

# **GLASS • SKIN**

## **HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE**

### **Tectonics of Glass & Glazing**

**Anthony M. Catsimatides, AIA**  
**April 22, 2010**

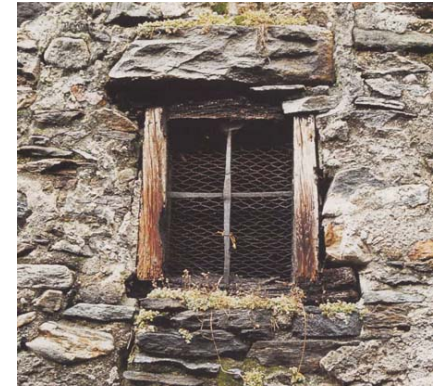
**A Presentation of Open Atelier Architects**



Ancient agrarian society  
House in the Ukraine

A medieval house  
Finchingfield, Essex, England

Walls designed for unfavorable environmental conditions such as rain and wind, small openings introduced for small amount of daylight





Glazed Wares, around 1250 BC  
Piramesse, earliest known glass workshop  
19<sup>th</sup> Dynasty, New Kingdom, Ramesses II



Glass Alabastron  
late 8th–6th century B.C.; Archaic  
Probably Phoenician; From Cyprus



Cast Glass, 31 BC  
Octavian (later known as Augustus)  
bringing Egypt under his control

### First use of making glass (artifacts)

- 5<sup>th</sup> Century BC Mesopotamia
  - Crushed quartz used as a glaze on ceramic vessels

- 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD Pompeii, 1" to 2" thick glass

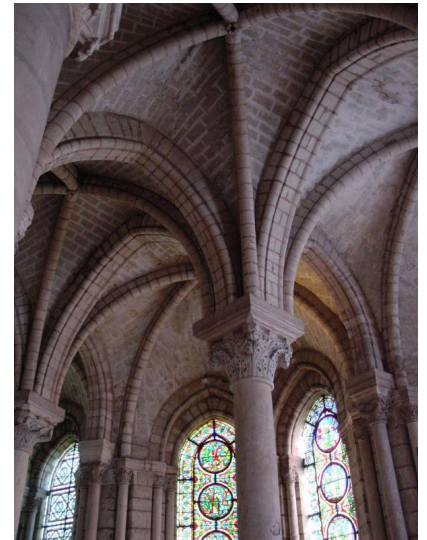


Transept Window

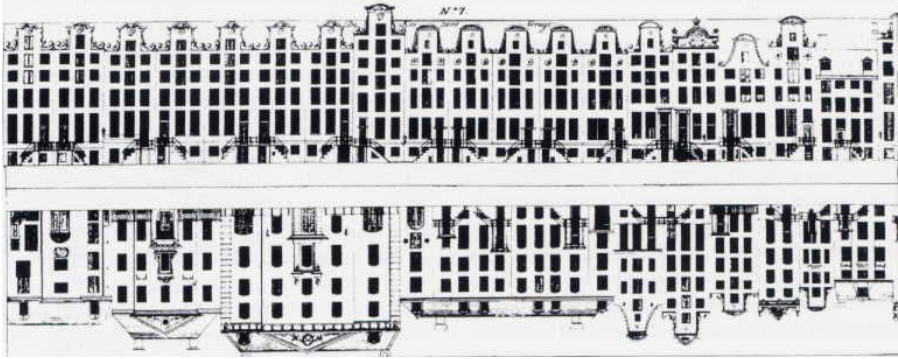


Nave Windows

Abbey Church of St. Denis, 1141 AD  
Abbot Suger  
First Gothic Cathedral



Ribs

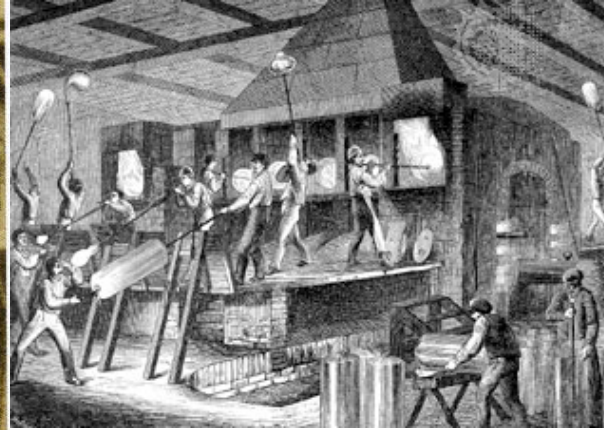


## Town House Terraces Heerengracht Amsterdam 18<sup>th</sup> century engraving

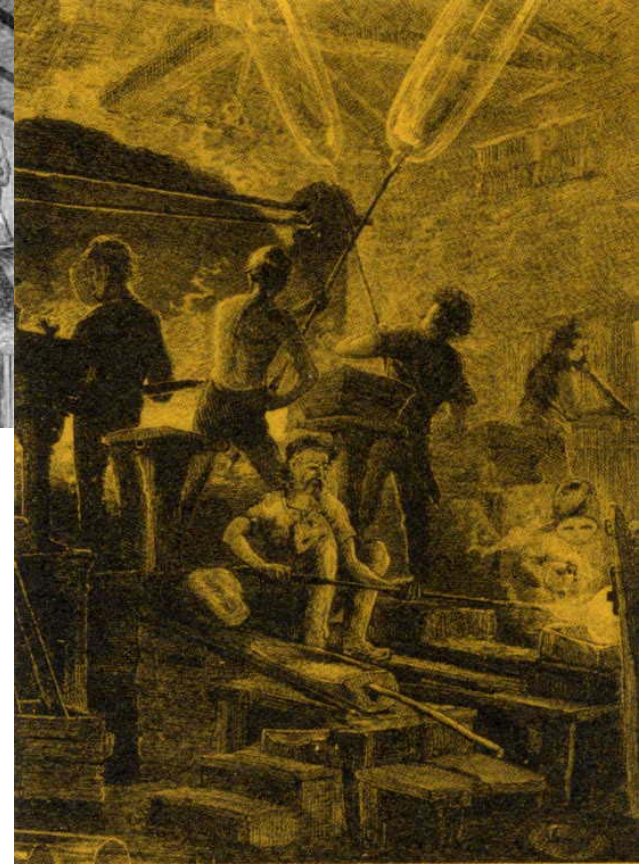
- ❑ 17<sup>th</sup> C. use of glass reaching more classes
- ❑ Bringing more light to the interior
- ❑ Open windows for ventilation

Jan Vermeer  
Street in Delft 1657/58

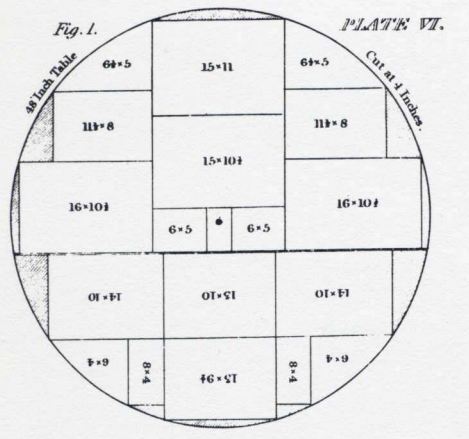




Cylinder method



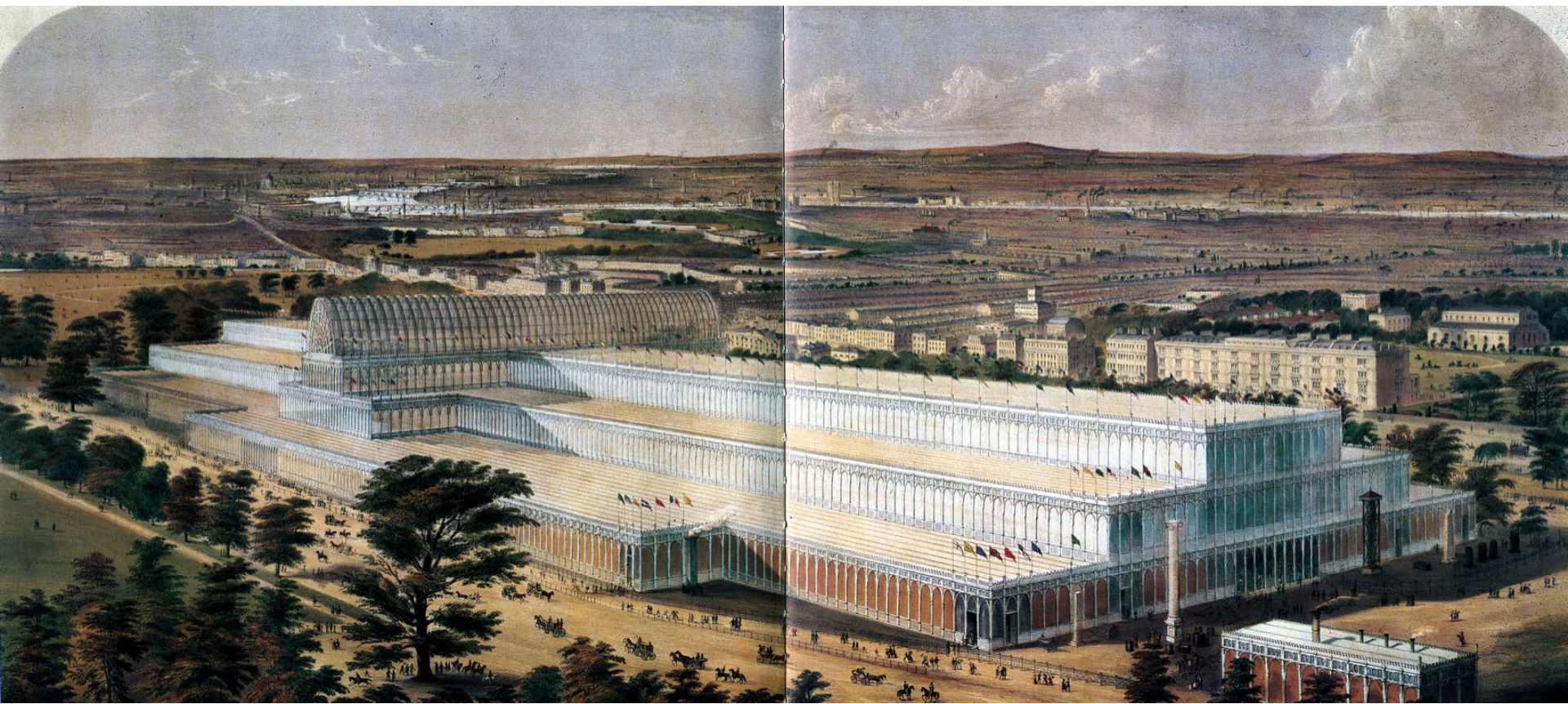
Crown method



# Crown & Cylinder Glass

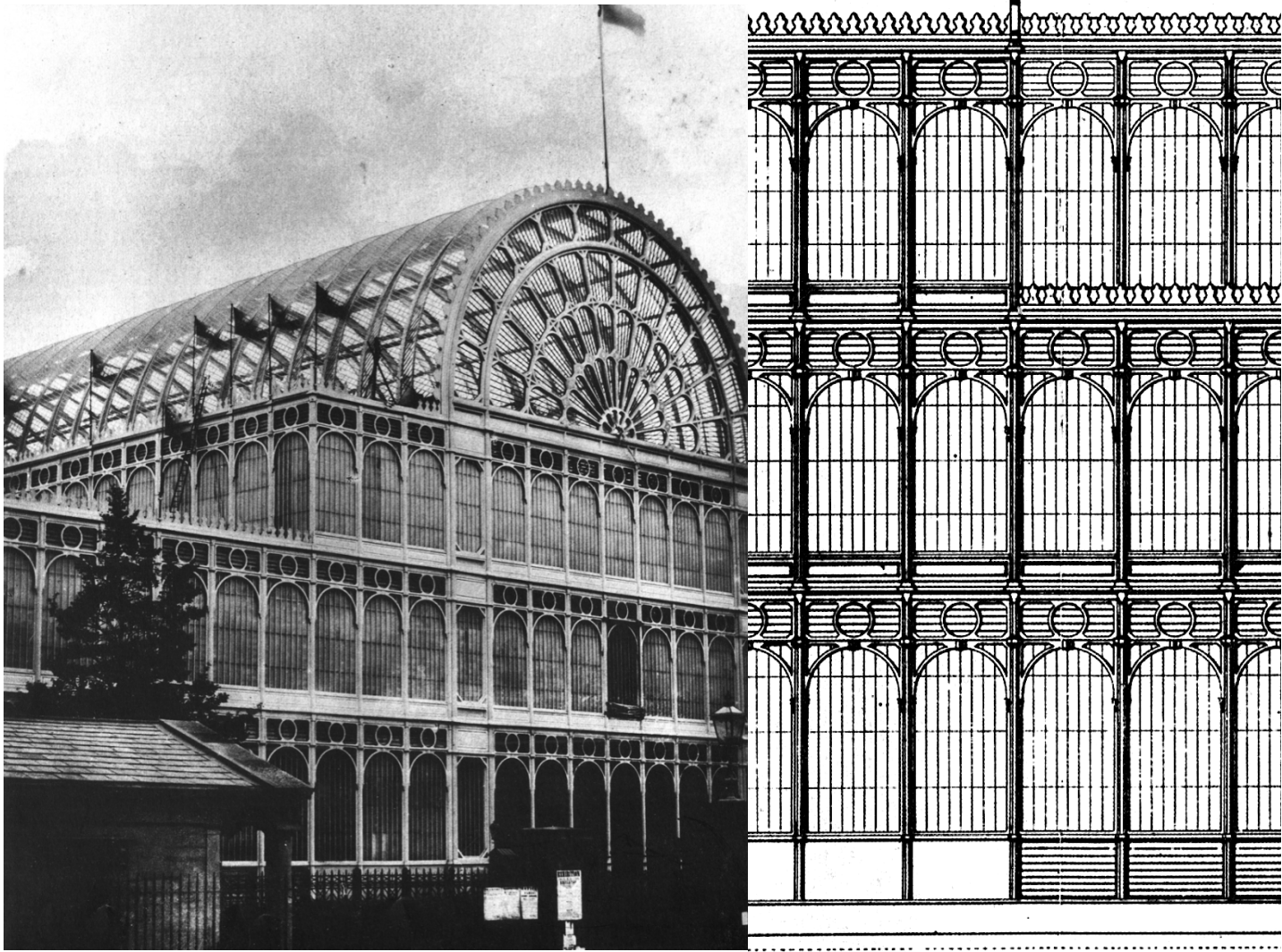
19<sup>th</sup> Century

Glass crown  
marked for cutting



Sir Joseph Paxton 1803 – 1865  
Crystal Palace, Hyde Park, London, 1851 – 1852

18 Acre footprint glass enclosed structure



Post & beam steel frame system with infill glass panels





Interior view demonstrating light filled space potential of glass



Bruno Taut  
Glass Pavilion for Werkbund Exhibition  
Cologne, 1914



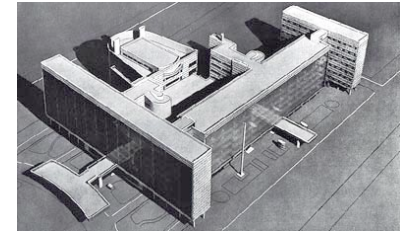
**History of Architectural Glass**  
**Anthony M. Catsimatides, AIA**



**Mies van der Rohe**  
**Glass Skyscraper Project**  
**Berlin, 1921**

# Early Modern Experiments

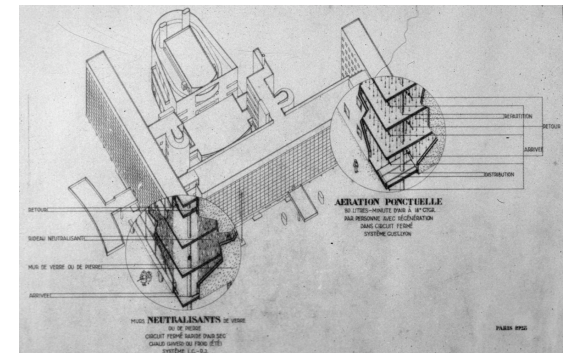
- Le Corbusier
  - Cite de Refuge, 1930
  - Centrosoyus, 1929 - 1930
- The glass façade was intended as a double walled enclosure with mechanical ventilation within the cavity
- Failure and inability to carry out experiment due to budgets and lack of knowledge base
- St. Gobain tests of system 1931 revealed third glass skin required



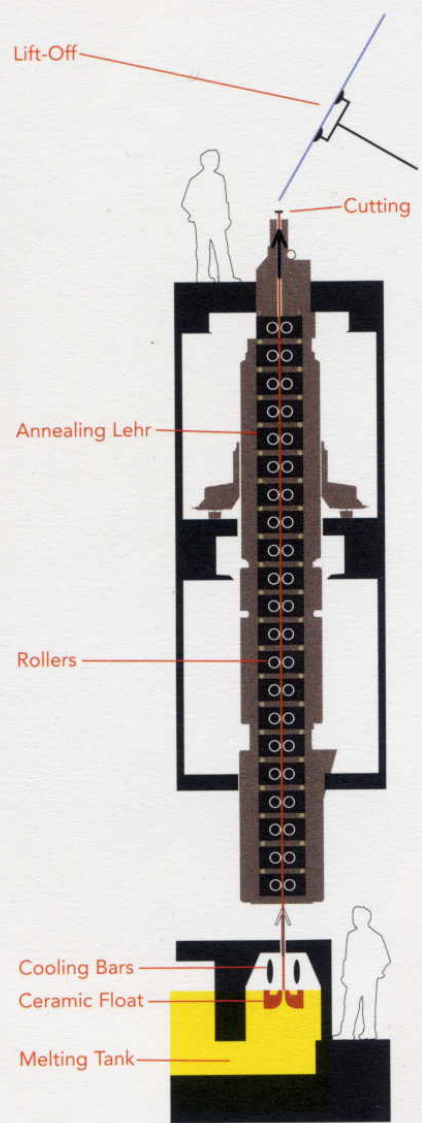
Cite de Refuge, originally constructed façade



Modified with brise soleil added



Centrosoyus 1929 - 1930



updraw window-making machine  
updraw machine 1901



Twin Grinding Machine 1937  
1,400 feet long



EMILE  
FOURCAULT  
1862-1919

# Sheet & Plate Glass

20<sup>th</sup> Century

### Nanjing Feitian Glass Industry Co., Ltd.

3<sup>rd</sup>

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- About Us
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home products **Painted Tempered Laminated Glass**

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Products

- Bending Laminated Glass [1]
- Laminated Glass [1]
- Insulating Glass [1]
- Bulletproof Glass [1]
- Serigraph Glass [1]
- Fireproof Glass [1]
- Tempered Glass [1]
- Arts Glass [1]
- Others [16]

Company Profile

Contact Us

Nanjing Feitian Glass Industry Co., Ltd.  
[ China ]

Address:  
199 Tangjiaba, Wengjiaying,  
Honghua Street, Qinhuai  
District, Nanjing City, Jiangsu  
Province, China, Nanjing,  
Jiangsu, China

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#### Painted Tempered Laminated Glass



Painted Tempered Laminated Glass

Place of Origin: Nanjing, China

Company info

Date Joined: 2005  
 Online Postings: Products (24), Selling Leads (30)  
 Country/Territory: China  
 Business Type: Manufacturer  
 No. of Total Employees: 101 - 500 People

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Detailed Product Description

The glass is safe and environment-protected. The max size is 6000X2000.



Painted Tempered Laminated Glass

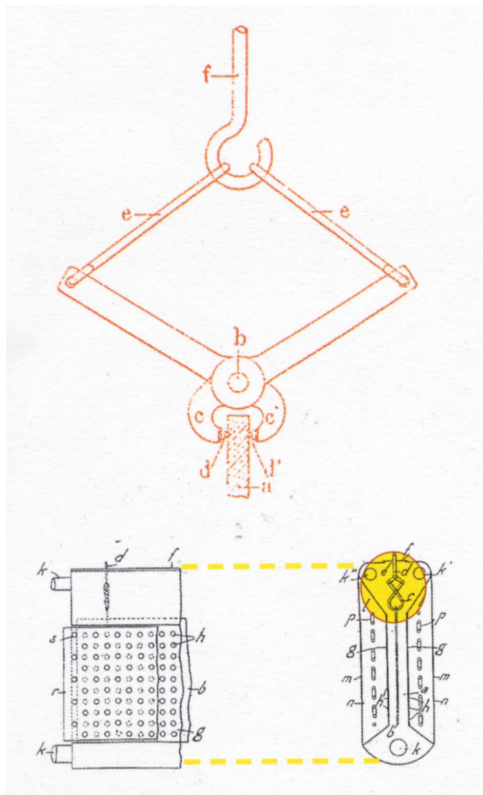
Other products

See All

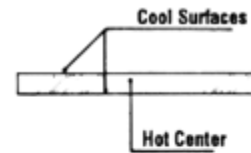
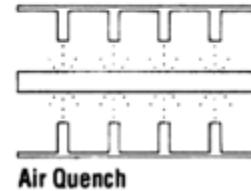
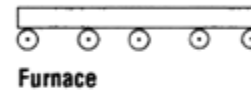


Art Deco Prints by Edouard Benedictus

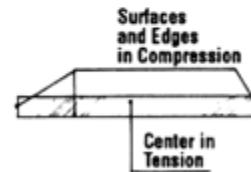
# Laminated Glass



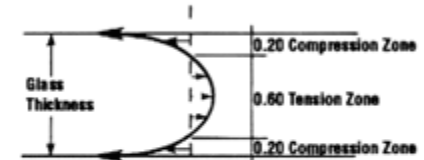
## Tempering Process



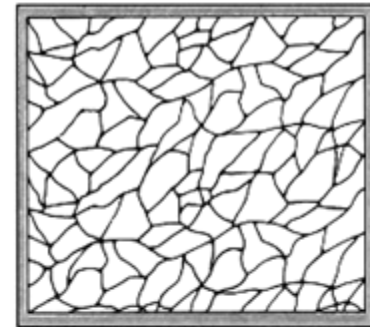
Rapid Cool



Final Condition



Final Stress Distribution. The sum of the forces in compression equals the force in tension.



Typical Breakage Pattern

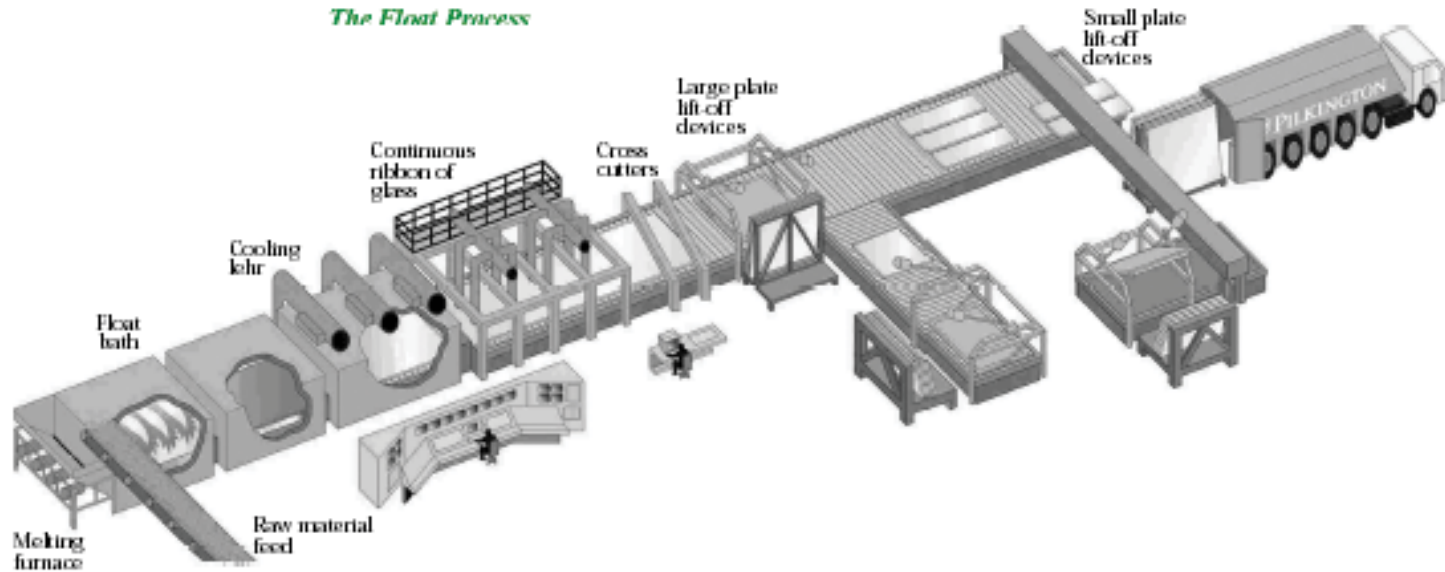
In 1929, Achille Verlay while working at St. Gobain, hung glass sheets in an oven with tungsten steel tipped tongs which glowed at the right temperature signaling the glass was ready for cooling. Jets of air were then blasted uniformly on both sides of the glass

# Tempered Glass

1929



Pilkington Family  
examining float glass



## Float Process

Molten glass, at approximately 1000°C, is poured continuously from a furnace onto a shallow bath of molten tin. It floats on the tin, spreads out and forms a level surface. Thickness is controlled by the speed at which the solidifying glass ribbon is drawn off from the bath. After annealing (controlled cooling) the glass emerges as a 'fire' polished product with virtually parallel surfaces.

# Float Glass

1959

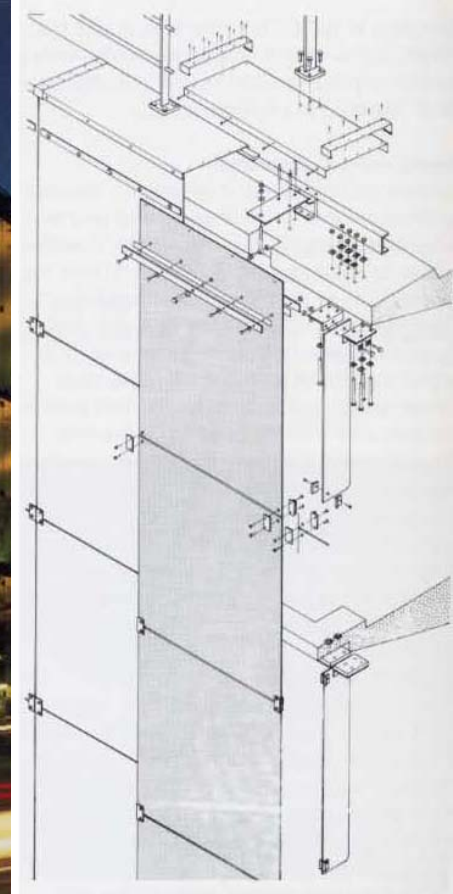




New York City  
Sixth Ave. looking north

# Glass Box

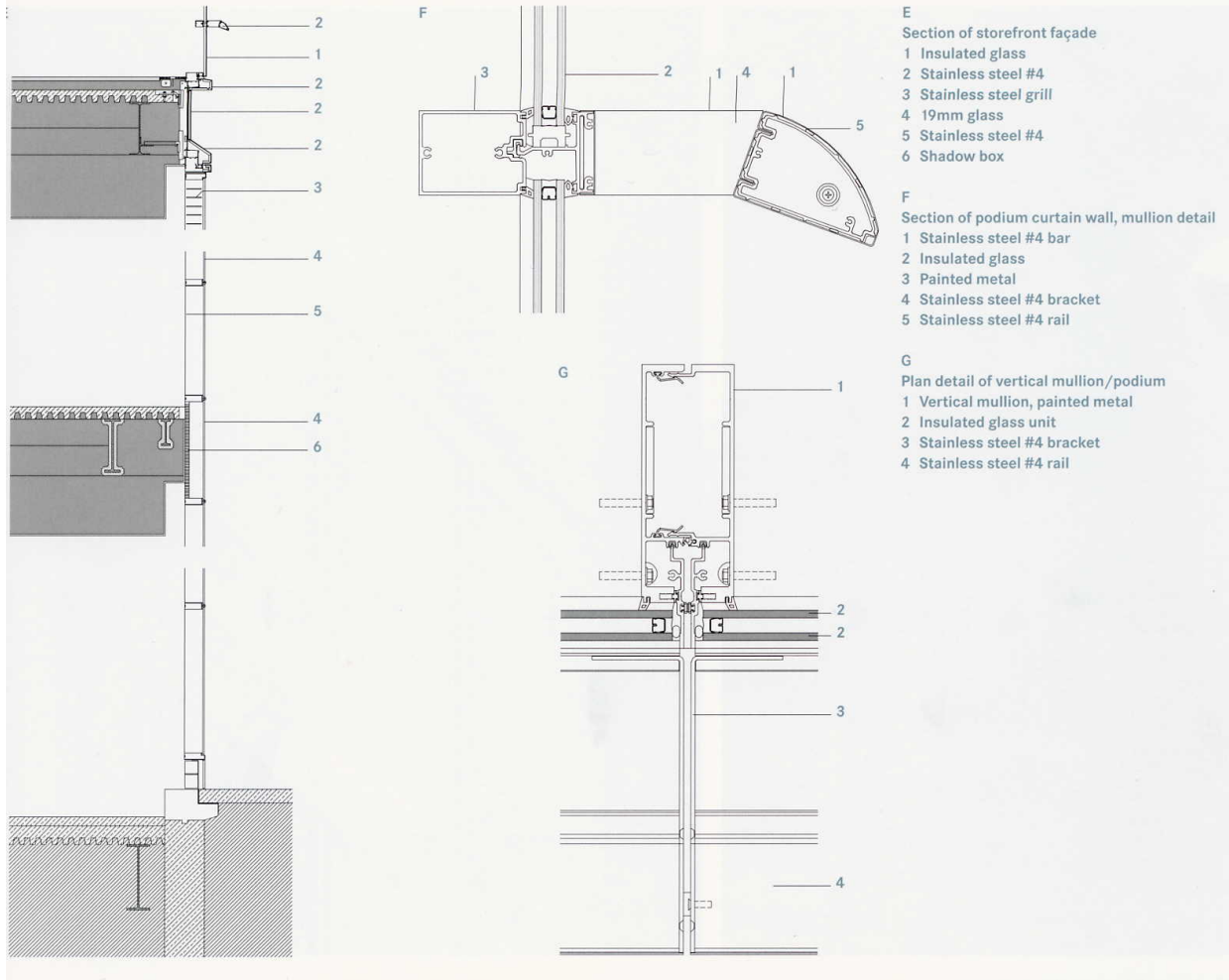
1950's



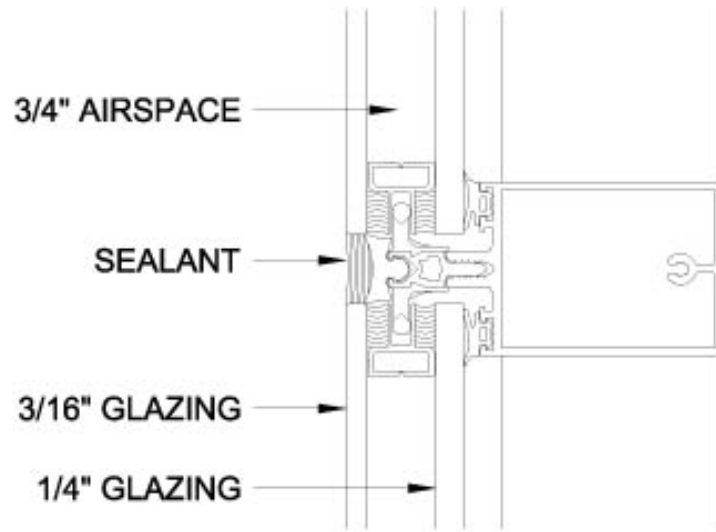
Norman Foster  
Office for Willis Faber & Dumas  
Ipswich, England, 1971 - 1975

Detail showing  
structural  
connection for  
hanging glass

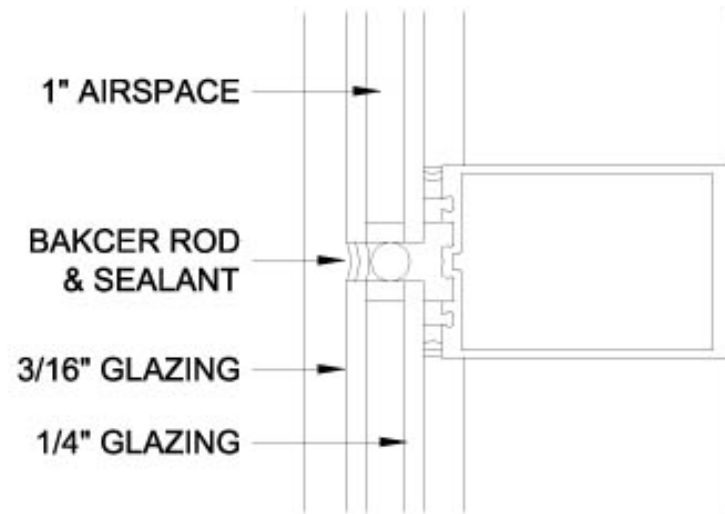
# Curtain Wall Details



# Curtain Wall Details



SHUCO FW 50 SYSTEM

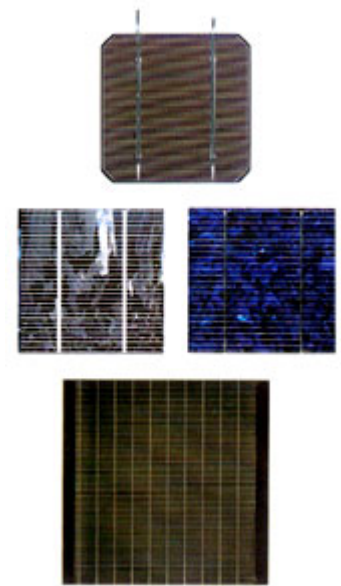


KAWNEER 1600 WALL SYSTEM

Details section of two companies providing standard window wall systems



Schott Photovoltaic Glass



Photovoltaic glass is integrated with solar cells to convert solar energy into electricity. Power can be produced within the roof and façade areas.

**Production:**

Solar cells are embedded between two glass panes. Resin seals the edges securely wrapping the solar cells on all sides. Each cell has two electrical connections linked to other cells in the module to form a system which generates a direct electrical current.



# Photovoltaic Glass

# Glass Strength

- Tempered glass & Annealed glass
  - heat strengthened
  - residual surface compression
    - > 3,500 psi & < 10,000 psi (ASTM C 1048)
- Chemically strengthened glass (ion exchange)
  - Samuel Kistler, University of Utah 1962
  - submersed in molten salt bath (at temperature below annealing)
    - potassium ions replace smaller sodium ions
    - not consistent across surface of glass

# Glass Composition

- Hybrid between Solid and Liquid state of matter
  - Any material can be transformed into glass
  - Most commonly (sand, lime and soda)
    - Material is melted then rapidly cooled
    - Silica (silicon dioxide) with soda added as a flux
- Natural Formation of Glass
  - Volcanic activity from lava (Obsidian)
  - Sand melted by lightning (Fulgurites)

# Glass Performance

**Table 5.3 Optical and thermal performance of glazing units using low-emittance coatings**

Glass type	Gas fill	Visible light transmittance	Infrared transmittance	U-value (W/m <sup>2</sup> .°C)
Single	–	0.90	0.86	6.4
Double-glazed unit (DGU)	air	0.81	0.76	2.9
DGU, low-e	air	0.74–0.78	0.62–0.71	1.8–2.2
DGU, low-e, porolytic heat mirror	argon	0.75	0.72	1.9
DGU, low-e, sputtered noble metal heat mirror	argon	0.75	0.58	1.1
DGU, low-e, sputtered noble metal heat mirror	xenon	0.76	0.58	0.9
DGU, low-e, sputtered solar control	argon	0.66	0.34	1.2
Triple-glazed unit, 2 low-e	argon	0.62–0.67	0.49–0.58	0.8–1.1
Triple-glazed unit, 2 low-e	krypton	0.63	0.55	0.7

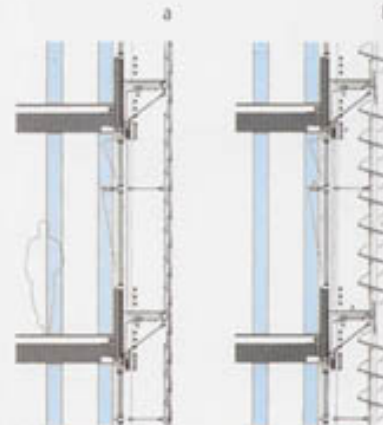
Source: Hutchins 1997

Note: \* Low emissivity coating





For the 21-storey high-rise a double-skin façade was developed with an outer skin of frameless, pivoting glass louvers.  
 In winter it acts a thermal buffer (a), in summer as a single-skin façade with exterior solar protection (b).  
 debis headquarters, Berlin, 1991 – 97,  
 Renzo Piano Building Workshop in cooperation with Christoph Kohbecker.

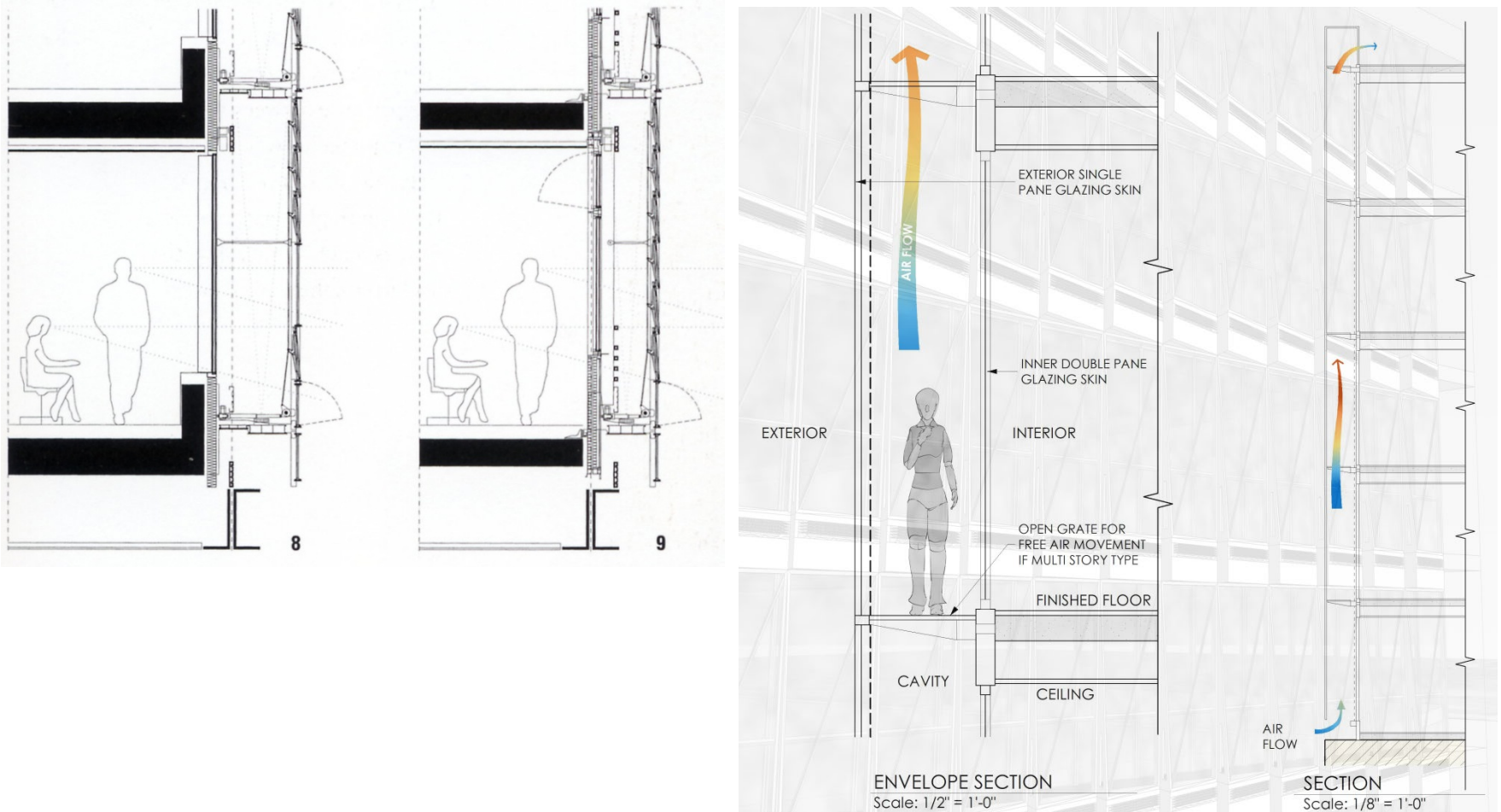


Administration building in Wiesgaden, Herzog and Partners Light shelves in the shape of scoops re-direct the direct sunlight.

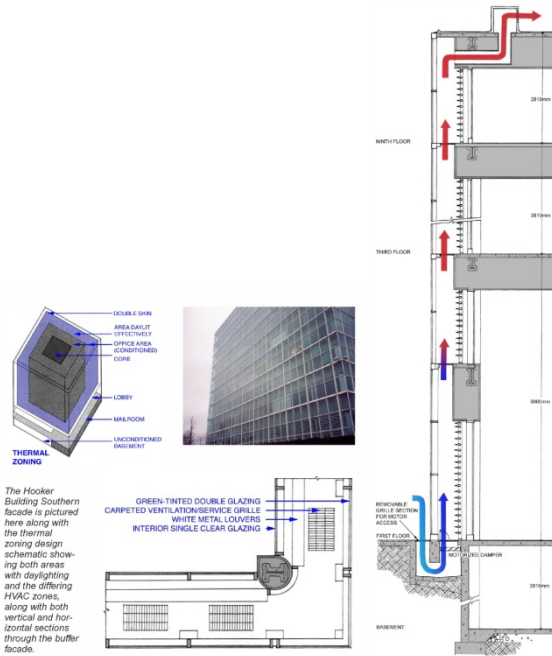
Glass walls integrated with shading system

Debis Headquarter, Berlin 1991 – 1997  
 Renzo Piano  
 Double Skin Glass Façade with frameless pivoting glass louvers

# Double Skin Glass Facades



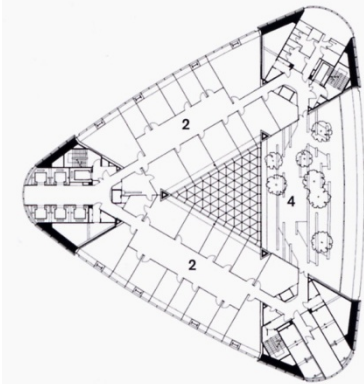
# More Recent Examples



Hooker Chemical Company  
Niagara NY, 1980  
Cannon Design



Commerzbank  
Frankfurt am Main, 1997  
Foster Associates



Level 31