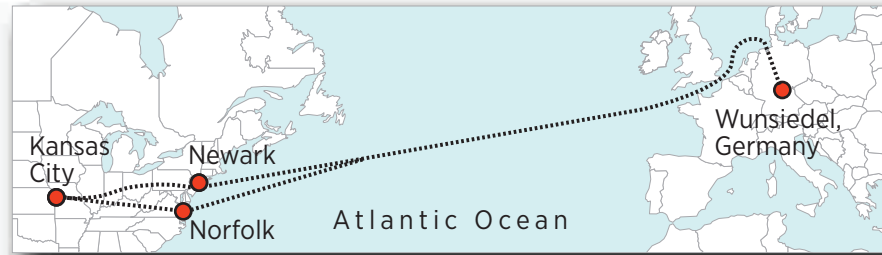


HANDLE WITH CARE

Attaching the glass to the museum walls is only part of the process.

KC BOUND

1 The glass is manufactured in Germany by Lamberts Glasfabrik. The company is one of only a few worldwide that can produce the specialized glass for the Nelson.



2 Shipments of glass cross the ocean to Norfolk, Va., or Newark, N.J. This typically takes 3 weeks.

3 At the ports, the glass shipment containers are loaded onto trucks that rumble to Kansas City and Carter Glass Co. downtown.

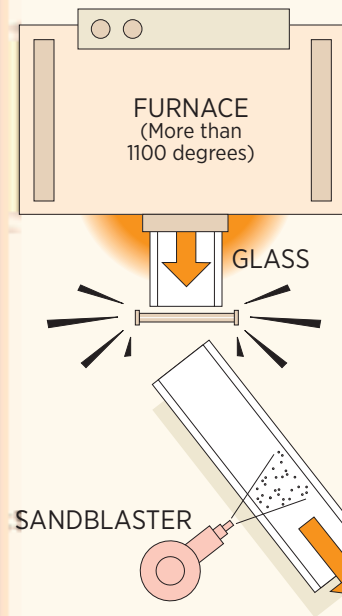
WHAT MAKES GLASS?

■ Glass is formed by mixing together a large amount of sand (silica) and small amounts of soda, lime.

■ This mixture is heated in a furnace until it becomes a syrupy clump.

■ The molten glass can then be shaped, pressed and manipulated.

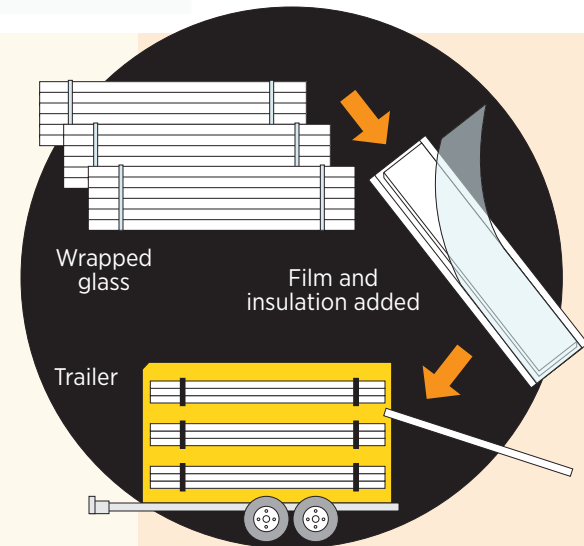
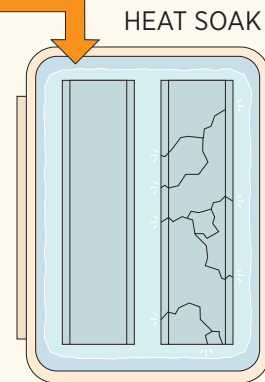
■ Glass is relatively easy to make, the raw materials are abundant and cheap, and it can be recycled and reused indefinitely.



At the factory...

- A** Huge glass furnaces melt the materials, forming a slab of molten glass. The glass has a low iron content, which helps reduce the natural green color.
- B** The hot glass is pressed into its 16-inch channel shape, and rollers leave a solar texture as it comes out of the furnace.
- C** The planks of glass are cut into lengths from 8 feet to almost 18 feet. Some planks with angled ends await field measurement before cutting.

- D** The planks are heated, cooled and hardened in a process called tempering.
- E** Some of the planks are then sandblasted to help diffuse the light.
- F** Finally, the glass is given a scorching bath called heat soaking. This technique weeds out flawed glass, which breaks, leaving only stronger planks ready to ship.



...in Kansas City

- G** Once the glass arrives in Kansas City, Carter Glass applies a UV safety film and inserts an insulation pad in some planks.
- H** The glass is transported as needed to the Nelson construction site in two trailers specially fitted for the glass.

— Compiled by STEVE PAUL/The Kansas City Star