

A View of the State House Before 1910



State Street view of the State House prior to the 1910 renovation and addition. The occasion is the dedication of the seven foot, four inch statue of Civil War hero and Hopkinton native Commodore George Hamilton Perkins (1836-1899) on April 25, 1902. Speaking is Governor Chester Jordon of Lancaster.

The Bronze sculpture overlooking the Legislative Office Building was designed by Daniel Chester French, known for his iconic rendering of Lincoln at the Memorial in Washington, DC. The statue was a gift from Perkins' wife, Anna Weld Perkins, a Boston heiress, and his daughter, Isabel Weld Anderson, once said to be the wealthiest woman in America.

A recast and resized replica of the statue was placed in a statuary niche in Memorial Hall at the US Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, and dedicated on May 29, 1911. Three U.S. Navy ships have been named in the Commodore's honor.