

[54] CORNER FURRING STRIP

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[51] Int. Cl.E04b 2/60

[58] Field of Search.....52/254, 269, 280-283, 52/270, 346, 291-292, 509, 362, 363, 275, 720

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Primary Examiner—Frank L. Abbott

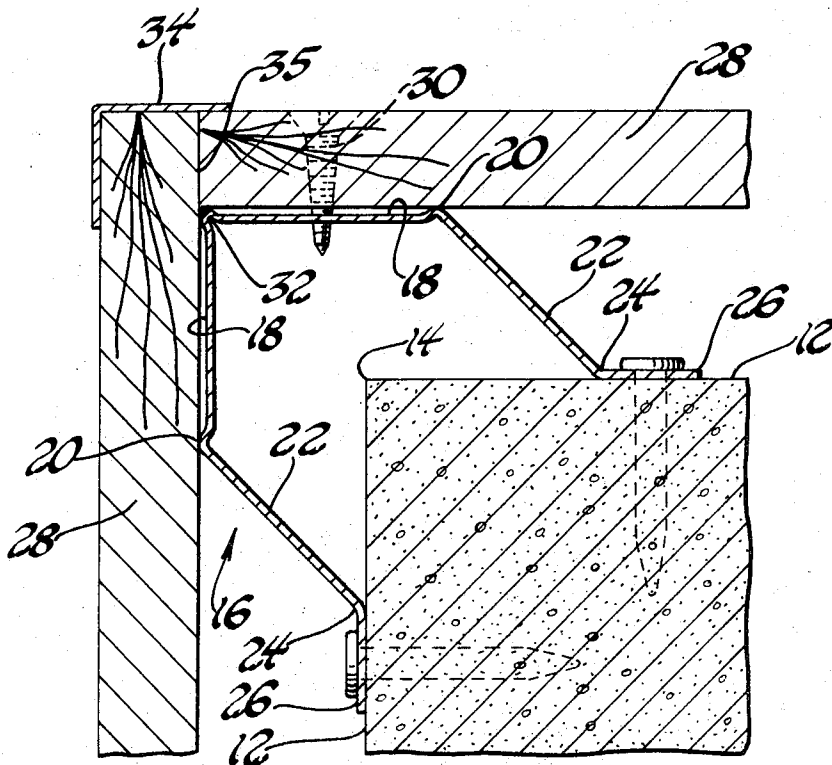
Assistant Examiner—Henry E. Raduazo

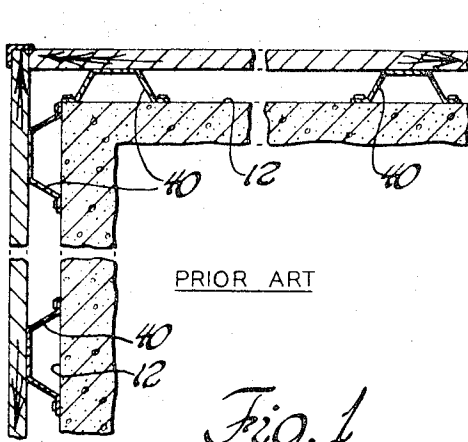
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[57] ABSTRACT

An elongated unitary strip member which supports wall panels at a corner intersection of a building. The strip member has a cross section including a pair of faces upon which the panels are supported and which are spaced from the corner defined by the building walls. A leg extends from the outward end of each face at an angle of approximately 135° relative to the face and a flange extends parallel to each leg from the end thereof. The flanges are secured to the walls of the building.

4 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures





PRIOR ART

Fig. 1

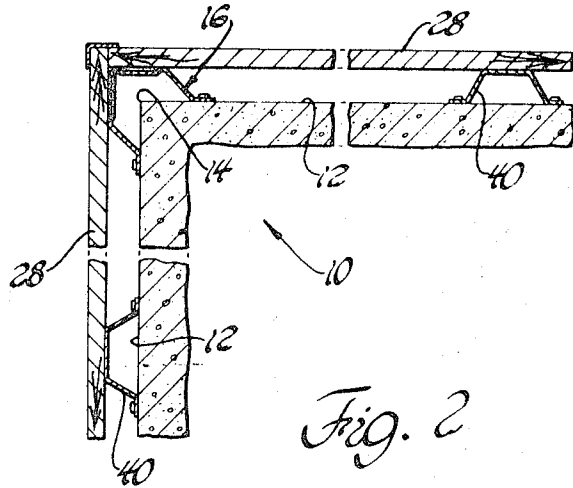


Fig. 2

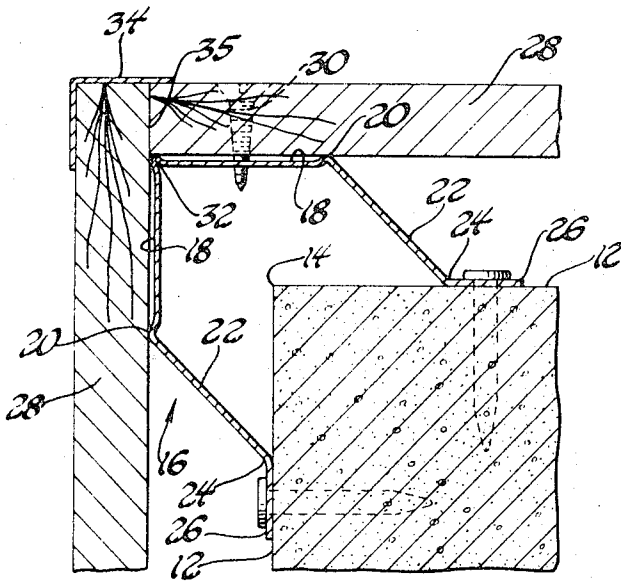


Fig. 3

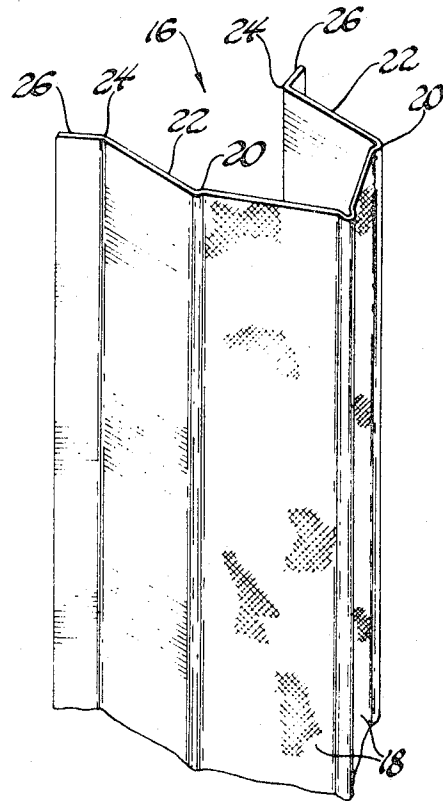


Fig. 4

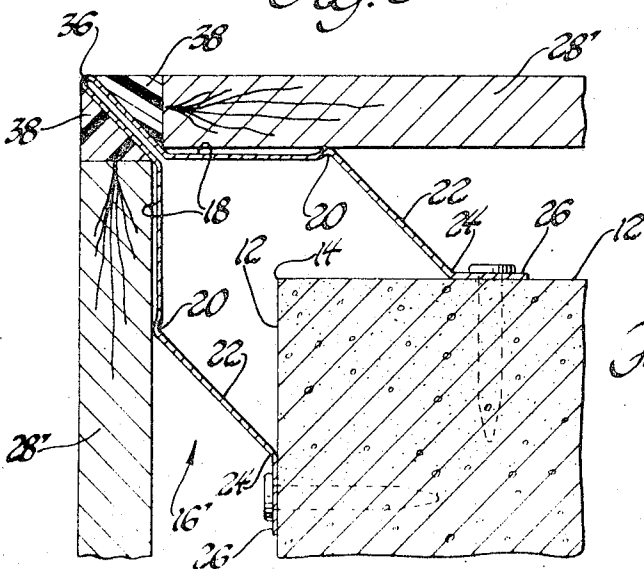


Fig. 5

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CORNER FURRING STRIP

This invention relates to the mounting of wall panels to building walls and more specifically to the mounting of such wall panels at a corner defined by the building wall.

FIG. 1 of the drawings herein discloses the prior art system of mounting wall panels to a concrete building wall. As FIG. 1 illustrates, the wall panels define a corner but the wall panels are secured to and supported on the building walls in spaced relation to the corner defined by the building walls. Thus, the wall panels are unsupported at the corner. Because the wall panels are unsupported at the corner, the paneling sounds hollow and it is difficult to properly position metal corner beads or trims. Also, in high traffic areas carts or the like hit and shear off the wall panels at the unsupported corners. Furthermore, it is difficult and time consuming to mount the two support strips to the cement wall adjacent the corner of a cement building wall because cement corners have the tendency to chip.

There are corner strips known to the prior art but there are no corner strips which support the wall panels at the corner of the building walls and which allow the wall panels to meet at an innerface to define a corner. Examples of such prior art corner pieces are shown in U.S. Pat. Nos. 3,640,044 and 3,206,806. Even though these prior art corner strips are not adapted or configured so as to solve the problems which the instant invention solves, they in addition do not possess the strength laterally that the instant invention does nor are they configured in a manner that they are easily nested for packaging and shipping.

Accordingly, it is an object and feature of this invention to provide an elongated unitary strip member for supporting wall panels at a corner intersection of a building to overcome the problems associated with the prior art corner strips.

Other objects and attendant advantages of the present invention will be readily appreciated as the same becomes better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view of a prior art assembly;

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view of a preferred embodiment of the assembly of the instant invention;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary cross-sectional view of a preferred embodiment of the unitary corner strip member of the instant invention;

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the corner strip member of the instant invention; and

FIG. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary cross-sectional view similar to FIG. 3 but showing an alternative embodiment of the corner strip member of the instant invention.

Referring now to the drawings wherein like numerals indicate like or corresponding parts throughout the several views, a building corner structure or assembly constructed in accordance with the instant invention is generally shown at 10 in FIG. 2.

The assembly 10 includes two concrete building walls 12 which are disposed at an angle of 90° relative to one another and intersect at a corner 14.

An elongated unitary metal strip member constructed in accordance with the instant invention is generally shown at 16 in FIGS. 2 through 4 and as an alternative embodiment at 16' in FIG. 5. The elongated unitary strip member 16 has a cross section including a pair of faces 18 which extend from the intersection of the planes containing the faces 18 away from one another to outward ends defined by the ridges 20. The planes in which the faces 18 lie are disposed at an angle of approximately 90° relative to one another.

A leg 22 extends from the outward end 20 of each face 18 to an inner end 24. The legs 22 are generally parallel to one another and are disposed at an angle of approximately 135° relative to the planes containing the faces 18, and relative to the walls 12 of the building.

A flange 26 extends from the inner end 24 of each leg 22 and at an angle of approximately 135° relative thereto. The flanges 26 are disposed at an angle of approximately 90° relative to one another.

The flanges 26 and the legs 22 define support means connected to the walls 12 for supporting the faces 18 in parallel spaced relationship to the walls 12.

A pair of wall panels 28, and 28' in the case of the embodiment of FIG. 5, are disposed at an angle of approximately 90° apart and are supported on the faces 18. The wall panels are secured to the faces 18 as by screws 30, only one of which is indicated in FIG. 3. The faces 18 have roughened surfaces or are knurled as indicated in FIG. 4 so that when a screw is urged into engagement with the faces 18 to attach the wall panels 28, it is prevented from moving along the faces 18.

In the embodiment of FIGS. 2 through 4, there is included a corner ridge 32 at the intersection of the faces 18. The ridges 20 and 32 support the wall panels 28, provide the member 16 with bending strength, allow firm contact with the wall panels 28, and prevent warping.

A metal corner bead 34 is secured to the wall panels 28. The panels 28 mate one another along an interface 35 to define a corner.

The embodiment of FIG. 5 differs from the embodiment of FIGS. 2 through 4 by including a projection 36 which extends from the intersection of the planes containing the faces 18 at an angle of approximately 135° relative to the faces 18. The projection 36 comprises a generally U-shaped section integral with the member 16.

A filler material 38 such as a plastic or the like is disposed between the panels 28' and the projection 36 to define a corner. In such a manner the ends or side edges of the panels 28' need not be mitered or finished so as to be in precise mating engagement with one another.

The wall panels 28 and 28' are typically dry wall which are in turn covered such as by a wallpaper or vinyl coverings.

As illustrated in FIG. 4, conventional strips 40 are disposed along the walls 12 for supporting the wall panels 28 on the walls 12 at positions spaced from the corner 18. Such strips 40 have been utilized in the prior art assemblies as illustrated in FIG. 1.

The invention has been described in an illustrative manner, and it is to be understood that the terminology which has been used is intended to be in the nature of words of description rather than of limitation.

Obviously, many modifications and variations of the present invention are possible in light of the above teachings. It is, therefore, to be understood that within the scope of the appended claims, the invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. An elongated unitary strip member for supporting wall panels at a corner intersection, said strip member having a cross section including a pair of faces extending from the intersection of the planes containing said faces away from one another to outward ends, said planes being disposed approximately 90° apart, a leg extending from the outward end of each face to an inner end at an angle of approximately 135° relative thereto, said legs being generally parallel to one another, a flange extending from the inner end of each

leg at an angle of approximately 135° relative thereto, said flanges being disposed at an angle of approximately 90° relative to one another, a ridge projecting outwardly at each intersection between a leg and a face, a ridge projecting outwardly at the intersection of said faces, said ridges defining the outward extremities of said strip member, said faces and legs and flanges being coextensive with one another.

2. A member as set forth in claim 1 wherein said faces have roughened surfaces.

3. A member as set forth in claim 2 wherein said surfaces are knurled.

4. A member as set forth in claim 1 wherein said ridge at the intersection of said faces comprises a projection of generally U-shaped cross section and extending 135° relative to each of said planes.

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