

## DUNCAN & MILLER GLASS MUSEUM

**LOCATION:** 100 Ridge Avenue, Washington, PA 15301

**HOURS:** Thursday - Sunday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

\*For updated information concerning hours of operation or changes to their calendar of events or programs, please check the website and/or call before you visit.

**WEBSITE:** [www.duncan-miller.org](http://www.duncan-miller.org)

**CONTACT:** 724-225-9950 or [docent@duncan-miller.org](mailto:docent@duncan-miller.org)

**ADMISSION:** Complimentary-up to two (2) adults and six (6) children under the age of eighteen per visit and per one lending time period (which will be approximately one week and per each library's procedures).

**DESCRIPTION:** Before the Pittsburgh area became known for its steel, it was once known as the glass manufacturing center of our country. Glass manufacturing in Western PA began in 1797. By the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the majority of all glass that was manufactured in the U.S. was produced in our region, due to our location, availability of raw materials, and access to transportation. As the first "Gateway to the West," Pittsburgh provided the country's westward expansion with necessary glass items.

George Duncan had a background in glassworks and eventually became the owner of D. C. Ripley & Co. Glass Works in the Southside area of Pittsburgh, later changing the company name to George Duncan & Sons. He was joined by John Miller, and the company was later relocated to Washington, PA for easier access to transportation and raw materials. In 1893 the new Washington plant opened and remained in operation until 1955. For the first thirty years that the plant was open, only clear glass was produced, but later colored glass and patterned glass were introduced. Although other companies in the tri-state area also produced glass, the Duncan & Miller Glass Company became famous for its workers' skill, the artistry of designs, and the glass colors. The work came to an abrupt end in 1955; because of mechanization and foreign imports, the production of fine handmade glass became too expensive.

The National Duncan Glass Society was formed in 1975 to keep alive the history of glass companies, to study their impact on the economic development of the region, and to celebrate the men and women who made it possible.

The museum is dedicated to sharing the legacy of the Duncan & Miller Glass Co. of Washington, Pennsylvania, and the region's industrial heritage. Visit to experience the handmade glass industry's art, science & craftsmanship from 1865 to the present.

An affiliate of the Heinz History Center, the Duncan Miller Glass Museum recognizes the importance of the glass industry to Western Pennsylvania, commemorates two of the finest glass companies in our country, and celebrates the rich history and beautiful collection of genuine Duncan & Miller glass.