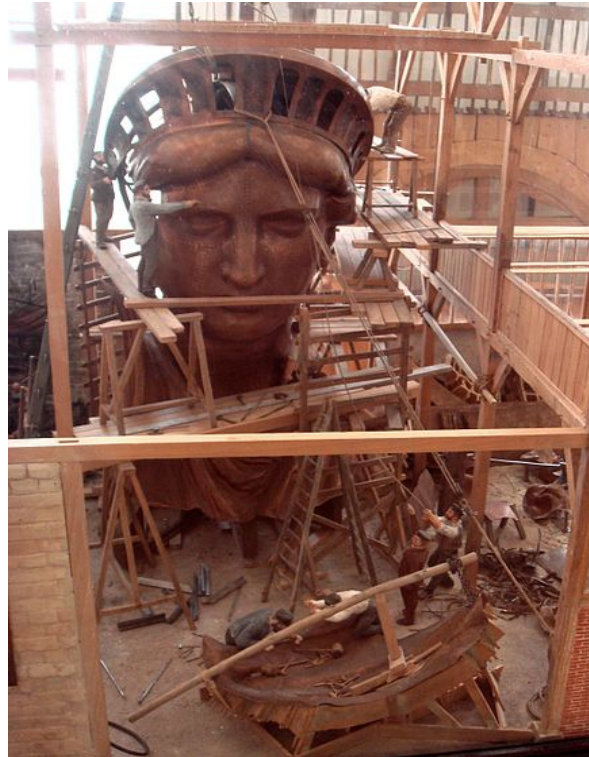


## *What is a Patina?*

A **patina** is a fine film or corrosive layer resulting from time, weather, wear, or a combination of the three, which serves to protect the metal from further breakdown. Unprotected copper deepens to a brownish colour before final oxidation transforms it to green. This transformation usually takes about 15 to 20 years.

When the **Statue of Liberty** arrived stateside in the Year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty, clad in a coat of 3/32" thick copper, she appeared to the masses as tawny and bright as a newly minted U.S. penny. It took about 30 years for oxidation to form the greenish **patina**, so recognizable to us today.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e6/Statue\\_of\\_Liberty\\_copper\\_construction\\_circa\\_1880.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e6/Statue_of_Liberty_copper_construction_circa_1880.jpg)

File: Statue of Liberty copper construction circa 1880.jpg Information | Description=Statue\_of\_Liberty\_copper\_construction. Model complete with figurines made by Bartholdi circa 1880. |Source=self-made. Photographed at the Musee des Arts et Metiers |Date=2008 |



[http://i.telegraph.co.uk/multimedia/archive/02608/liberty-911\\_2608237c.jpg](http://i.telegraph.co.uk/multimedia/archive/02608/liberty-911_2608237c.jpg)