

# Geologic Selections from the Museum of the Anthropocene

## 1. Brick in cement matrix

## 2. Iron slag

This iron slag comes from a deposit near Hammond, Indiana. It is formed when raw iron ore mined from around the globe is heated to 2500° Fahrenheit, separating the material used to create steel and leaving the slag byproduct.

## 3. Weathered brick

This rectangular block shaped sedimentary rock is made up of naturally occurring mud, usually containing silica, alumina, lime, iron oxide and magnesia that is either allowed to air dry or is fired in a kiln at 1000° Celsius. Brick is susceptible to weathering over time, which can result in beautiful fading, fracturing and erosion.

## 4. Iron alloy in concrete matrix

## 5. Concrete and chromatic silicate glass

Concrete is a type of breccia made up of naturally occurring crushed stones of various sizes, or aggregate, encased in a calciferous limestone matrix known as cement. This fine grained matrix is most often composed of ground limestone, itself being made up of calcite formed through the breakdown of plant and animal life beneath sea waters.

## 6. Polymer

Plastics are smooth, malleable compounds that can occur in a number of colors or levels of transparency. Polymers are created from propylene, ethylene and ethane, all of which are derived from both plant and oil or natural gas based materials.

## 7. Chromatic silicate glass

## 8. Concrete in steel matrix

## 9. Chromatic silicate glass

A non-crystalline vitreous substance, consisting of soda, lime, and silica that cooled rapidly during its formation.

## 10. Chromatic concrete

## 11. Industrial slag

## 12. Holocene rocks in cement matrix

## 13. Lead wool

This soft, fabric-like material is made up of a non-uniform mass of lead metal threads. Lead is a naturally occurring element, and while it can be found in the earth in this pure state it is more often mined and refined from ore along with copper, zinc or silver.

## 14. Chromatic silicate glass

This specimen was formed by intense heat exposure. Glass exists in many colors determined by the various chemicals included in its makeup. In addition to the most common silicate variety, one finds sodium borosilicate glass, lead-oxide glass, alumosilicate glass, and oxide glass.

## 15. Chromatic iron alloy

## 16. Tar obsidian

Tar is a sticky black or dark brown substance that takes a liquid form when heated. It is made up of coal tar and petroleum byproducts, which are, in their original state, naturally occurring materials made up of decomposed organic matter. This tar formation occurred after a mass of tar cooled to air temperature and fractured similarly to obsidian.

## 17. Iron alloy

Many metals are found within the Anthropocene's geologic record. Most common are iron alloys. The metals seen here have been mined and refined or combined with other metals and then molded to reach their current state.

## 18. Thornton Quarry limestone core

These cylindrical limestone rocks are made of a naturally occurring Silurian limestone formation created over 400 million years ago. This particular shape is man-made through a process in which core samples are taken in order to test the limestone deposit to ascertain its industrial value.

## 19. Iron alloy

Terra Incognita Art Series

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Collected materials, brass, wood, fabric