilson, have made it in their new book. David Holahan, Hartford Courant Thomas Gilson's photographs are beautiful, haunting, revelatory at times frightening. Alan Bisbort, Waterbury Republican-American Carved in Stone...is an eerie book, one that quietly works on you. Jan Gardener, Boston Globe Awards Book of the Year - 2012 Finalist, ForeWord s (Regional) "Carved in Stone is a thoughtful and thought-provoking commentary on New England gravestone art of the pre-industrial era--a welcome addition to the New England gravestone studies literature." (Bob Drinkwater, past president of the Association for Gravestone Studies) Carved in Stone, the Artistry of Early New England Gravestones book is a Finalist for 2012 Book of the Year Award - ForeWord s (Adult Nonfiction Regional).