

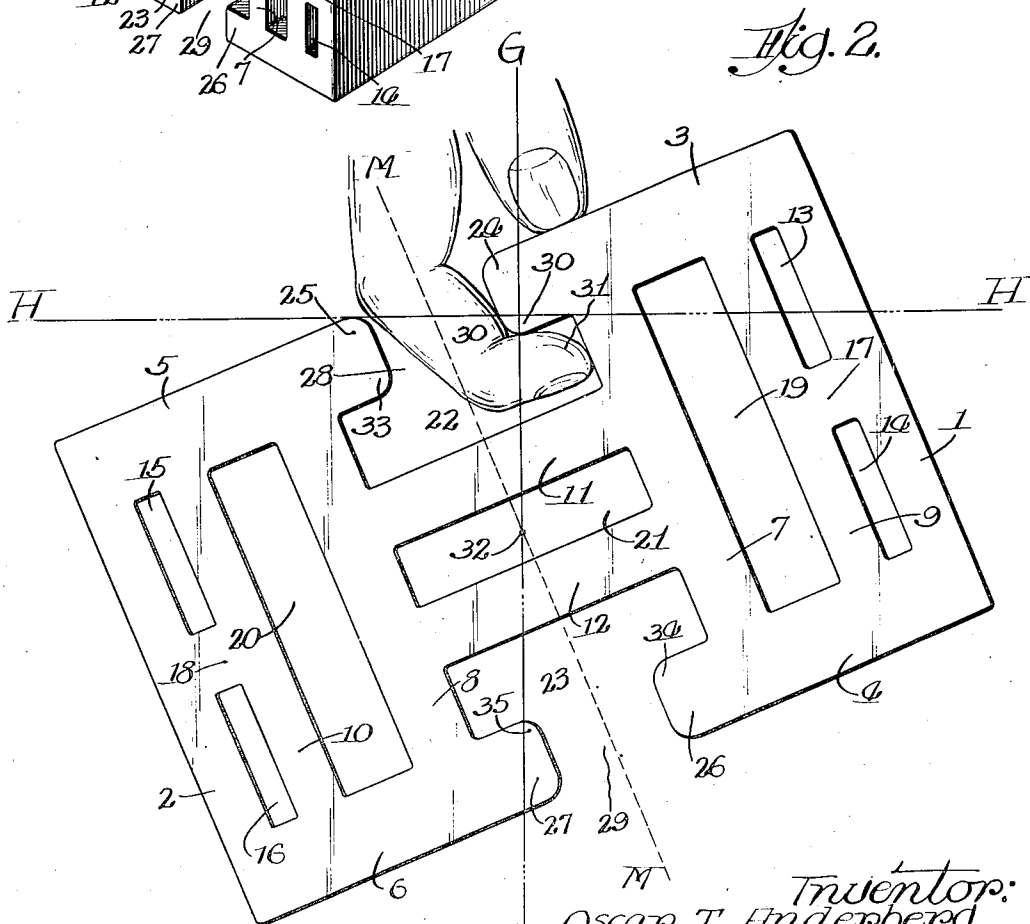
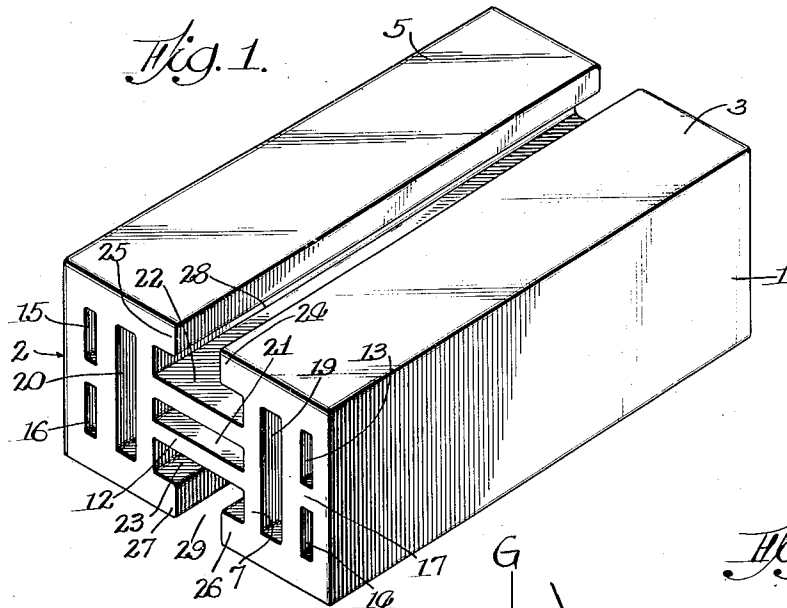
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TILE

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## TILE

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The present invention relates to tiles, such as hollow tiles used in building construction.

Among the objects of the invention is to provide a novel tile having means by which it may be lifted and supported conveniently by the workman's hand from any one of several positions in which the tile might be found, there being such a means on either side of the tile so that if one side be presented uppermost, the workman's hand may readily engage the tile from that side, and if another side be presented uppermost, then likewise the workman's hand may easily engage the tile from such side. Also the engaging means is preferably dual so that it does not matter whether the tile be turned one or the other side nearest the workman. The engaging means is preferably to either side of a medial plane passing transversely through the tile and the center of gravity thereof, so that as the tile is held by the workman it will hang at an angle to the horizontal, the engaging means presenting a dipping portion for stable equilibrium of the tile.

Other objects, advantages, capabilities and features are comprehended by the invention as will later appear and as are inherently possessed thereby.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a tile constructed in accordance with the invention, and

Fig. 2 is an end view showing the position of the tile when suspended from the hand of a workman.

Referring now more in detail to the drawings, the embodiment selected to illustrate the invention, comprises end walls 1 and 2, side walls (or top and bottom walls) 3, 4, 5 and 6, cross walls 7, 8, 9 and 10, and connecting walls or webs 11 and 12. Between the end walls 1 and 2, and cross walls 9 and 10, are provided passages or voids 13, 14, 15 and 16 separated by webs 17 and 18, and between

cross walls 7 and 9, and 8 and 10 are also provided passages or voids 19 and 20. Between connecting walls or webs 11 and 12 is also provided a passage or void 21.

On the outsides of the webs 11 and 12 and between the cross walls 7 and 8, are provided channels 22 and 23. At the openings of these channels extend flanges or wall extensions 24, 25, 26 and 27, from the walls 3, 5, 4 and 6 and also laterally from the ends of the cross walls 7 and 8. These flanges extend toward each other but are so spaced as to provide passages 28 and 29 of sufficient width for the passage of the fingers 30 of a workman's hand.

It will be apparent that these flanges are outside of or remote from a medial plane represented by line M—M.

Each flange, such as flange 24, although designed to lie at a normal to the cross walls 7 and 8 or end walls 1 and 2, has a portion which will dip below a horizontal plane represented by line H—H when this flange acts as the means by which the tile is gripped and held in pendulous position by the workman. In such position of the tile, flange 24 dips or is inclined to the horizontal, and the portion 30 acts as a nub for the tips 31 of the workman's fingers so as to prevent the tile from slipping from his finger. The weight or gravitational force acts through the center of gravity 32 and along a plane represented by line G—G, this plane passing through the lowest point of the nub 30. The fingers are thus in the form of a hook and the tendency of the flange 24 with the nub 30, to move downwardly along plane G—G, makes for an absolutely stable equilibrium of the pendulous tile.

Should the tile be so presented that the workman could grip the flange 25, the tile would tip with an opposite inclination and the part 33 would then act as the nub, and be located in the gravitational plane G—G.

Should the other face be presented up-

ward so that the workman's hand is thrust in the passage 29 between flanges 26 and 27 to engage either flange 26 or 27, then either part 34 or 35 will then be the nub acting in the gravitation plane G—G.

5 In this way, the tile may be engaged in at least four different ways, and in any one of them the tile will hang at an incline to the horizontal with a nub below the horizontal plane H—H.

10 While I have herein disclosed an illustrative embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto but comprehends other constructions, details, arrangement of parts, and features  
15 without departing from the spirit thereof.

Having thus disclosed the invention,  
I claim:

1. A hollow tile comprising spaced cross-walls and a web connecting said walls, a channel on either side of said web and between said walls, and a flange extending from a wall and into said channel to serve as a finger gripping means.

25 2. A hollow tile comprising spaced lobes, a web connecting said lobes, channels between the lobes and at opposite sides of said web, and flanges extending from said lobes and into said channels to serve as finger gripping means.

30 3. A hollow tile of rectangular shape and comprising rectangular hollow end portions, and a web connecting said portions, channels on opposite sides of said web, and flanges extending from said end portions and into said channels to form finger gripping means.

4. A hollow tile comprising end walls, side walls, and cross-walls spaced from said end walls and from each other, and channels in said side walls and between said cross-walls, said side walls extending into said channels to form finger gripping flanges.

45 5. A hollow tile comprising end walls, side walls, and cross-walls spaced from said end walls and from each other, a web between and connected to said cross-walls, channels on opposite sides of said web and between said cross walls, and flanges extending into said channels to serve as finger gripping means.

50 6. A hollow tile comprising end walls, side walls, and cross-walls spaced from said end walls and from each other, the side walls having channels narrower than the space between said cross-walls but sufficiently wide for the passage of the fingers of the hand of a builder, the side walls at said channels overhanging the space between said cross-walls, and a web between and connecting said cross-walls.

7. A hollow tile of rectangular shape and comprising rectangular hollow end portions, and a web connecting said portions, channels on opposite sides of said web, and flanges extending from said both sides of said channels

and from said end portions and toward each other into said channels to form finger engaging means on either side of said channels.

8. A hollow tile of rectangular shape and comprising rectangular hollow end portions, and a web connecting said portions, channels on opposite sides of said web, and flanges extending from said end portions and toward each other to leave a space in the medial plane of said tile whereby the flanges serve as finger engaging means outside said medial plane.

In witness whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name to this specification.

OSCAR T. ANDERBERG.

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