Jan. 28, 1930. W. L. LANCE 1,745,303

METAL STAKE

Filed Dec. 14, 1927

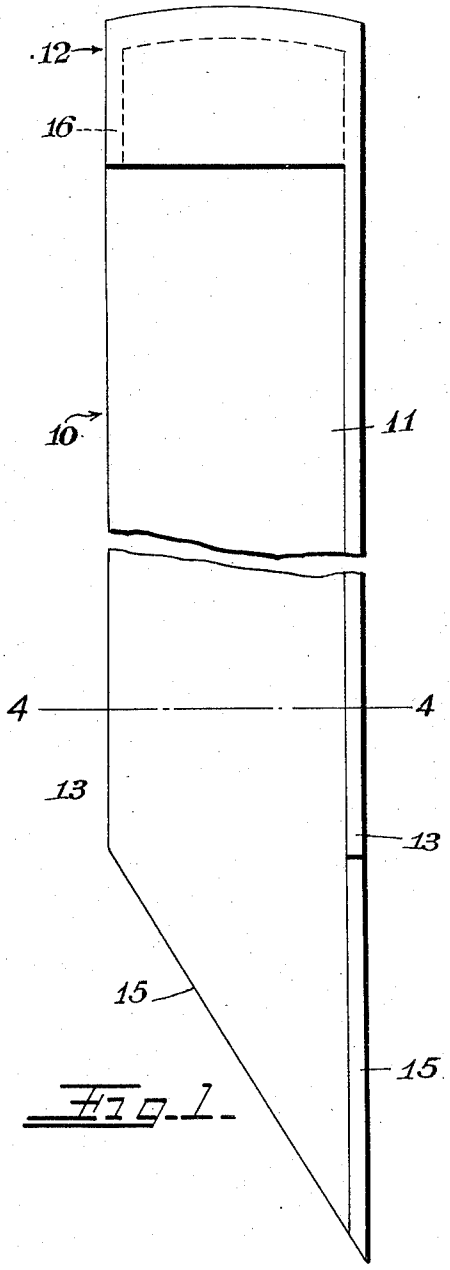


Fig. 1

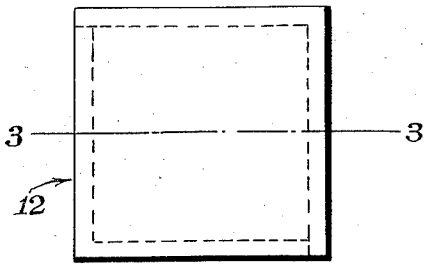


Fig. 2

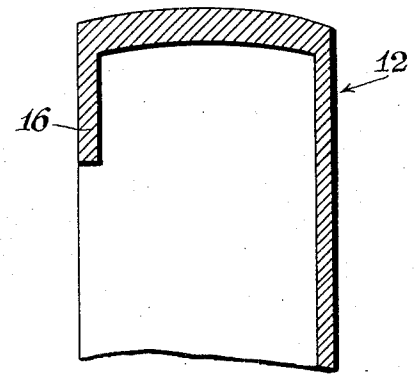


Fig. 3

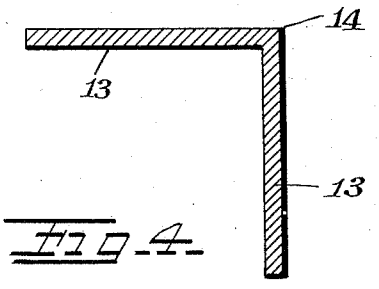


Fig. 4

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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METAL STAKE

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This invention relates to a metal stake or post and more particularly to a metal stake which is especially adapted for use by persons such as surveyors, engineers, architects and land-owners.

An important object of the invention is to provide a novel and advantageous metal stake of such a character that it combines strength and stiffness with lightness of weight. Other objects are to provide such a stake having requisite area of top for driving and marking; a stake adapted for nestability for economy and convenience of transportation and storage; a stake of convenient shape for withdrawal when, for example, it is desired for use elsewhere; and a stake having a rounded top which provides a definite high spot upon which to stand a level rod, even in the event that the stake is not driven plumb.

The stake of the present invention possesses many advantages over the ordinary wooden stake in that it can be driven flush with or even lower than the surface of the ground; it can be located when desired by means of a dipping needle or pipe detector; the nestable feature enables compactness of assembly unobtainable with wooden stakes; the top provides a smooth surface for stamping or marking with metal tools, thus enabling a record of the stake, its designation in the survey or plot, the surveyor, owner, elevation, etc.; it will not be broomed at top or bottom by driving and, due to its smaller displacement of earth, can be driven more easily; due to its harder point it will more easily penetrate hard material and can be driven more often without the use of a driving bar in advance; it is unburnable in brush or forest fire and will not ordinarily be substantially affected thereby, and of course will not rot; and if driven to ledge rock before penetrating the ground to its entire length, it may be withdrawn readily and cut off at the proper point, as by sawing, so that when again placed in the ground, its top may be brought to the proper elevation.

The invention also contemplates that the metal stake shall be manufactured of metal which is practically unaffected by rust or corrosion, so that the stake, being made in different sizes, may supplant, for use as permanent monuments, stone and concrete markers, over which the metal stake has advantages in that it can be driven instead of being placed in a hole excavated in advance and it can be more easily transported, especially in substantially inaccessible regions, than a concrete or stone marker or the materials used in making a concrete marker.

Other objects and advantages will appear upon consideration of the following description and the drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view;

Fig. 3 is a section taken along the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 4 is a section taken along the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings, there is shown for illustrative purposes, an integral metal stake 10 having a shank 11 and a cap or head 12. The shank 11 may be formed with two web portions or plates 13 extending at substantially a right angle from a common edge 14 and their lower ends may be tapered to present edges 15 converging toward said edge at the lower end of the shank 11, thus assisting in providing a suitable driving end or point for the shank.

The head 12 may be formed with an upwardly convex surface and may be of rectangular outline with two of its edges joined to the upper edges of the web portions 13 of the shank 11 and may be reinforced at the other two edges by a flange or flanges 16 extending downwardly therefrom and joined to said web portions.

Preferably the stake is formed of metal or metal alloy which is strongly resistant to rust or corrosion. For some uses, however, sufficient resistance to rust or corrosion may be obtained by plating the stake with suitable material or subjecting its surface to treatment suitable for rendering it resistant to such destructive action.

When used with its upper surface flush with the ground, the stake is held firmly in position but may be withdrawn by inserting the point of a suitable implement beneath the

part of the cap or cap flange projecting beyond the shank.

The stake may be manufactured in various ways for example, by casting or by stamping out blanks of the proper shape, bending the parts to give the required arrangement and welding the parts together as required.

It should be understood that various changes may be made without departing from the true scope and spirit of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. An integral metal stake comprising a shank consisting of two webs extending at substantially a right angle from their common edge, an upwardly convex top extending over the opening between said webs, and a flange extending downwardly from said top beyond the edges of said webs and joined at its ends to said webs.

2. An integral metal stake comprising a metal shank consisting of two web portions extending at substantially a right angle to each other from a common edge and tapered toward said edge at the lower end of the shank to provide a driving point, a rectangular cap joined at two of its edges with the upper ends of said web portions, and a flange projecting downwardly from the other two edges of said cap and joined at its ends to the web portions of said shank.

3. An integral metal stake comprising a metal shank consisting of two web portions extending at substantially a right angle to each other from a common edge and formed to provide a driving end, a generally rectangular cap with a convex upper surface and being joined at two of its edges with the web portions of said shank, and flanges joined to the cap at the other two edges and also to the web portions of said shank.

In witness whereof, I affix my signature.

WILLIAM L. LANCE.