J. R. WITZEL.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.

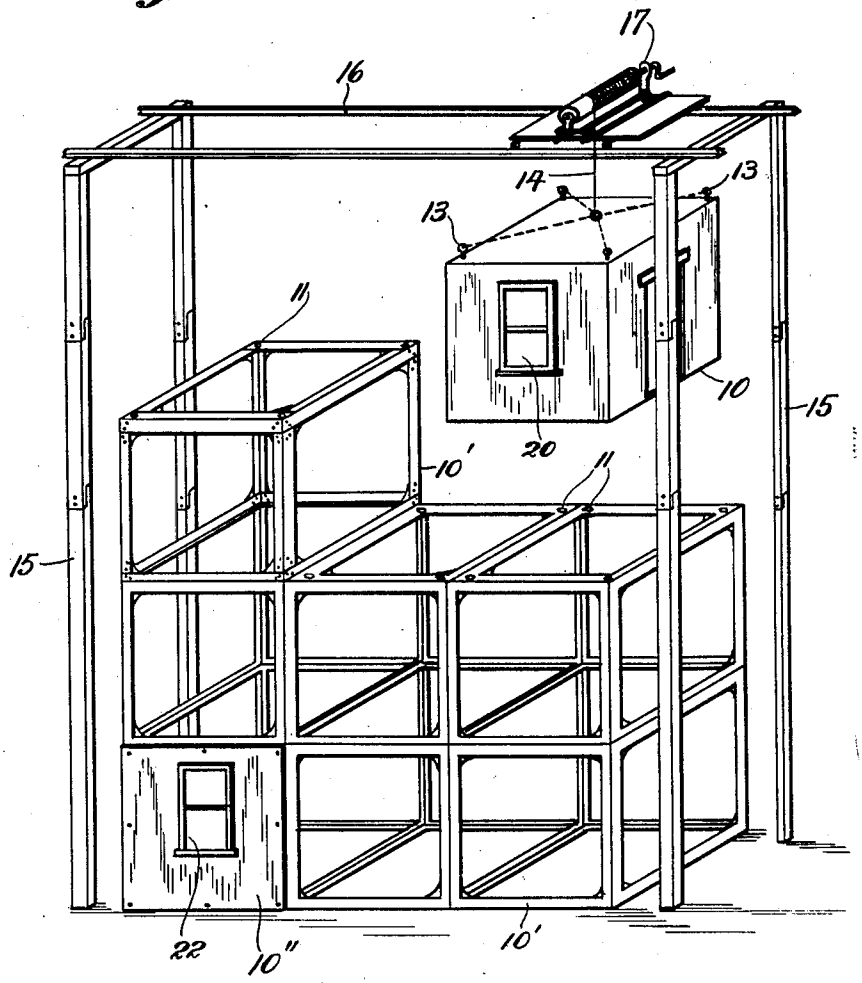
APPLICATION FILED MAY 6, 1919.

1,362,069.

Patented Dec. 14, 1920.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



INVENTOR

Joseph R. Witzel.

BY

William J. Jackson.

ATTORNEY

J. R. WITZEL.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 6, 1919.

1,362,069. **Patented Dec. 14, 1920.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

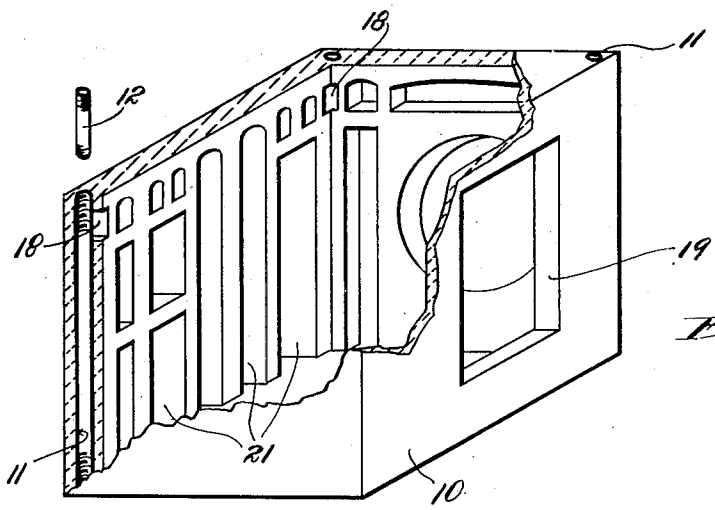


Fig. 2

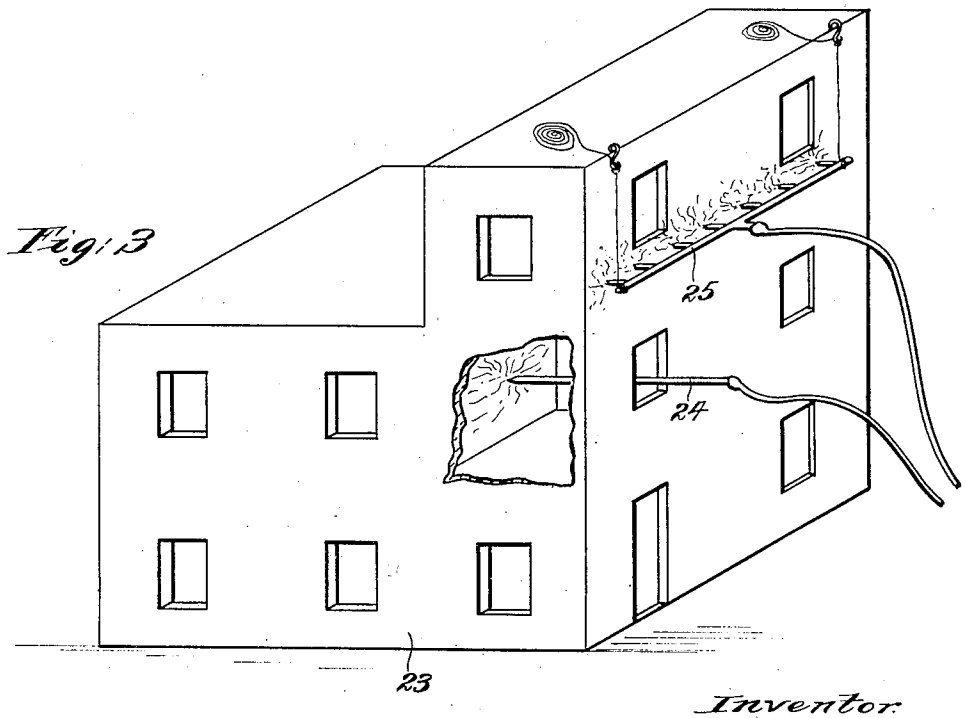


Fig. 3

Inventor.
Joseph R. Witzel.
By William J. Jackson
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH R. WITZEL, OF TACONY, PENNSYLVANIA.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.

1,362,069. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 14, 1920.

Application filed May 6, 1919. Serial No. 295,120½.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH R. WITZEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Tacony, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Improved Building Construction, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for an object an improved building construction in which cube-like, hollow units comprising a complete room or set of rooms and composed of suitable material as cement, burnt clay, metal, wood or other material are mounted one upon the other or in other abutting relations and secured together to form houses, factories and other buildings.

A further object resides in the novel method of erecting such units. A further object resides in providing a building construction of burnt clay and the manner of hardening same. Other and further objects of the present invention will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists of the improvements hereinafter described and finally claimed.

The nature, characteristic features and scope of the invention will be more fully understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, and in which:

Figure 1, is a perspective view illustrating the manner of erecting a building in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2, is a similar view of one of the units illustrating details of construction, and

Fig. 3, is a similar view illustrating the manner of constructing a building of burnt clay.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawings forms thereof which are at present preferred by me, since the same have been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of the instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

According to the present invention and referring to Figs. 1 and 2, I construct of cement, burnt clay, metal, wood or other suitable material as custom may dictate, cube-like hollow units, which units comprise a complete room or set of rooms. The units may be of one piece solid construction 10, or of skeleton form 10′ with slabs 10″ attached thereto. The units I mount one upon the other or in other abutting relations and secure same together. Good results have been obtained by providing at each corner of a unit a dowel-pin like construction for retaining the units in place. Such construction is formed by fitting vertically at the four corners of a unit an internally threaded tube 11 which tubes may be used to form gas, water, drainage and other pipes. When the units are abutting a hollow screw-threaded pin 12 may be fitted to said tubes for securing adjacent units to place. In practice these tubes are employed to temporarily receive the screw-threaded shanks of hook-like devices 13. To these devices 13 are connected the hoisting tackle 14 by means of which the units are raised to position. For this purpose a scaffold 15 is erected provided at its top with rails 16 mounted for travel upon which is a hoisting device 17 of any desirable type. When a unit has been hoisted to position the devices 13 are removed and the unit last hoisted is secured to that unit previously hoisted. Man-holes 18 are present in the walls of the units so that the securing pins 12 may be fitted to place. The units 10 are provided with door and windows 20 and the walls may be provided with recessed portions 21, which not only serve to provide closets and the like but also save material and lighten construction, see Fig. 2. When the recesses are of arched or circular formation the walls are strengthened. In the case of skeleton frames the slabs 10″ are provided with door and window spaces or with window sash 22 and the like. In Fig. 3, I have shown the method of building and hardening my burnt clay building construction. In said figure instead of employing individual units I first mold or cast clay in a vacuum into the desired form of building as at 23 and then burn the clay by means of blasts of oil and, for instance, compressed air, or the like delivered through suitable connections as at 24 and 25. By this method I am enabled to cast or mold mantels, stairways, window and door entrances and the like and burn or harden same *in situ*. The parts may be enameled to provide a good finish and inlaid work may be accomplished. It will be understood that in both the case of

the units as built up in series and in the case of an integral structure that reinforcing means may be applied or omitted as desired.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful construction which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description and while I have in the present instance shown and described the preferred embodiment thereof which has been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

What I claim is:

The herein described method of building construction which consists in forming a structure including units each comprising a room, a wall of each of which units is provided with a tube at least one end of which is screw-threaded, temporarily fitting a screw-threaded device of a hoist to the screw-threaded end of said tube, operating said hoist to move said unit into abutting relation with a unit provided with a similar tube so that said tubes are in register to form a conduit and finally removing said screw-threaded device from said tube.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name.

JOSEPH R. WITZEL, M. D.