United States Patent

Enright

[15] **3,683,827**

[45] **Aug. 15, 1972**

[54] **LOC-BLOX**

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[22] Filed: **Dec. 3, 1970**

[21] Appl. No.: **94,771**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **109/50**

[51] **Int. Cl.** **E05g 1/04**

[58] **Field of Search** 109/50, 51, 52; 220/3.6, 3.5, 220/18

[56] **References Cited**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

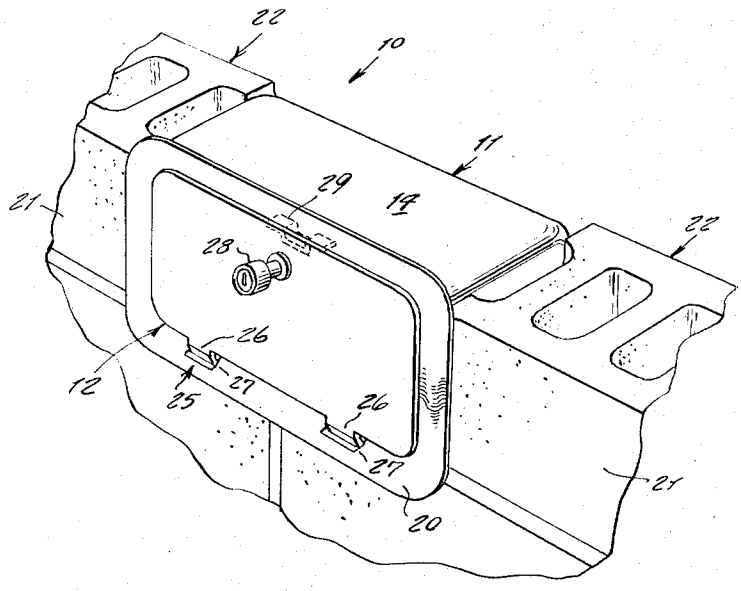
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Primary Examiner—Reinaldo P. Machado

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A vault that is built into the foundation of a house, the vault comprising a steel box which is of a size corresponding to the dimensions of a concrete block such as is used in a house foundation wall, and which accordingly replaces one of the concrete blocks by being fitted into the foundation wall, the steel box having a fire-resistant and heat-resistant coating on an inner side and being provided with an outwardly pivotable door which is insulated and provided with a simple latch with provisions for a padlock or which may include a security lock.

1 Claim, 2 Drawing Figures



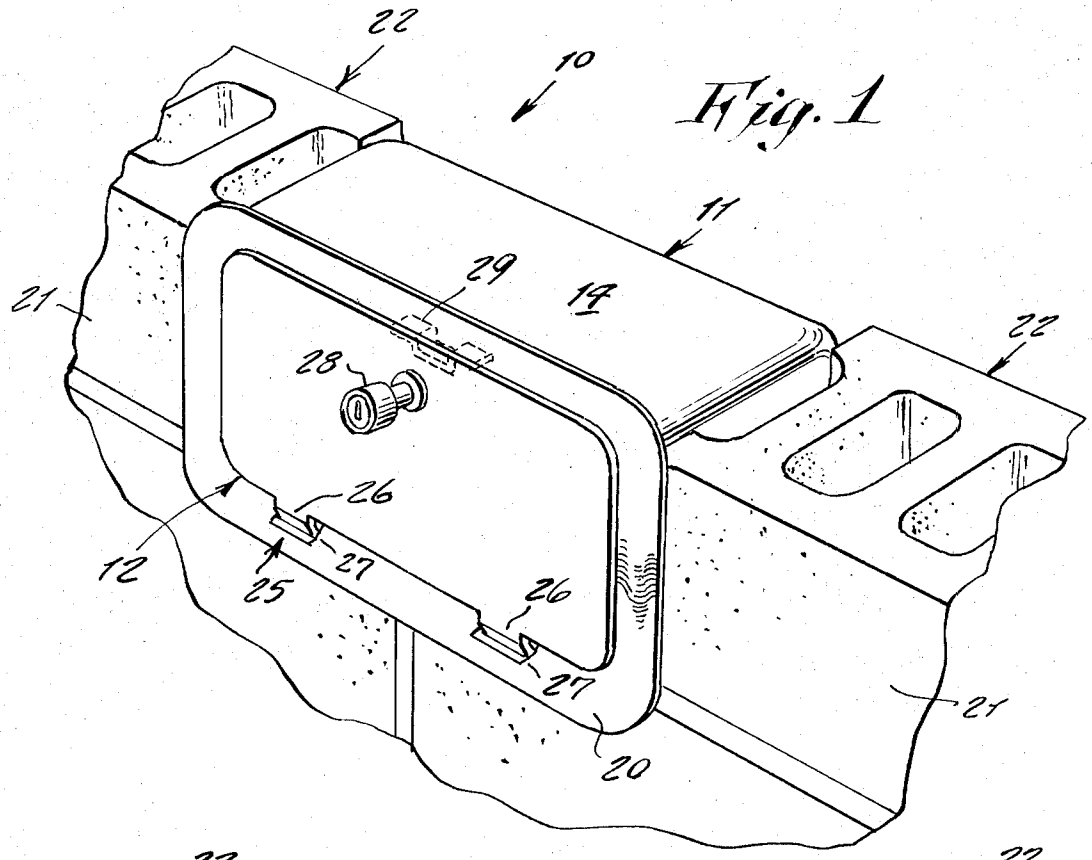


Fig. 1

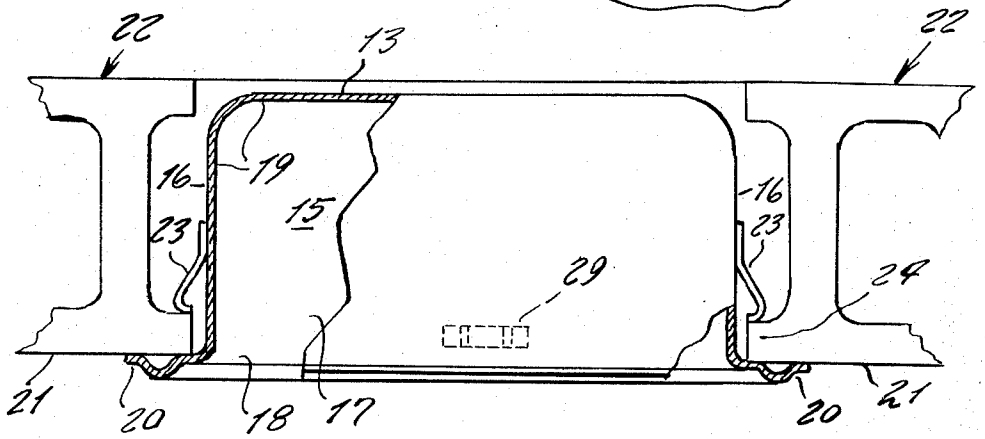


Fig. 2

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LOC-BLOX

This invention relates generally to vaults.

A principal object of the present invention is to provide a vault which can be readily built into the foundation of a home or apartment building during the construction thereof.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a vault which comprises a fireproof box made of steel and which is of a size that corresponds with the dimensions of a concrete block such as is used in the construction of a foundation wall and which accordingly the steel box replaces one thereof during the construction.

Yet a further object of the present invention is to provide a vault which accordingly can be used for maintaining documents and other objects in a safe place against fire in view that the foundation usually survives a fire even though a remainder of a house may be burned down.

Other objects of the present invention are to provide a fireproof vault which is simple in design, inexpensive to manufacture, rugged in construction, easy to use and efficient in operation.

These and other objects will be readily evident upon a study of the following specification and the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of the present invention shown mounted within a foundation wall, and

FIG. **2** is a top plan view shown partly in cross section and showing the box without the enclosing door.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the reference numeral **10** represents a loc-blox vault according to the present invention wherein there is a steel box **11** which is provided with a closure door **12**.

The box **11** is made from a light gauge steel and which includes a back wall **13**, a top wall **14**, a bottom wall **15** and opposite side walls **16** so to form an enclosure **17** there within having an access opening **18** on a front side thereof which is normally closed by the door **12**.

The interior side **19** of the enclosure **17** is provided with a heat resistant coating.

The oppening **18** to the enclosure **17** is provided with an outwardly extending flange **20** which rests against a front side **21** of adjacent concrete blocks **22**. It is to be noted that the size of the steel box is such that the dimensions are the same as the concrete block so that the box is used in substitution of one of the concrete blocks during the construction of the foundation wall.

Upon the outer sides of the side walls **16** of the box there are welded a pair of clips **23** as shown in FIG. **2**, and which are for the purpose of snapping behind the projecting end **24** of the adjacent concrete block **22** and which accordingly thus prevents the steel box from falling outwardly forward from the wall.

Additionally such clips provide a quick and easy manner of snappingly fit the steel box into the wall in situations where a foundation wall already exists and the vault is intended to be installed by removing one of the concrete blocks.

The door **12** is provided with an insulation on its inner side and is pivotable about hinges **25** which are formed by projecting tabs **26** on the door which are receivable within slots **27** in the flange **20** on the front side of the box **11**.

A lock **28** of any type may be installed upon the door for securement against a bracket **29** welded on the interior of the box as shown.

Thus there is provided a relatively inexpensive and convenient fireproof vault for a home or an apartment building.

What I now claim is:

1. In a fireproof vault, the combination of a fire-resistant box having a pivotable door attached thereto, said box having self-contained means for being fitted into a foundation wall of a house wherein said foundation wall is made of concrete blocks, said box being made of light gauge steel and which includes a back wall, a top wall, a bottom wall, and opposite end walls, said walls forming an enclosure having an access opening on a front side thereof, said access opening having an outwardly extending flange therearound for being positioned against a front side of adjacent concrete blocks in said foundation wall, said door being made of steel and provided with an insulation material on the inner side thereof, said door being secured to said flange of said box by means of hinges, and said door being provided with a lock, the interior side of said box enclosure being provided with a heat-resistant coating, a pair of clips being rigidly affixed to an outer side of said side walls, said clips being adaptable for springingly engaging behind a projection normally at the side ends of said concrete blocks, and said enclosure being positioned in spaced away relationship on all sides from said foundation wall.

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