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Torbett

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[54] **SILL TRIM STRIP AND PANEL SIDING**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **52/522,** 52/545, 52/547

[51] **Int. Cl.** **E04d 1/34**

[58] **Field of Search** 52/535, 522, 528, 52/545, 409, 531, 529, 530, 543, 551, 546–549

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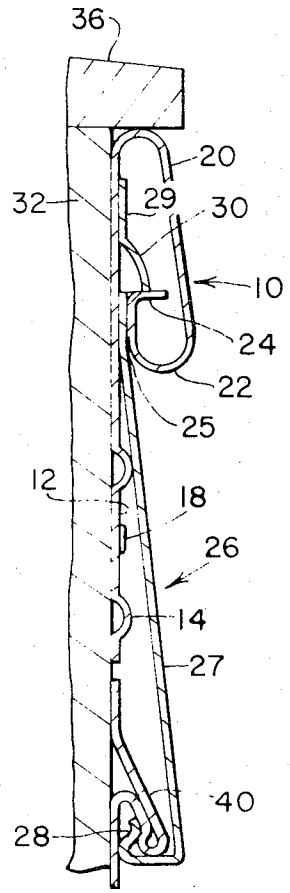
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Assistant Examiner—Leslie A. Braun
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A trim strip for use with metal wall siding to retain a piece of siding or other member below a window sill or other projecting member in a building. The trim strip is formed of sheet metal and has a substantially flat body portion and a lip portion which is bent from the upper edge of the body portion in substantially V or U-shaped relation to the body portion and which terminates in an edge portion which is curled upwardly between the body portion and the lip. The trim strip is secured to the wall below the lower surface of the sill or other projecting member. A conventional piece of metallic siding is trimmed to the desired height to fit below the sill and has a series of outwardly projecting lugs or fingers formed along its upper edge to engage the trim strip and float with relation thereto.

3 Claims, 6 Drawing Figures



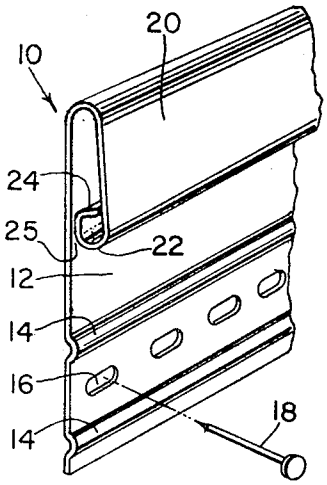


FIG. 1

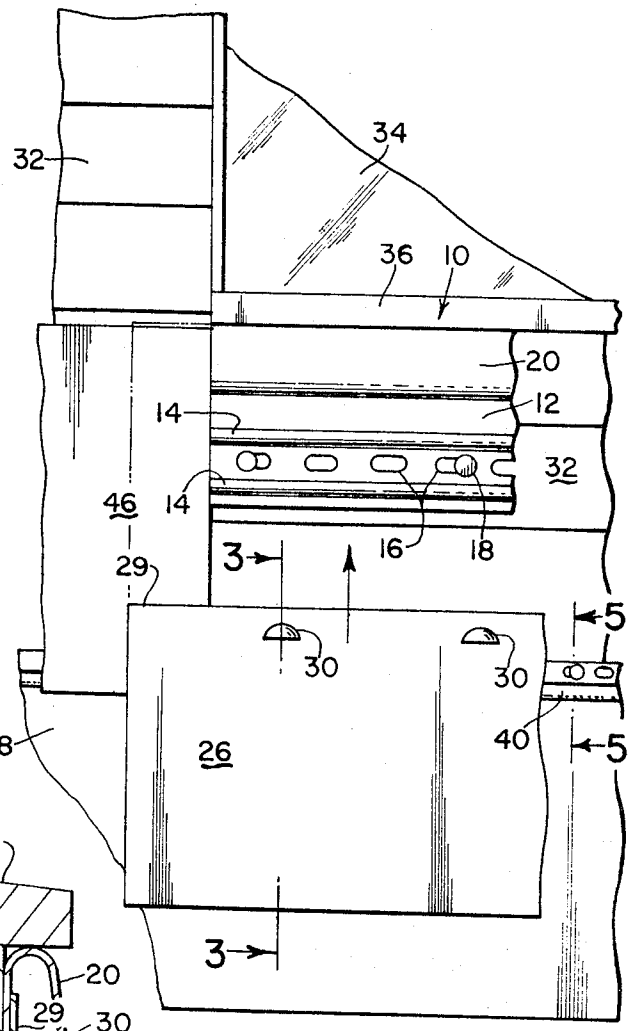


FIG. 2

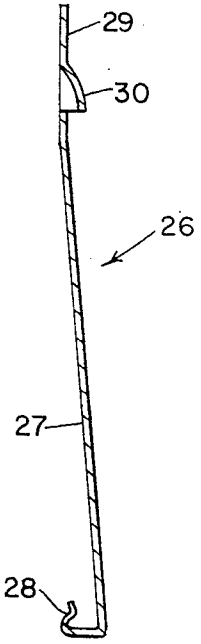


FIG. 3

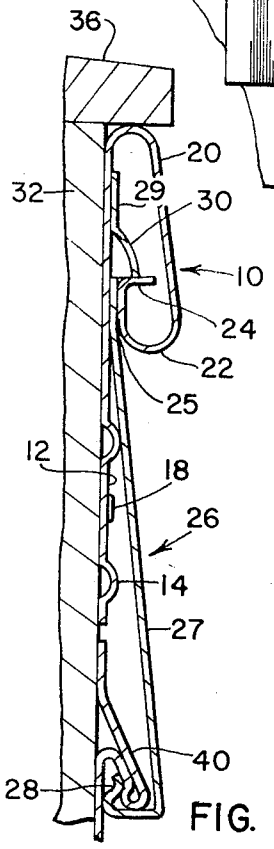


FIG. 4

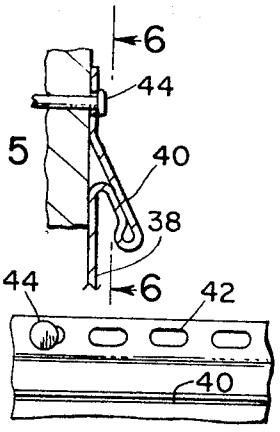


FIG. 5

FIG. 6

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SILL TRIM STRIP AND PANEL SIDING

The present invention relates to metallic siding of the type which is widely used on the exteriors of houses and other structures and more particularly to an improved trim strip for securing a piece of siding below a window sill or other horizontal projection.

A widely used form of metallic siding consists of horizontally extending metal strips which are formed to duplicate the appearance of wooden clapboard siding. Each siding strip is formed with a downwardly projecting lip near its upper edge for receiving a mating upwardly projecting lip at the lower edge of the next higher piece of siding. Each piece of siding extends a short distance above the lip to provide a nailing strip for securing the siding to the building wall. Thus, the nails are all concealed and a neat appearance is achieved. However, when the siding is being fitted around a window or other projection from the structure wall, the upper edge of the siding panel terminates immediately below the sill or other projection and there is no covering piece to shield the nails which are employed to hold this piece of siding in place. Nailing through the exposed portions of this siding member is undesirable since the nails invariably cause wrinkling or dishing of the siding panel, detracting from its appearance, or otherwise being objectionable in appearance.

It is the primary object of the present invention to provide an attractive trim strip for use with metallic siding which may be positioned immediately below a window sill or other horizontal projection of a building structure to receive and hold the upper end of a siding panel or other member by a sliding or "floating" connection therewith.

It also is an object of the invention to provide a trim strip which may be nailed to the building structure in such a manner that the nails are concealed when the siding panels are installed.

A further object of the present invention is a provision of a trim strip for retaining a piece of siding below a window sill or other projection which eliminates the need to nail the upper end of the siding panel and for providing an attractive finished structure.

The above and other objects of the invention will become apparent in the following detailed description and are achieved by providing a trim strip which consists, essentially, of a metallic strip which has a substantially flat body portion, a lip portion bent from the upper edge of the body portion in generally U-shaped relation to the body portion, and terminating in an inwardly curled edge. The lip portion extends somewhat less than half the height of the body portion so that the lower part of the body portion may be nailed directly to the building. The upper edge of a siding panel is provided with outwardly projecting lugs or fingers that are slid or forced upwardly between the body portion and curled edge on the lip portion of the trim strip so that the lugs or fingers engage the bent or curled edge portion of the trim strip.

For a more complete understanding of the invention and the objects and advantages thereof, reference should be had to the following detailed description in the accompanying drawings wherein there is shown a preferred embodiment of the invention.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the trim strip of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary elevational view of a wall structure showing the trim strip positioned immediately below a window sill preparatory to inserting a siding panel into the trim strip;

FIG. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the panel of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a vertical sectional view of the assembly of FIG. 2, showing the siding panel in its installed position;

FIG. 5 is a vertical section on line 5—5 of FIG. 2; and

FIG. 6 is a view taken on line 6—6 of FIG. 5.

It will be understood that, while in the following description reference is made to clapboard style siding and to the use of the trim strip below a window sill, the invention is not limited to this embodiment. Rather, the trim strip of the present invention may be used wherever it is desired to secure a metallic panel along a projecting member. For example, the strip is also ideally suited for securing a fascia strip to the upper edge or corner means of a wall.

Referring to FIG. 1, the trim strip of the present invention, designated generally by the reference numberal 10, will now be described. The strip 10 is formed of a length of sheet metal and has a substantially flat body portion 12. The body portion 12 may be provided with horizontally extending stiffening ribs 14 and with a horizontally extending series of holes 16 for receiving nails 18 employed to secure the strip to the building wall. At the upper end to the body portion 12, the strip is bent to form a lip 20 extending in U or V-shaped relation to the body portion and terminating in a curled end portion or flange 22 which is bent or curled first toward the back portion 12 and then toward the front or lip 20, as indicated at 24. A narrow gap 25 is provided between the end portion 22 and the main portion 12 of the strip 10.

A siding panel 26 adapted to be used with the trim strip 10 is shown in FIGS. 2, 3 and 4. This panel 26 has a body portion 27 which terminates its lower end with an upwardly projecting lip 28 and which is provided at its upper end 29 with a series of outwardly projecting fingers or lugs 30. These lugs 30 are suitably cut or pressed out from the panel and are formed so that their lower edges face downwardly and terminate ouwardly of the surface of the body portion 27 of the panel.

Referring now to FIGS. 2 and 4, the use of the trim strip 10 of the present invention will now be described. FIG. 2 illustrates a portion of the external wall of a structure which is covered with an existing siding 32 and which has a window 34. A sill 36 is provided at the bottom of the window and projects outwardly beyond the surface of the siding 32. The numeral 38 designates a siding panel which has been installed on the existing wall below the window 34. This panel is of conventional construction and is provided with a downwardly projecting lip 40 near its upper edge and a series of holes 42 along its upper edge for receiving nails 44 to secure the siding panel 38 to the building wall. The trim strip 10 is secured to the wall by means of the nails 18 with the upper edge of the strip abutting the lower edge of the sill 36. A siding panel 26 is then cut to the proper height to extend between the lip 40 of the previously installed panel 38 and the lower edge of the sill 36 and it is made of the sill width. The aligned projecting lugs or fingers 30 are then suitably formed in the upper end of the panel 26. The upper end 29 of the panel 26 is inserted into the groove 25 between the body portion 12 and the curled or bent end portion or edge 22 of the

trim strip. The panel **26** is then forced upwardly so that the lugs **30** are forced up beyond the end **24** of the lip of the trim strip. At the same time, the upwardly projecting lip **28** at the lower end of the panel **26** is engaged by the downwardly projecting lip **40** of the previously installed panel **38.** Or the panel **26** can be slid into engagement with the trim strip and panel **26.** The end portion **24** of the trim strip lip engages the lower edges of the lugs **30** and thus serves to retain the panel **26** in place. It will be noted that the nails **18** which secure the trim strip in place are now covered by the panel **26** and therefore do not detract from the appearance of the paneling. Additional panels **46** may now be installed to complete the wall covering and form a neat, attractive facing for the building.

While the panel **26** has been described as being a separate panel cut to fit the space between the trim strip **10** and a previously installed lower panel **38,** it is also contemplated that the panel **26** may merely be a portion of a longer panel. This is a preferably arrangement as it avoids joints between adjacent horizontal panels below the windows. In such a situation, a notch is cut into the upper edge of a horizontal panel with the notch width being equal to that of the window sill. The lugs **30** are then formed along the upper edge of the notched portion of the panel and the panel is installed in the same manner as has been described.

While only the best known embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described herein, it will be understood that the invention is not limited thereto or thereby. Reference should therefore be had to the appended claims in determining the true scope of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A siding panel and trim strip combination, comprising:

a metallic siding panel having a plurality of outwardly projecting lugs formed thereon in a line parallel to and closely adjacent the upper edge of the panel, the lugs having edges thereon facing downwardly; and

a metallic trim strip having a substantially flat body portion adapted to be secured to a structure wall, and a lip portion extending outwardly and downwardly from the upper end of the body portion and terminating in a lower edge bent inwardly to a C-shaped configuration between the lip and body portions, the lip portion being of lesser height than the body portion, the siding panel being retained in place on the structure wall by inserting the upper edge of the panel between the body portion and C-shaped end of the lip portion of the trim member so that the C-shaped end engages the lugs of the panel; and

the lug edges being flat and the lower edge of said lip portion extends substantially horizontally and said lug edges engage the horizontal edge of said lip portion for locked engagement therewith.

2. The combination of a trim strip and a building member or panel, comprising:

a trim strip having a generally flat body portion adapted to be secured to a wall, a lip portion bent from the upper edge of the body portion and extending in a slightly diverging relation to the body portion, the lip portion being of lesser height than the body portion, and a substantially C-shaped flange portion formed at the lower edge of the lip portion and extending toward the body portion;

a building panel having a plurality of outwardly projecting lugs formed therein adjacent the upper edge of the panel, the panel being secured in place by the lugs of the panel engaging the flange portion of the trim strip, the panel being free to move relative to the trim strip; and

said C-shaped flange portion having an inner edge extending substantially horizontally out toward a central section of said lip portion and said lugs engage the horizontal edge of said lip portion.

3. The combination according to claim **2** wherein clearance is provided between the upper edge of the panel and said lip portion of the trim strip, and the panel can move laterally and vertically upwardly of the trim strip.

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