E. PRENDERGAST.

BOX FOR STREET VALVES, FIRE PLUGS, AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 17, 1909.

945,597. Patented Jan. 4, 1910.

Fig. 1.

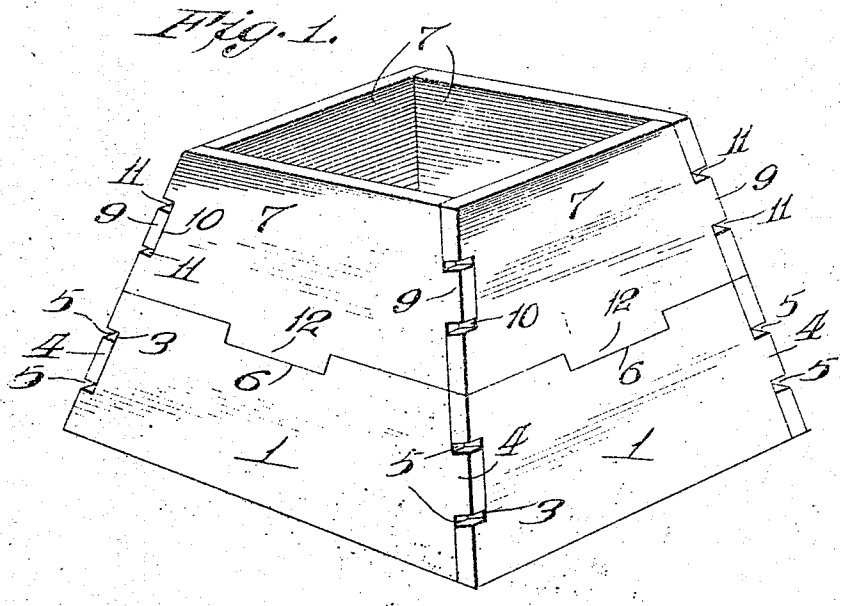


Fig. 2.

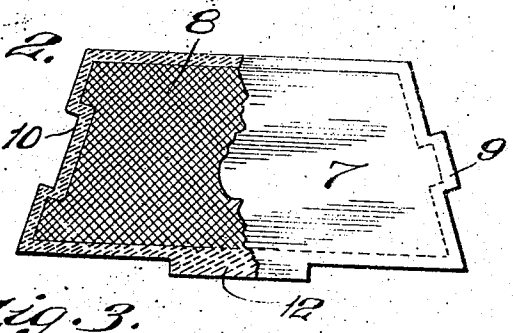
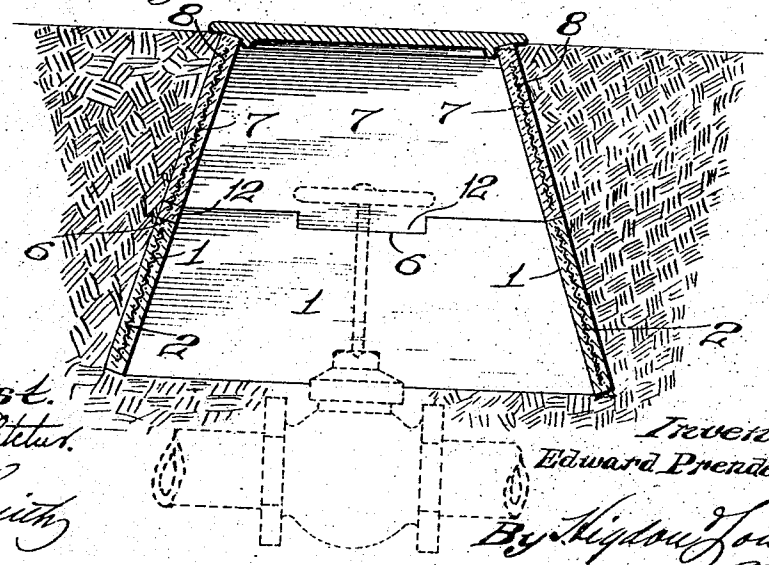


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD PRENDERGAST, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

BOX FOR STREET-VALVES, FIRE-PLUGS, AND THE LIKE.

945,597. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 4, 1910.

Application filed February 17, 1909. Serial No. 478,474.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD PRENDERGAST, a citizen of the United States, and resident of St. Louis, Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boxes for Street-Valves, Fire-Plugs, and the Like, of which the following is a specification containing a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention relates to a box or housing adapted to be located immediately below the surface of the ground for inclosing the valve of a water main, fire plug, or the like, the particular object of my invention being to construct a simple, strong and durable sectional box of slabs or plates of reinforced concrete, which box may be readily set up at the point of use and the sections forming the walls of the box being so constructed as to interlock and form a strong, substantial structure without the use of bolts, pins, or like fastening devices.

My present invention is an improvement over a similar device shown and described in an application for Letters Patent filed by me May 7, 1908, Serial No. 431,411.

To the above purposes, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in the claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a box of my improved construction set up for use; Fig. 2 is an elevation, partly in section, of one of the plates or slabs utilized in forming the upper half of the box; and Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken through the center of the box and showing the same positioned for use.

The base or lower half of the box is constructed of four plates 1, identical in size and construction, said plates being preferably formed of concrete, or analogous hardened plastic material, and in the center of which plate is embedded a section 2 of expanded metal or of wire netting, which reinforces the plate. The ends of each plate 1 are slightly inclined relative to the planes occupied by the top and bottom edges of said plate, and formed in one end of each plate is a rectangular notch or recess 3, and formed integral with the opposite end of each plate is a rectangular lug 4, which when the plates are assembled occupies the corresponding notch of the adjacent plate, and which lug is somewhat shorter than the notch 3, in order to provide clearance spaces 5 between the ends of the lugs and the ends of the notches 3 when the plates or slabs 1 are assembled, and thus all vertical strain upon the lugs 4 and ends of the plates 1 above and below the notches 3 is done away with, which vertical strain would have a tendency to break or fracture the lugs 4 and ends of the plates.

Formed in the top edges of the plates 1 at the centers thereof are rectangular notches 6.

7 designates the plates or slabs forming the top or upper half of the box, which plates or slabs are constructed of concrete, in which are embedded sections 8 of wire netting or expanded metal to reinforce said plates, and the ends of said plates being inclined relative to the planes occupied by the top and bottom edges of the plates in order that when all of the plates are assembled to form the box, the same will have the appearance of a truncated pyramid.

Formed on one end of each plate 7 is a rectangular lug 9, and formed in the opposite end is a rectangular notch 10, which is slightly longer than is the lug 8, and by this arrangement clearance spaces 11 are formed between the ends of the lugs 9 and the notches 10 when the plates or slabs 7 are assembled.

Formed integral with the lower edges of the plates 7 are depending lugs 12, which when the plates are assembled to form the box occupy the notches 6, this interlocking the meeting edges of the plates 1 and 7.

The top edges of the plates 1 and the lower edges of the plates 7 are formed at right angles to the planes occupied by the bodies of the plates 1 and 7, and therefore when the plates 7 are positioned on top of the plates 1, the inclination of the meeting edges of said plates prevents any lateral movement of the upper half of the box relative to the lower half, and the earth can be tamped in around the side walls of the box without affecting the alinement of the walls forming the box.

A box of my improved construction is very strong and substantial, can be readily assembled and set up for use, and the various plates or slabs forming the walls of the box are interlocked at their ends and at their meeting edges in such a manner as to main-

tain their proper positions when assembled without the use of fastening devices, such as pins or bolts.

I claim:

1. The herein described truncated box for street valves and fire plugs, comprising a base section formed of four plates of reinforced concrete, each of which plates has tapering ends and is provided on each end with a recess and on the opposite end with an inclined projection, each plate is provided on its top edge with a recess intermediate its ends, a top section composed of four plates with tapering ends and having bottom edges of the same length as the top edges of the plates of the base section, each plate of the top section being provided on one of its ends with a recess and on the opposite end with an upwardly inclined lug and on its lower edge with a lug adapted to be seated in the corresponding recess of the plate on which it is positioned.

2. The herein described truncated box for street valves and fire plugs, comprising a base section formed of four plates of reinforced concrete of similar shapes and dimensions, the ends of each plate being tapering, each plate having in one end and in its top edge a recess and having a lug formed on the opposite end, the length of the lug of each plate being less than the length of the end recess, a top section formed of four plates of reinforced concrete, said plates being of similar shapes and dimensions, each plate of the top section having a lug on one end and a recess on the other end, the length of the lug being less than the length of the recess and a lug formed on the lower edge of each plate adapted to be seated in the recesses formed in the plates of the lower section.

3. The herein described truncated box for street valves and fire plugs, comprising a base section formed of four plates of reinforced concrete of similar shapes and dimensions, the ends of each plate being tapering, each plate having in one end and in its top edge a recess and having a lug formed on the opposite end, a top section formed of four plates of reinforced concrete, said plates being of similar shapes and dimensions, each plate of the top section having a lug on one end and a recess on the other end, there being a clearance space between each end lug and the corresponding recess in which it is seated, and a lug formed on the lower edge of each plate adapted to be snugly seated in the recesses formed in the top edges of the plates of the lower section.

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

EDWARD PRENDERGAST.

Witnesses:
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E. L. WALLACE.