J. M. SCHENK, DEC'D.
E. M. SCHENK, ADMINISTRATRIX.
CONCRETE BUILDING BLOCK.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 22, 1920.

1,374,955. **Patented Apr. 19, 1921.**

Fig. 1.

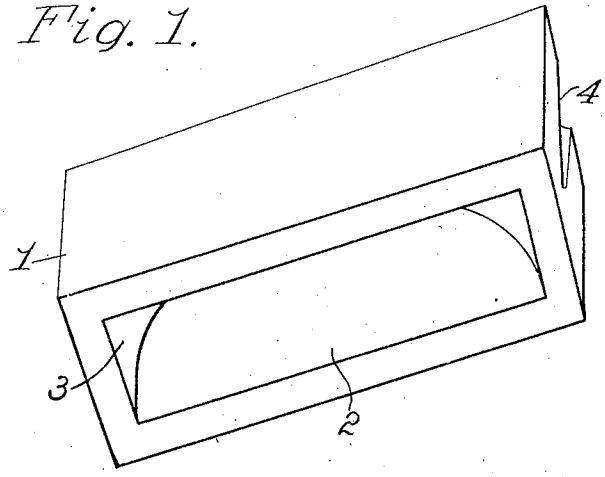


Fig. 2.

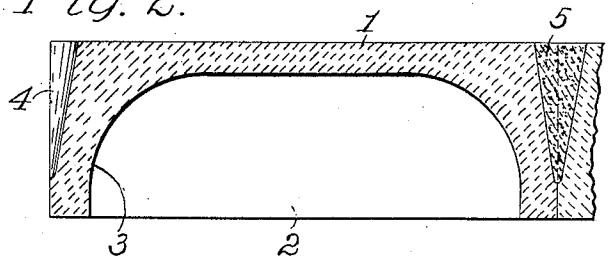
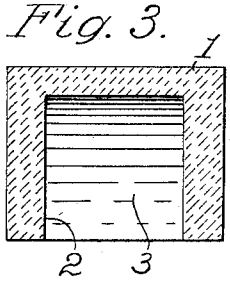


Fig. 3.



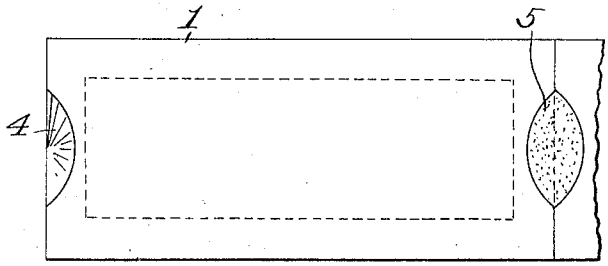


Fig. 4.

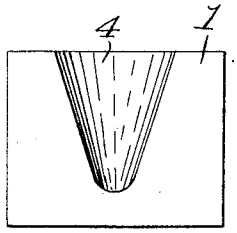


Fig. 5.

Inventor:
JOHN M. SCHENK, DECEASED
BY ELLA M. SCHENK, ADMINISTRATRIX.
G. G. Kennedy,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. SCHENK, DECEASED, LATE OF WATERLOO, IOWA, BY ELLA M. SCHENK, ADMINISTRATRIX, ASSIGNOR TO ELLA M. SCHENK, OF WATERLOO, IOWA.

CONCRETE BUILDING-BLOCK.

1,374,955. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Apr. 19, 1921.**

Application filed April 22, 1920. Serial No. 375,827.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELLA M. SCHENK, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Waterloo, Blackhawk county, Iowa, administratrix of the estate of JOHN M. SCHENK, deceased, (whose former residence was No. 1416 Hawthorne Ave., Waterloo, Iowa,) state that said JOHN M. SCHENK invented certain new and useful Improvements in Concrete Building-Blocks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in concrete building blocks, and the object of this improvement is to supply for use in wall construction or otherwise, a block formed wholly of concrete, shaped and designed to be light, conveniently handled, inexpensive, and arranged to be interlocked with abutting blocks in a wall.

This object has been accomplished by the means which are shown in the illustrations of the improved block, in which Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved block as seen from below. Fig. 2 is a medial vertical longitudinal section of one of these blocks, showing one end interlocked with an end portion of another like block. Fig. 3 is a medial vertical transverse section of the block. Fig. 4 is a plan view of one of these blocks as interlocked at one end with the abutting part of another block, and Fig. 5 is an end elevation of a block.

Similar numerals of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The concrete block shown is of a shape such as is typical of those made by a molding-machine including a rotatable former-head, relative to which there is a co-pending application for patent. The rotary former-head referred to particularly shapes the elongated longitudinal closed end downwardly opening trough 2 in the lower face of the block 1, the discoidal former-head giving an arcuate curvature 3 to each end of the trough 2, which, by eliminating any reëntrant interior angles at the ends, strengthens the block. Downwardly wedging or coned niches or recesses 4 are formed in each outer end wall of the block, their wider ends opening upwardly and their lower diminished ends terminating above the lower face of the block. When the blocks are alined and abutted endwise in a wall, the recesses 4, together form a single conoidal upwardly opening cavity which may be filled with plaster when the imperforate upper face of the block is being overlaid with plaster. This provides keys 5 of plaster which interlock the joints of abutting blocks, keeping the blocks in true alinement in a wall. The closed hollows 2 thus provided in a wall, largely increase the heat insulation and prevent most of any moisture from being transmitted through the wall. The blocks may be made of such a size as to be easily handled by a bricklayer, and are light to handle because of their shape. The hollows 2, the recesses 4, and other features of the block, may be considerably varied without departing from the scope of the invention.

Having described this invention, what is claimed is:

A building-block having in its under face a longitudinal trough with arcuate ends, and having in each outer end wall a recess having its upper end open to the top plane of the block and its lower end closed, said recess being gradually diminished in cross-sectional area longitudinally from its upper toward its lower end to maintain an approximately uniform thickness in that part of the block between it and said longitudinal trough.

Signed at Waterloo, Iowa, this 29th day of March, 1920.

ELLA M. SCHENK.
Administratrix of the estate of John M. Schenk, deceased.