Dec. 29, 1925. 1,567,430

C. M. EBERLING

BUILDING BLOCK

Filed Nov. 21, 1923 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

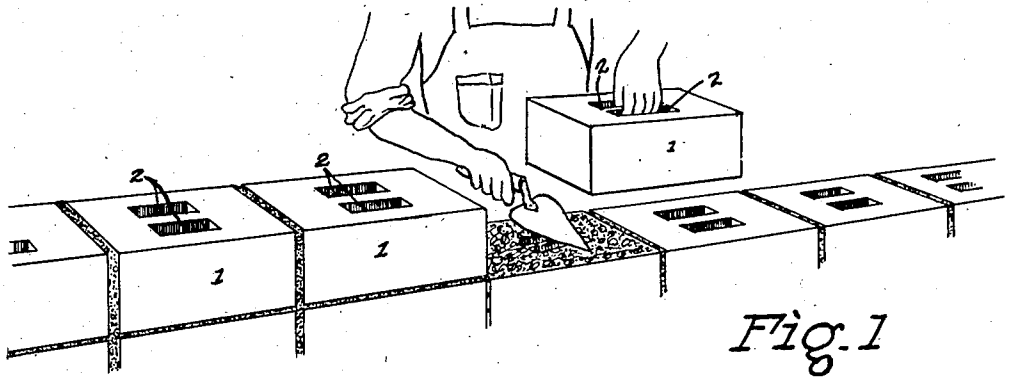


Fig. 1

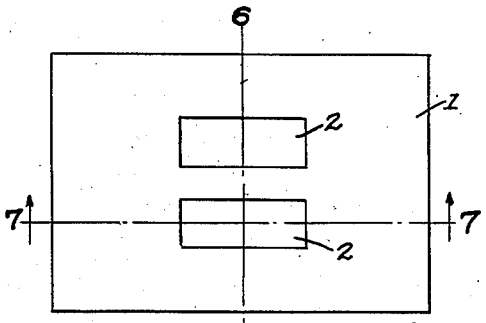


Fig. 2

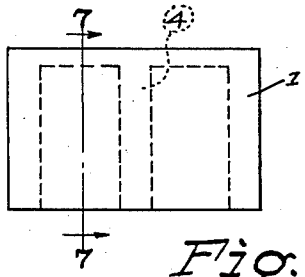


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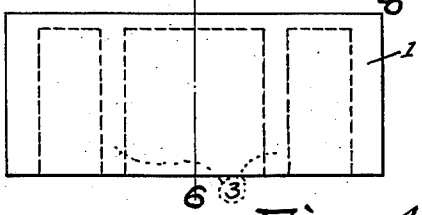


Fig. 4

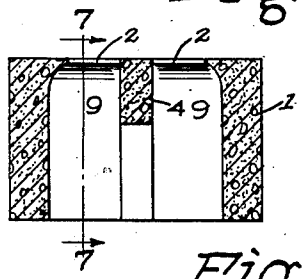


Fig. 6

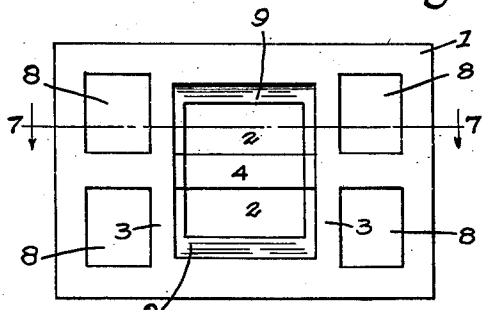


Fig. 5

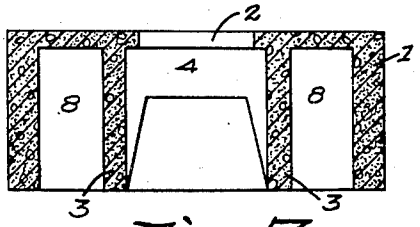


Fig. 7

Charles M. Eberling
Inventor
By Smith & Freeman Attys.

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C. M. EBERLING

BUILDING BLOCK

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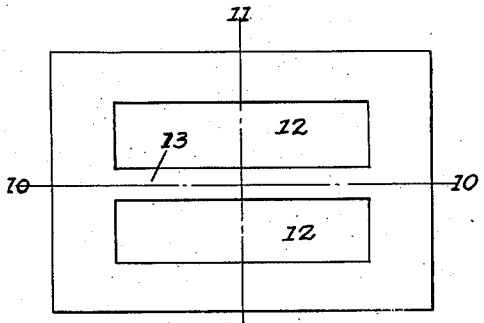


Fig. 8

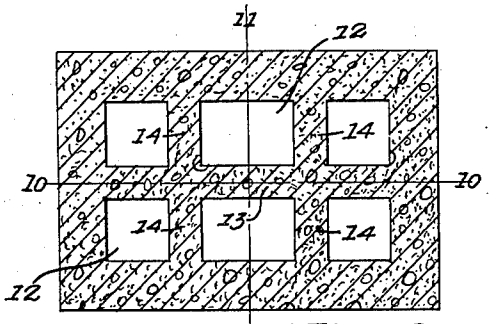


Fig. 9

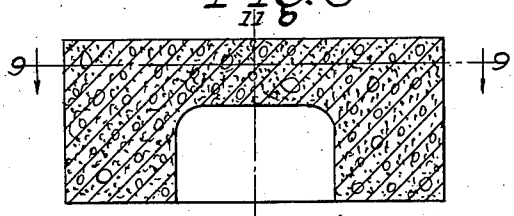


Fig. 10

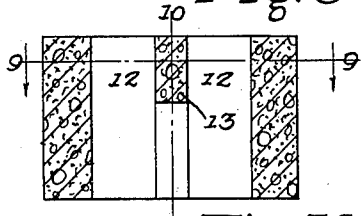


Fig. 11

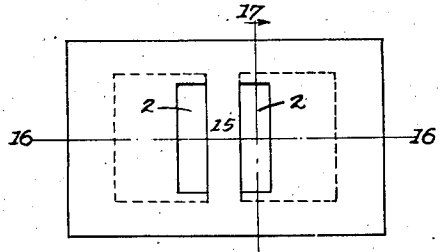


Fig. 12

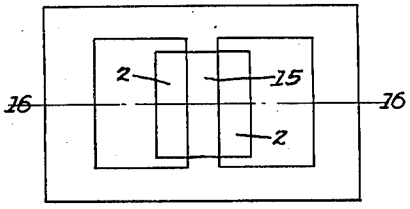


Fig. 13

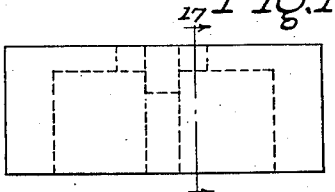


Fig. 14

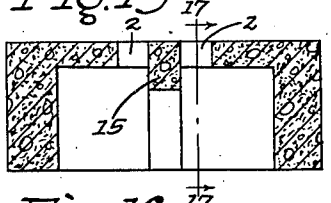


Fig. 16

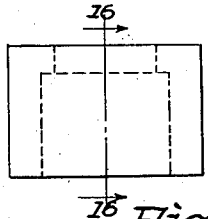


Fig. 15

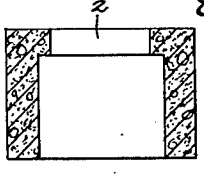


Fig. 17

Charles M. Eberling
Inventor

By Smith & Freeman Attys.

Patented Dec. 29, 1925. 1,567,430

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES M. EBERLING, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

BUILDING BLOCK.

Application filed November 21, 1923. Serial No. 676,150.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES M. EBERLING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Building Blocks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to building blocks, by which I mean concrete blocks, hollow tile, bricks, and the like whether made of concrete, clay, terra cotta, plaster or other materials and has for its object the provision of an article of this character which can be more easily grasped, transported, and laid than heretofore, which can be handled with one hand, and which shall shield that hand from injury. Tiles and building blocks of cement, clay, and other materials have long been known, both solid and hollow, but nearly all of them have required two hands for their manipulation, which has delayed the rapidity of construction by requiring the mason to lay down his trowel at frequent intervals, and has furthermore caused repeated injury by bringing his knuckles into contact with the adjacent blocks or tiles whose edges are generally harsh and rough; and while many of these tiles have been formed with cavities to decrease their weight and to facilitate their manufacture, these cavaties have never been so designed as to form convenient hand holds, frequently by not being located on the side which is uppermost when the tile is laid, and even in cases where these holes have been formed in their top surface they have not been so arranged as to enable the convenient insertion and gripping action of the fingers.

In the drawings accompanying and forming a part of this application I have illustrated certain improved tiles of my invention as devised to overcome these difficulties and to accomplish these advantages which I have enumerated. Fig. 1 illustrates the manner of building a wall using my improved tiles; Fig. 2 is a top plan view of one of the tiles shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is an end elevation and Fig. 4 a side elevation of the same; Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view; Fig. 6 is a cross sectional view corresponding to the line 6—6 of Figs. 2 and 4; and Fig. 7 is a longitudinal sectional view corresponding to the line 7—7 of Figs. 2, 3, 5, and 6. Fig. 8 is a top plan view of a modified form of tile embodying my invention; Fig. 9 is a horizontal sectional view through another modification corresponding to the section 9—9 in Figs. 10 and 11; Fig. 10 is a longitudinal sectional view corresponding to the line 10—10 in Figs. 8, 9, and 11 and Fig. 11 is a cross sectional view corresponding to the line 11 in Figs. 8, 9, and 10. Fig. 12 is a top plan view and Fig. 13 a bottom plan view of another modification; Figs. 14 and 15 are respectively side and end elevations thereof; Fig. 16 is a longitudinal sectional view corresponding to the line 16—16 in Figs. 12 and 13, and Fig. 17 is a cross sectional view corresponding to the line 17—17 of Figs. 12, 14, and 16.

My improved building block or tile consists of a rectangular piece of concrete, cement, clay, plaster, or other suitable building material having in the upper side thereof a pair of slots separated by a web which is of less depth than the tile and adapted to be surrounded by the workman's fingers in gripping relation. It is immaterial whether these slots are formed on the widest or the narrowest side of the block since this will depend upon which side of the block is intended to be laid upmost; and it is entirely within my invention to form such openings on two or more sides of the block. It is likewise immaterial whether the finger slots and hand grip run lengthwise or crosswise of the block, or what other provisions be present in the way of webs and apertures, although it is best to have the hand grip disposed opposite the center of gravity of the article so that it may hang comfortably, and that the top be not formed with too many or too large apertures to impede the convenient application of mortar. The particular designs herein illustrated have been selected merely as typical of the different arrangements suggested.

In Figs. 1 to 7, inclusive, I have shown a preferred form comprising a rectangular hollow shell whose sides are imperforate excepting for the hand holes 2—2 at the top and the cavities opening through the bottom. The interior of this block is traversed by two spaced transverse webs 3—3 and by a central longitudinal web 4, thereby defining six cavities, namely a pair of square cavities 8—8 adjacent each end and a pair of oblong cavities 9—9 at the middle. The web

4 is cut away at the center of the block so as substantially to merge the cavities 9—9 together and produce a grip which the workmen's fingers can surround, sufficient depth of web being left to support the weight of the tile. Owing to the small amount of opening in the top surface there is no hindrance to the use of mortar, and while a certain amount of mortar will be pressed into the cavities when the block is laid, its effect will be to key the wall more firmly together. Further a tile constructed as described can easily be broken into two parts of equal size which is one reason for disposing the webs as indicated.

Another feasible mode of making a tile is shown in Figs. 8 to 11, inclusive, in which the cavities 12—12 run entirely through the block from bottom to top, there being a central longitudinal web 13 which is cut away at the center as shown in Figs. 10 to 11 to permit it to be surrounded by the workman's fingers. The web 13 can either extend unsupported from one end to the other as shown in Fig. 8, or it can be connected to the side walls by cross webs 14—14 at intervals as shown in Fig. 9.

In Figs. 12 to 17, inclusive, I have shown a tile with the hand slots 2—2 arranged cross wise and upon opposite sides of a transverse partition 15 the bottom part of which is cut away as shown in Fig. 15 to enable the workman's fingers to surround the same.

Experience has demonstrated that a man can easily lay twice as many of these tiles in a day as any tile not having these hand-hold provisions. The laborers like them, the unions have officially approved them, the contractors demand them, and the construction of buildings with them is noticeably cheapened. It will be understood that many changes in detail and design can be made within the scope of my invention and I do not limit myself to any of the features herein shown except as specifically recited in my several claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A building block having a substantially rectangular body formed in one side with a pair of slots having a width sufficient to admit a workman's hand and separated by a web of such depth as can be embraced by a workman's fingers, the slots being of sufficient length in a direction parallel to said web to admit a workman's hand.

2. A building block having a hand-hold in its upper surface symmetrically located with respect to the margins of the block, said hand-hold having a length at least as great as the width of the human hand and including a member which the fingers can embrace.

3. A building block comprising a hollow shell traversed by one or more webs, the top surface of said shell being formed with a pair of spaced slots located one on each side of a web, and the depth of such web at that point being not greater than the length of a man's fingers and the length of the slot being at least as great as the width of a man's hand.

4. A building block comprising a hollow rectangular shell having a lifting handle located wholly within its rectangular outline and symmetrically with regard to its weight, said handle being removed from the side edges of the block and of a depth to be grasped by the fingers and of a width to receive a workman's hand.

5. A building block having in an otherwise unbroken side thereof a pair of spaced parallel slots of a length to receive a workman's hand and width to receive the fingers separated by a web of a depth to be embraced by the fingers.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

CHARLES M. EBERLING.