July 4, 1933. M. A. GRIECO 1,916,308

BUILDING BLOCK

Filed Nov. 16, 1929

Fig. 1

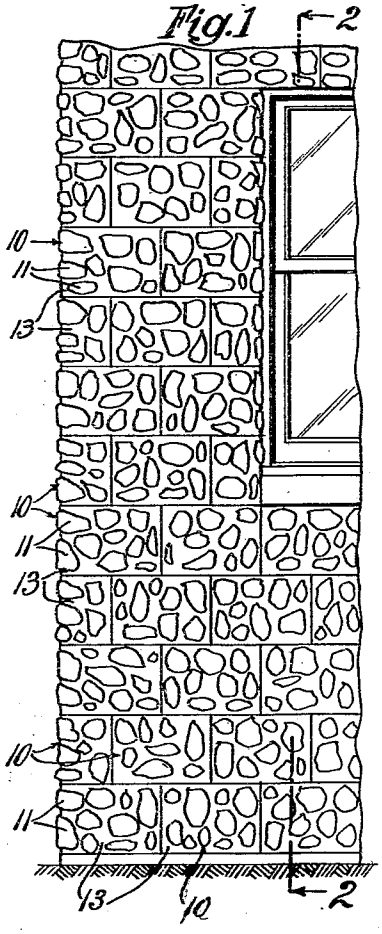


Fig. 2

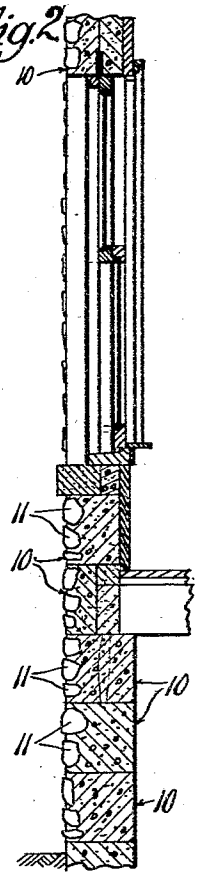


Fig. 3

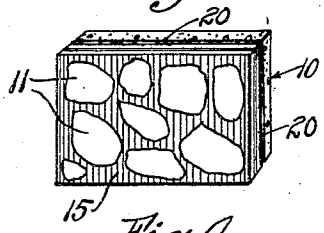


Fig. 4

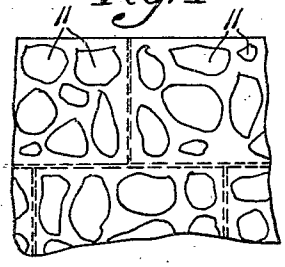


Fig. 5

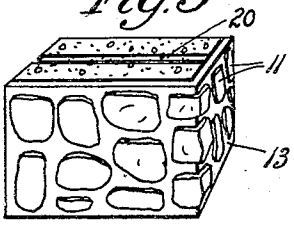
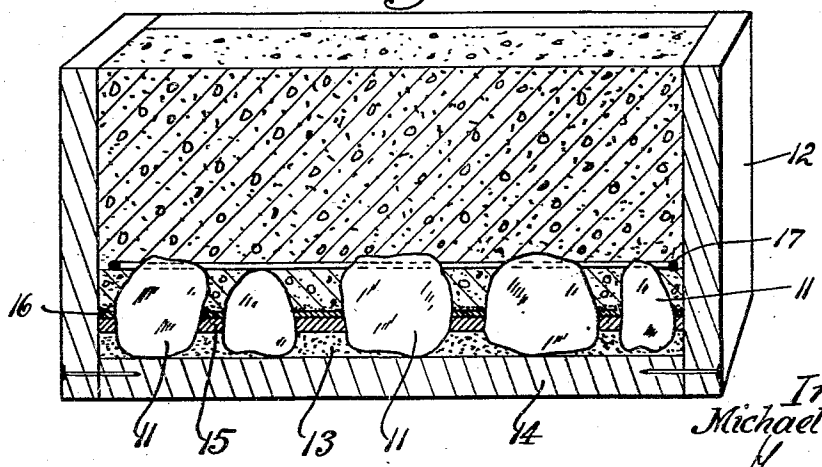


Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BUILDING BLOCK

Application filed November 16, 1929. Serial No. 407,585.

The invention relates to building blocks and to a novel method of producing the same, its principal object consists in providing a building block which is principally composed of a plurality of natural stones.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a building block which is distinguished by its ornamental appearance and its superior utility as compared with the present type of building blocks.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a building block which has great tensile strength and nevertheless can be produced in a more inexpensive way than the present type of blocks.

A still further object aims in providing building blocks which can be arranged to form a wall with the joints being rendered invisible.

A still further object aims at providing building blocks, faces of which are formed by a plurality of natural stones defining with their outermost portions a common vertical plane which the remainder of the faces are also in a common vertical plane but slightly inward of the first mentioned plane and being colored to present an ornamental and attractive appearance forming a background for the natural stones.

Other and equally important objects will become apparent from a perusal of the invention which comprises the means and the method for producing such means described in the following specification, particularly pointed out in the claim forming a part thereof and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which,

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a wall composed of building blocks made in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a finished building block.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view of a finished wall with the joints of the blocks removed from view.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a corner building block, and

Fig. 6 is a section in perspective of the form in which a building block has been cast.

Referring to the several views of the drawing, 10 generally designates the building block which has incorporated a plurality of natural stones 11 and as indicated, these natural stones slightly protrude from the face of the block with the outermost points in a common vertical plane.

Preferably, although not exclusively, granite stones are used which have a colored appearance due to their composition of feldspar, hornblende and quartz. As the mineral composition of granite stones varies, the color varies so that a variety of colors may be presented when stones are assembled in a building block.

In order to produce a building block, a form such as a box 12 (Fig. 6) open at the top but closed on all other sides is utilized and a layer of molding sand 13 of one inch thickness is provided on the bottom 14 of the form. Thereupon, a plurality of stones 11 are placed in the sand so that the stones rest on the bottom 14 and are thus held with the lowermost portion in a common plane. On the molding sand, a layer of colored waterproofing composition 15 is provided which is applied in a thickness of approximately one and one-half inches between contiguous points of adjacent stones.

The color of the joints thus provided for the stones may be varied to meet special requirements of taste or harmonious appearance. Thus the joints may be provided with brown, red, grey, black or white color or in combination thereof, either to harmonize or contrast with the color of the natural stones, so that when the building blocks are assembled to form a wall an artistic impression will be created.

A light coat 16 of weather-proofing material is next applied over the colored joints to make it weather or moisture proof and then a layer of about two and one-half inch thickness of concrete is poured into the form.

To impart strength to the building block, a reinforcing frame 17 which may be a plurality of bars or a frame is placed on the concrete layer and subsequently additional concrete is poured to fill up the entire form.

After the concrete has set and become hard, the building block is removed from the form and is ready for use. The blocks are provided with grooves 20 at the top, bottom and sides and when assembled, the grooves form interspaces which are filled with cement mortar.

In constructing walls, the blocks 10 are assembled so that the joints are staggered and after assembling, the joints are then eliminated from view by applying colored waterproofing composition thereto as indicated in Figure 4 and when completed, the wall looks like a uniform structure showing no joints whatever.

The building block made in accordance with my invention is impervious to water or air and is heat and sound proof and can be made in a very short time at considerably less expense than the building blocks or bricks now utilized. In assembling the building blocks, ties are applied as is well known by those versed in the art.

While the drawing shows a preferred embodiment of the invention, numerous changes and alterations can be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I, therefore, do not limit myself to the details of construction as shown, but wish to include all changes, alterations and modifications which fall within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

I claim:

A building block, comprising a relatively thick body portion having a plurality of small natural stones partly embedded in spaced relation in said body portion and protruding therefrom a substantial distance, a light coat of weather proofing material upon said body portion between the protruding portions of said stone, a layer of colored water proofing composition superposed upon said weatherproofing material, and a reinforcing frame within said body portion at substantially the plane defined by the inner ends of said natural tone.

In witness whereof I affix my signature.

MICHAEL A. GRIECO.