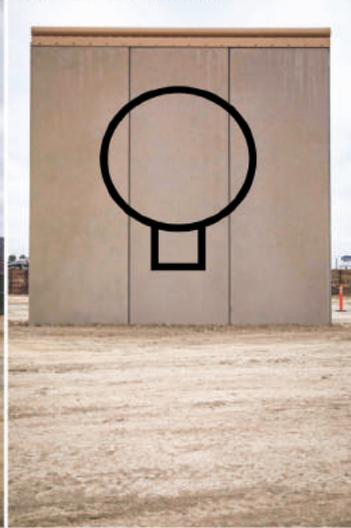


W. G. Yates & Sons
PROTOTYPE COST: \$458 103



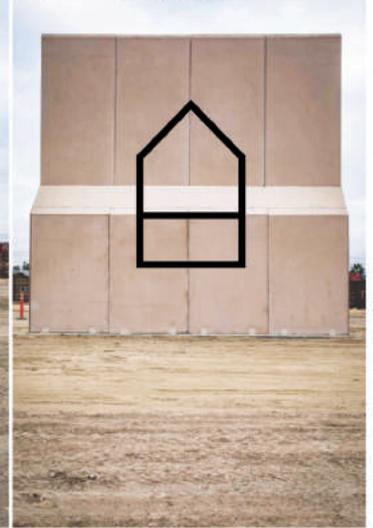
W. G. Yates & Sons
PROTOTYPE COST: \$453 548



ELTA North America
PROTOTYPE COST: \$406 318



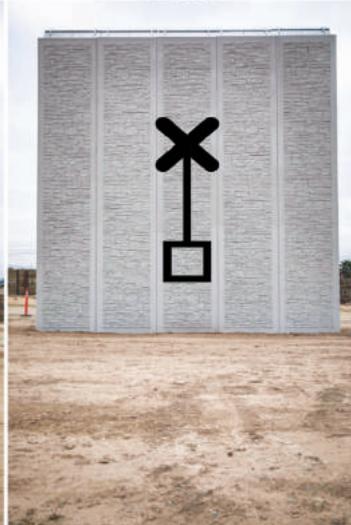
Caddell Construction
PROTOTYPE COST: \$344 000



Caddell Construction
PROTOTYPE COST: \$320 000



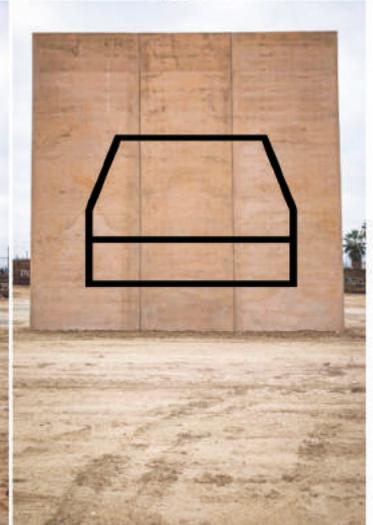
Texas Sterling Const.
PROTOTYPE COST: \$470 000



KWR Construction
PROTOTYPE COST: \$486 411



Fisher Sand & Gravel
PROTOTYPE COST: \$365 000



Ramón Jiménez Cárdenas*

MENDING WALL is a series of eight grappling hooks, each designed to overcome a corresponding prototype of President Trump’s proposed border wall between the United States and Mexico. The title is a reference to Robert Frost’s poem, also named “Mending Wall,” which narrates a relationship between two neighbors who meet yearly to repair a wall that divides their property. Linking Frost’s poem with the contemporary issues that these eight grappling hooks bring to light allows discussion of divisive global borders both poetically and politically.

* Project by artist and designer Ramón Jiménez Cárdenas at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (see <https://r-j-c.me/>). All photos, courtesy of the artist.



Inspired by the federally funded border wall prototypes constructed in 2017 separating San Diego, California, and Tijuana, Mexico, the grappling hooks explain the practicality of climbing a wall and overcoming borders. Global trade systems like NAFTA influence crop exports and directly impact migration between the United States and Mexico. While the relationship between the two countries has rarely been easy, the border has also allowed for many years of successful bilateral relations. Despite the threat of physical barriers, the two countries are forever entwined. **MM**



The grappling hooks explain the practicality of climbing a wall and overcoming borders.

