

# Another Satanic Display Destroyed Just Days After Being Placed Near Nativity

Vandals have reportedly destroyed yet another Satanic display, with the latest debacle unfolding in Concord, New Hampshire.

The Satanic Temple's display was reportedly only up for three days before the black Baphomet's head was lopped off and other elements shattered.

*Someone completely destroyed the Satanic Temple occult icon display and it's been removed from the State House Plaza. Here's what it looked like before being obliterated. #nhpolitics*

*— Kevin Landrigan (@KlandriganUL) December 10, 2024*

The organization reportedly put the Baphomet on display Saturday, though, by Tuesday, the damage had already been done, the Concord Monitor reported.

Before its destruction, The Satanic Temple posted the “unveiling” on social media, proclaiming, “Hail Satan!” before removing a black covering over the structure. The statue, which had yellow eyes, included a tablet with The Satanic Temple's “7 Fundamental Tenets.”

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Mayor Byron Champlin, who didn't condone the associated destruction, said he doesn't believe the display should have been permitted to be placed outside of the New Hampshire State House.

"My preference was to deny the permit and accept the risk of the threatened lawsuit," Champlin said at Concord City Council Monday night, according to the Concord Monitor. "I oppose the permit because I believe the request was made not in the interest of promoting religious equity but in order to drive an anti-religious agenda."

This is an interesting argument, considering some claim all religious displays—including those of atheists and Satanists—should be permitted at holiday time when nativities and creches are placed on public property.

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In recent years, secularists and Satanists have sought to have their own representation, with the resulting elements sometimes seen by critics as mocking or poking fun at faith.

While some argue the display is an example of religious diversity, Champlin takes a different view, seeing The Satanic Temple—a group that doesn't believe in the existence of the devil—as implementing what he called a "very calculated political effort."

"We have room in our society for atheists, and for secularists, and for Christians, and for flat-earthers," he told the Concord Monitor. "That's what our democracy and our First Amendment is about."

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