

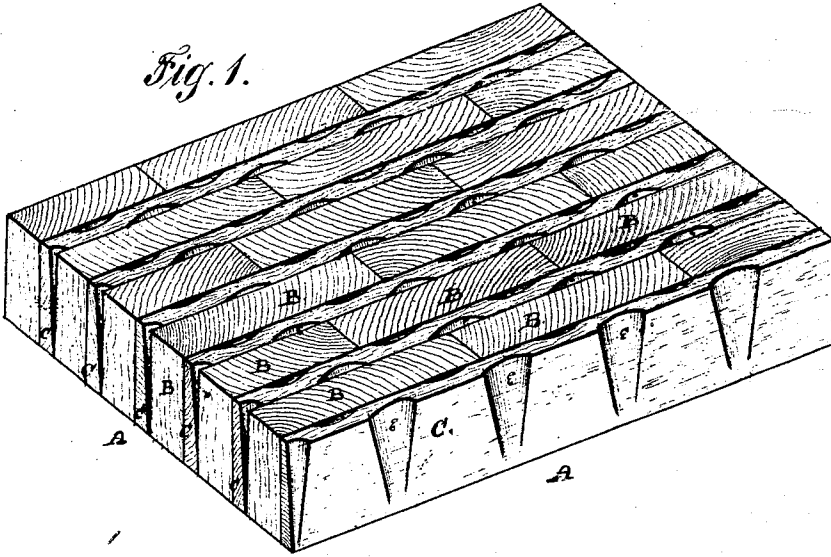
*E. M. Fowler,*

*Wood Pavement.*

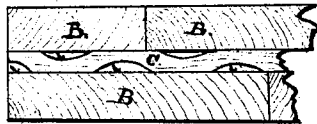
*No. 100,134.*

*Patented Feb. 22, 1870.*

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*Jed. A. A. A.  
William Kaiser*

*Inventor:*

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Attorneys*

# United States Patent Office.

EDGAR M. FOWLER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HENRY G. MCGONEGAL, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 100,134, dated February 22, 1870.

## IMPROVEMENT IN STREET PAVEMENT.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, EDGAR M. FOWLER, of New York, in the county of New York, and State of New York, have as I believe, invented new and useful Improvements in Street Pavements; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the drawings that accompany and form a part of these specifications.

Figure 1, view in perspective of a section of my pavement laid.

Figure 2, a plan of the upper face of the blocks and of the dividing strip.

Letter A represents the foundation upon which my structure rests, and this may be of wood, a flooring, whose plank lay longitudinally to the street, or of any other suitable material or form, even the roadway of earth itself properly prepared.

Letter B, blocks of wood, with plane sides, meeting each other at right angles, so placed that the line of the grain of the wood shall be vertical, measuring in depth six inches or so, in thickness about three inches, and in the other direction as economy requires.

Letter C, wooden strips, say common boards, in width slightly less than the height of the blocks B, and in thickness one inch or more, even to two inches.

These strips have uniformly distributed along their two opposite faces numerous cone-shaped concave grooves in arrangement and form as fully illustrated in the drawings, being broad at the top and in depth about half the thickness of the strip. (See fig. 2.)

Letter E, the grooves in the face sides of the dividing strips C.

These grooves, it will be observed, are not placed opposite to each other in the two opposing sides, but so that there should be a plane ungrooved surface upon the opposite side to each groove. (See the drawings.)

The object of my invention is not only to provide a cheap and durable pavement, but also to secure a better traveling surface, especially as affording a desirable and firm footing for horses, that they may not slip, and also to provide for the expansion and contraction of the blocks.

My invention consists in making use of dividing strips between alternate rows of the perpendicular blocks, which, standing on edge, rise nearly or quite as high as the said blocks, and are provided with nu-

merous concave cone-shaped grooves, as hereinbefore specified.

When blocks of wood like these presented herewith are placed to form a pavement, the blocks laying one close to another on all its perpendicular sides two very serious defects present themselves, viz: the rising up in places more or less occasioned by the expansion of the said blocks from moisture absorbed, and secondly the too great uniformity or smoothness of the traveled surface.

Did I simply use a board without cutting away any part thereof, between the alternate rows of blocks, I would remove this above latter-mentioned imperfection, for the upper edge of said board used as dividing strip would wear away faster than the contiguous blocks, and thus ever offer a good surface for the horses shoes, in which they could not easily slip, while the other objection would remain.

To remove this other defect, the want of room for the expansion of the blocks B, I cut away large portions of each side of the said dividing strip and fill the spaces thus made with suitable cement, concrete, or gravel, and the slightly-yielding nature of the structure between alternate rows of the vertical blocks proves sufficient for the expansion of the latter, and my pavement remains as fixed and firm as could be desired.

These grooves E may be narrow and more numerous, or each wider and the number less, as economy in production and experience in use may suggest. In depth they should be about half the thickness of the board or plank on which they are formed.

I do not claim the vertical grooves in themselves, but only as applied to the dividing strip C.

What I claim as of my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The dividing or intervening strips C when grooved substantially as specified, and used in connection with the blocks B, for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDGAR M. FOWLER.

Witnesses:

JOHN M. CAFFRY,  
THEO. P. ANDERSON.