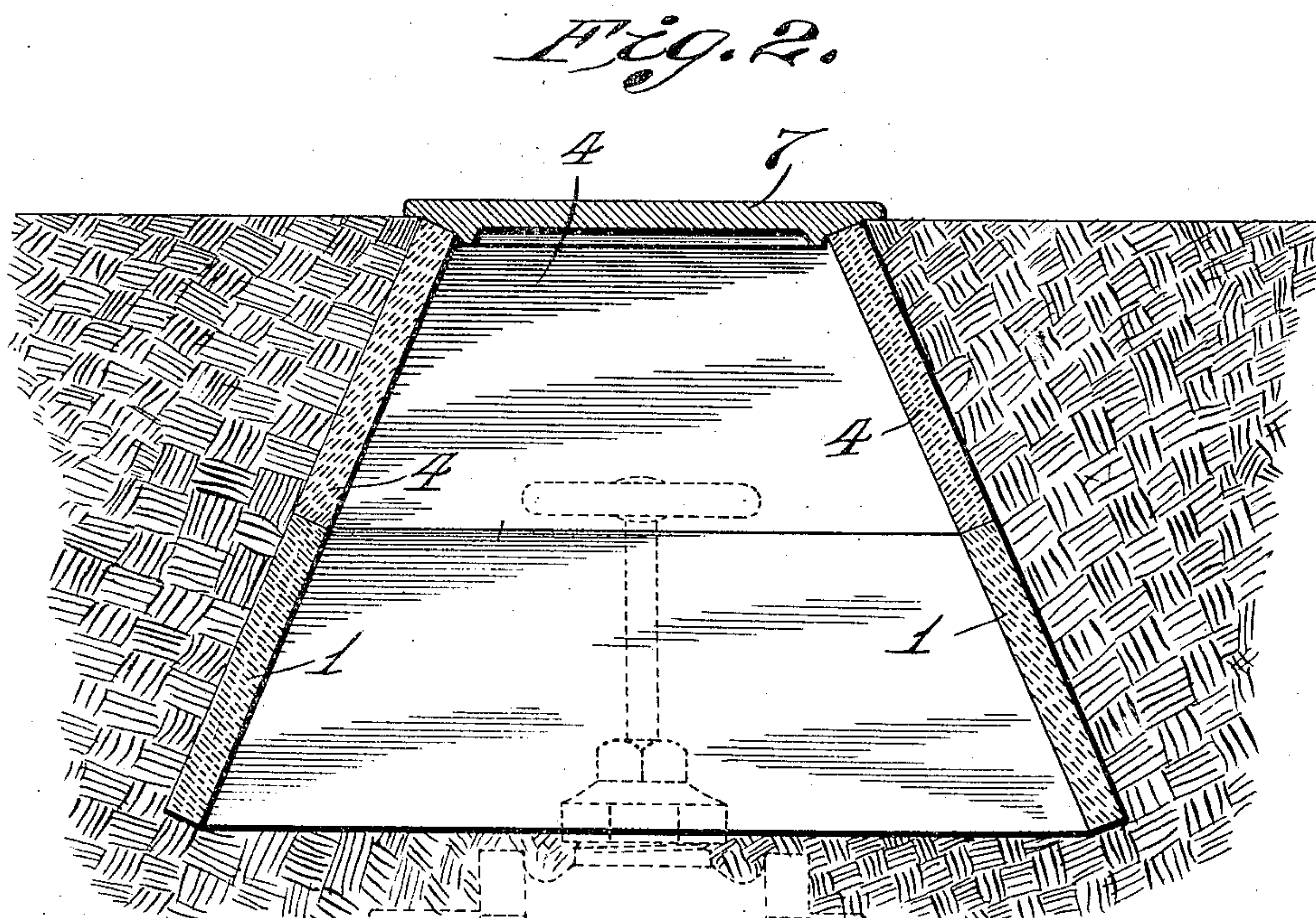
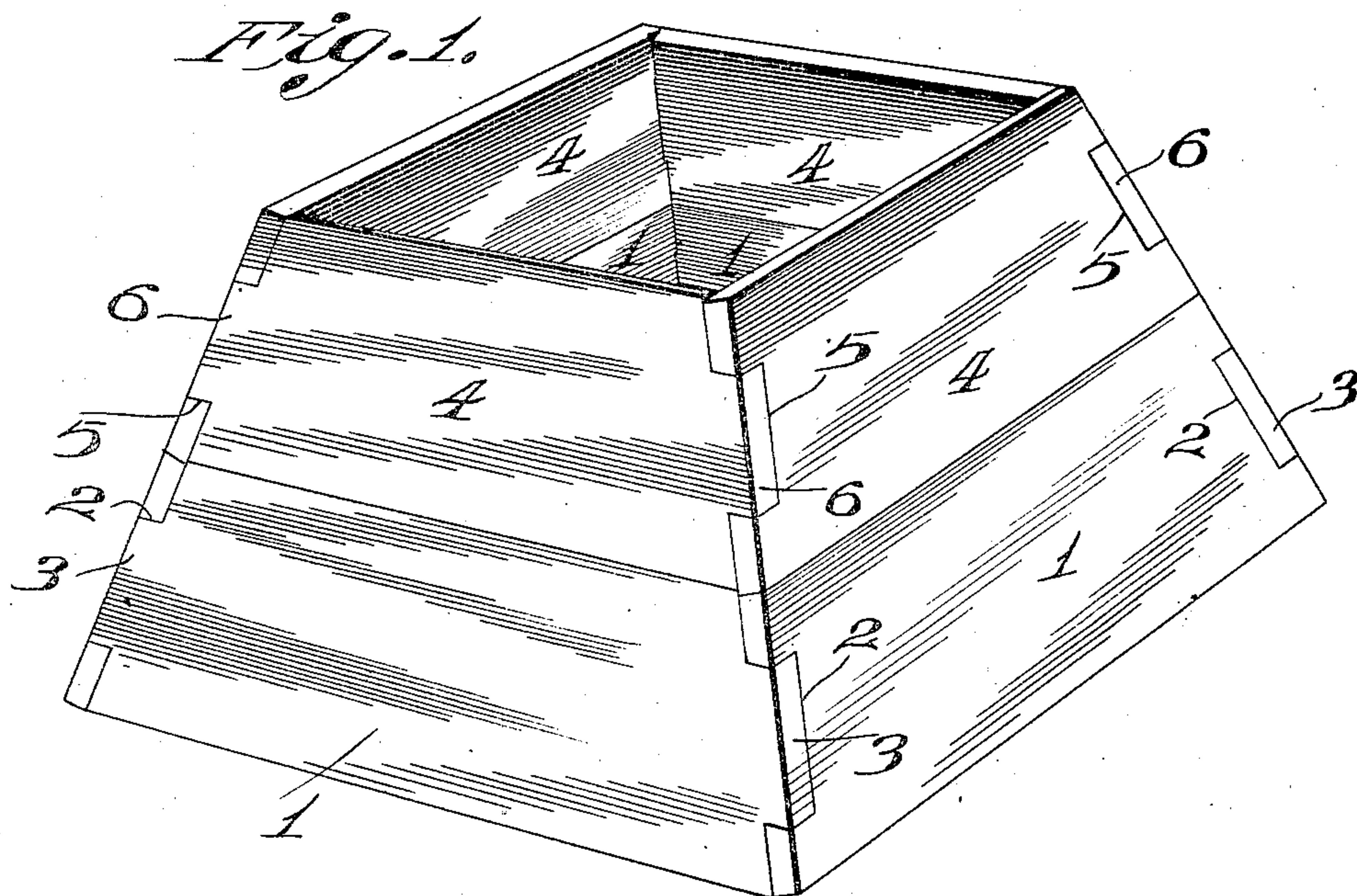


E. PRENDERGAST.  
STREET VALVE AND FIRE PLUG BOX.  
APPLICATION FILED MAY 7, 1908.

945,596.

Patented Jan. 4, 1910.



attest.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD PRENDERGAST, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

STREET-VALVE AND FIRE-PLUG BOX.

945,596.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 4, 1910.

Application filed May 7, 1908. Serial No. 431,411.

*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 Street-Valve and Fire-Plug Boxes, 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 which is located immediately below the surface of the ground, and which is adapted to inclose the valves of water mains, fire plugs, and the like, and the object of my invention is to construct a sectional box which may be readily set up at the point where the same is to be used, and which box is light, strong and durable, and is so constructed as to be put together without the use of nails, bolts, or similar fastening devices.

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 valve box of my improved construction; and Figure 2 is a cross section of the box as the same appears when in position for use.

The box when completed and set up for use is in the form of a truncated pyramid, and the sections forming said box are preferably constructed of concrete or analogous material, or they may be formed of metal or wood. The base or lower end of the box is constructed of four plates 1, of equal size, and formed in the ends of one pair of these plates are rectangular notches 2, which are adapted to receive corresponding lugs 3 formed integral with the opposite pair of plates 1 when the plates are fitted together in rectangular form. The upper half or top of the box is formed of four plates 4, of equal size and shape; the lower edges of which rest directly against the top edges of the plates 1 when the box is set up for use, and formed in the ends of a pair of the plates 4 are rectangular notches 5, adapted to receive corresponding lugs 6 formed on the opposite pair of said plates 4. The box so constructed is embedded in the ground in such a manner as that the upper edges of the plates 4 are flush with the surface of the ground, and the open upper end of the box

is normally closed by a suitable cover 7, and the valve or fire plug occupies a position within the box.

The plates 1 can be readily formed from concrete or analogous plastic material, or may be constructed of cast metal, and being in sectional form are readily transported to the point of use and there set up to inclose a valve or fire plug.

The notches and lugs at the ends of the plates 1 and 4 provide simple means for locking the ends of said plates together, and when said plates are embedded in the ground a very rigid and substantial box is provided.

When the base or lower half of the box is assembled in proper position in the ground, the upper edges of the plates 1 occupy inclined planes at right angles to the inclined planes occupied by the bodies of the plates, and when the upper half of the box is assembled the lower edges of the plates 4 bear directly against the inclined top edges of the plates 1, thus firmly holding the upper half of the box in position while the dirt is being tamped in around said box, and thus the two parts of the four walls of the box are held in perfect alignment and the upper half of the box is prevented from shifting laterally in any direction relative to the face of the box.

I claim:

1. The herein described knock-down truncated box for street valves and fire plugs, composed of a series of self-contained separable plates, the plates constituting the opposing side walls being alike as to form, size and material and each plate being trapezoidal in form and having its edge faces formed at right angles to its front face, and having both ends uniformly tapered inwardly from the bottom to the top and each end provided with a recess, the face of the upper end wall of said recess being inclined upwardly and the face of the lower end wall of said recess being likewise inclined and parallel with the first mentioned face, each plate composing the remaining side walls of said box being separable and alike as to form, size and material and each plate being trapezoidal in form, having its edges formed at right angles to its front face, its ends uniformly tapered upwardly and inwardly, and a tongue formed on each end of each of said plates adapted to fit into the recesses formed in the first mentioned plates, and the end of the plate above and below the



tongue receiving the inward thrust of the adjacent plate.

2. The herein described knock-down truncated box for street valves and fire plugs, composed of a series of self-contained separable sections, each section being composed of a series of self-contained separable plates, the plates constituting the opposing side walls of each section being alike as to form, size and material and each plate being trapezoidal in form and having its edge faces formed at right angles to its front face, and having both ends uniformly tapered from the bottom to the top and each end provided with a recess, the face of the upper end wall of said recess being inclined upwardly and the face of the lower end wall of said recess being likewise inclined and parallel with the first mentioned face, each plate composing the remaining side walls of each section be-

ing alike as to form, size and material and each plate being trapezoidal in form, having its edges formed at right angles to its front face, its ends uniformly tapered upwardly and inwardly, and a tongue formed on each end of each of said plates adapted to fit into the recesses formed in the adjacent plates, the plates composing the upper section when assembled being maintained against displacement outwardly from the plates of the lower section by the top edge faces of the lower plates. 25 30

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

EDWARD PRENDERGAST.

Witnesses:

M. P. SMITH,  
E. L. WALLACE.