Oct. 5, 1971 D. E. MOCK 3,609,928

JAMB STRUCTURE

Filed Oct. 13, 1969

FIG. 1.

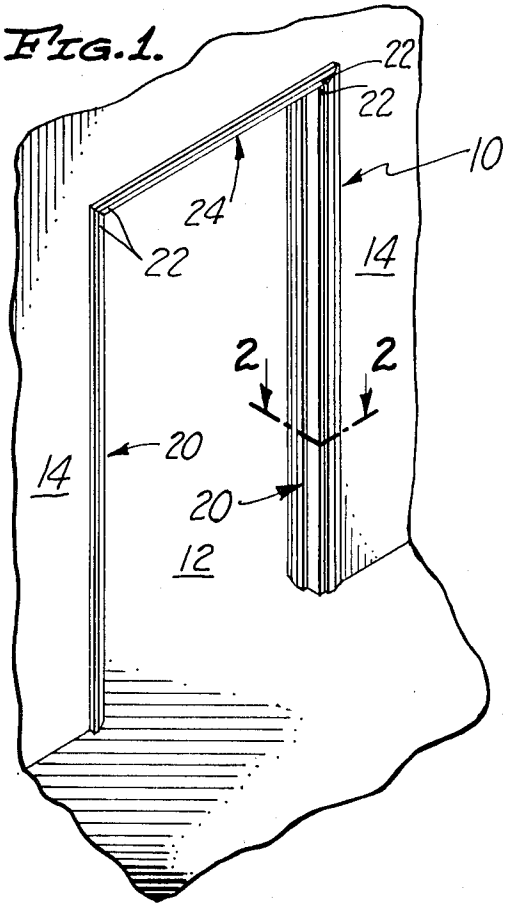


FIG. 3.

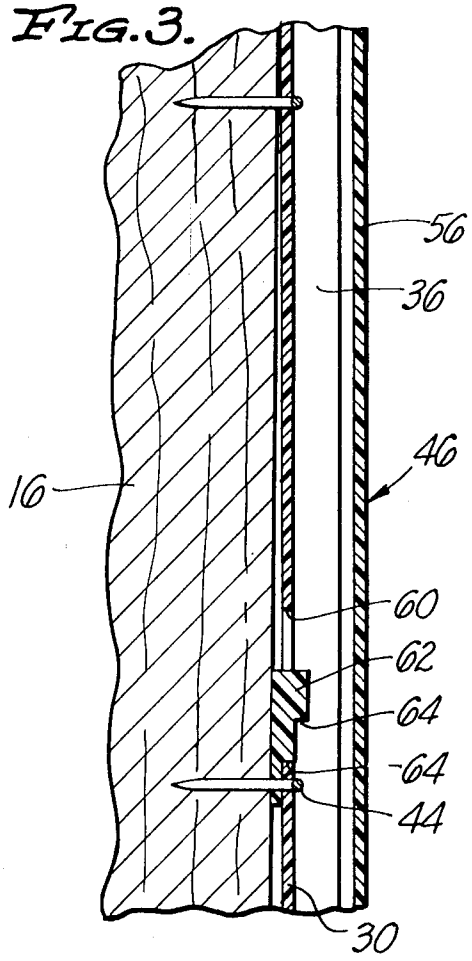
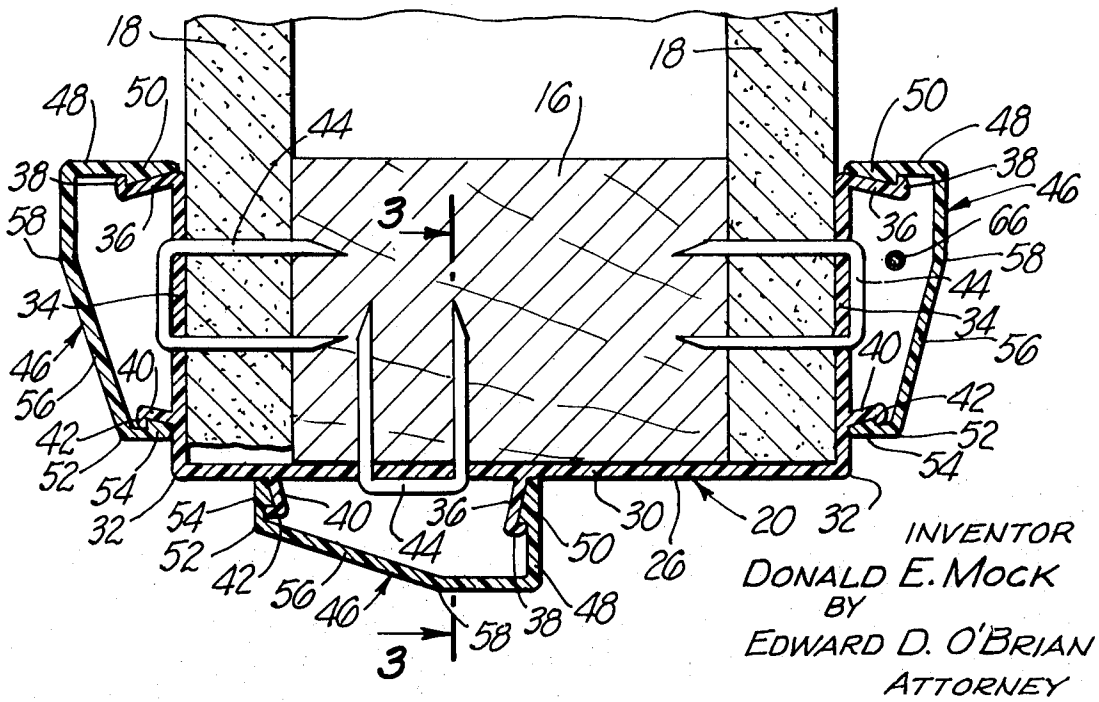


FIG. 2.



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JAMB STRUCTURE

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U.S. Cl. 52—210 2 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A jamb structure is disclosed which includes an elongated, extruded central channel having parts which are adapted to overlie the width of an opening and to cover the walls adjacent to the opening. Holding means for "snap" connection to trim channels are provided on the parts of the central channel so that such trim channels may be easily secured in place to cover fastenings securing the central channel to the wall containing the opening.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

For many years jamb structures such as are commonly used with doors but which are also used with other building openings have been manufactured of wood. More recently metal jamb structures have been employed in many different applications. It is considered that such prior jamb structures suffer from various limitations tending to make their use in current buildings undesirable.

Because of the nature of such prior jamb structures and the fact that there are many such structures it is considered impractical to detail all of the limitations and disadvantages of all of such prior structures. As a class such prior structures tend to be disadvantageous because of cost considerations. Such considerations involve not only the costs of appropriately creating the parts used in such structures but the costs of installing such structures. At the present the time required to install a jamb structure is significant from an economic standpoint.

Various prior jamb structures also tend to be comparatively heavy in weight. Although for many applications this is not significant it is significant in certain applications. As an example of this jamb structures are utilized in recreational vehicles such as trailers and campers. It is constantly desired to keep the weight of such vehicles as low as reasonably possible so as to improve their portability.

From these considerations it will be apparent that there is a need for new and improved jamb structures which can be manufactured at a comparatively nominal cost, which can be installed rapidly with a minimum amount of labor and which are comparatively light in weight.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A broad objective of the present invention is to provide new and improved jamb structures which meet this need. Related more detailed objectives of the invention are to provide jamb structures the parts of which can be manufactured at a comparatively nominal cost by present day plastic extrusion techniques; which can be easily and conveniently installed in a very short period by even comparatively unskilled labor; which are comparatively light in weight; which provide a neat, attractive appearance; and which are capable of giving prolonged, satisfactory performance.

These objectives are achieved by providing a jamb structure having an elongated extruded central channel which in turn has a center part adapted to extend across an opening such as a door opening, covering parts attached to the side edges of the central part so as to extend therefrom parallel to one another, said covering parts being adapted to overlie portions of the wall defining the opening, and holding means located on these parts for carrying a trim channel. With a structure of this invention the trim channels are used in such a manner as to cover fasteners employed to secure the central channel in place and to finish off the entire jamb structure so that it has a neat, functional appearance.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The invention is best more fully explained with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is an isometric view showing a complete door jamb in accordance with this invention;

FIG. 2 is a partial cross-sectional view taken at line 2—2 of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 3 is a partial cross-sectional view taken at line 3—3 of FIG. 2.

The accompanying drawing is primarily intended to illustrate for explanatory purposes a presently preferred embodiment or form of a jamb structure of the present invention. From a consideration of this drawing and the remainder of this specification it will be realized how the invention achieves the various objectives and advantages indicated in the preceding summary. It will also be realized that various design and similar changes may be made through the use of exercise of routine design skill, in the precise structure shown in achieving different jamb structures having the same advantages as the structure shown.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

In the drawing there is shown a complete jamb structure **10** of the present invention installed within an opening **12** such as a door opening in a wall **14**. The particular wall **14** shown includes studs **16** which frame the opening **12** and wall members **18** such as plaster board sheets, plywood sheets or the like. These wall members **18** are attached to the studs **16** in any known manner.

The jamb structure **10** consists of vertically extending jambs **20** having mitered upper ends **22** between which there extends a header **24** having similar ends **22**. For convenience of designation in the remainder of this specification the header **24** will be considered as a jamb **20** although technically this is incorrect terminology since a jamb should extend vertically so as to enclose the sides of an opening. The term "jamb" is at times used to designate a complete structure surrounding an opening so as to define it. The header **24** is in all respects identical to the jamb **20**.

As shown in FIG. 2 the jamb **20** includes an elongated central channel **26** having a center part **30** which is adapted to overlie and extend between the sides of the wall **14** at the opening **12**. This center part **30** is an elongated member having parallel edges **32**. Correspondingly dimensioned covering parts **34** are preferably formed in-

tegrally with the center part **30** at the edges **32** so as to extend from the same side of the center part **30** parallel to one another. These covering parts **34** and the center part **30** are preferably flat so as to present a neat, square cut appearance and so that the covering parts **34** will fit adjacent to and against the wall members **18**.

The center part **30** and the covering parts **34** carry what may be considered as "holding means" integrally formed with these parts. Each of the holding means used includes a first arm **36** having a bent over end **38** and a second arm **40** having a bent over end **42**. These arms **36** and **40** extend the length of the channel **26** and in effect form a part of it. These arms **36** and **40** are located parallel to one another and are spaced apart. This spacing is preferably sufficient so that conventional fasteners **44** may be inserted between the arms **36** and **40** in order to secure the channel **26** in place to the stud **16** and the wall members **18**. With the preferred construction of the present invention the parts **30** and **34** are sufficiently thin so that they may be easily permeated by staples used as the fasteners **44**.

With this structure trim channels **46** can be easily connected to the channel **26** after this channel **26** is installed in place so as to cover the fasteners **44** used and so as to "finish off" the appearance of the jamb structure **40** to a neat configuration. The trim channels **46** used with the structure shown are all preferably identically formed. Each of these channels **46** has a first comparatively long terminal wall **48** provided with a hook like end **50** and a short second terminal wall **52** which is also provided with a hook like end **54**. These walls **48** and **52** are connected with a central wall **56** which is preferably provided with a central bend **58** so as to have a wood molding type of appearance. It will be noted that the hook like ends **50** and **54** include sloping walls and perpendicularly extending walls of a shape more or less resembling a pointed barb. Since such walls are part of a common hook like shape they are not separately identified in the drawing.

This structure is designed so that the trim channels **46** may be located over the arms **36** and **40** and then may be snapped into place by merely being pushed towards these arms. During such movement the hook like ends **50** and **54** engage the bent over ends **38** and **42** so that some temporary deformation takes place in the arms **36** and **40** and the walls **48** and **52** until such time as the end **38** has cleared the end **50** and the end **42** has cleared the end **54**. After these ends have passed one another the structure described will snap together so that the trim channels **46** are firmly secured in place.

In order to obtain this mode of operation it is necessary to form the central channel **26** and the trim channels **46** out of a self-supporting material. Preferably the material used in somewhat resilient so as to achieve the snapping action described. The channel **26** and the channels **46** may be easily formed out of known thermoplastic polymers having these physical properties at a comparatively nominal cost using present day plastic extrusion techniques. Materials such as ABS polymers may be satisfactorily employed.

In certain types of construction frequently an opening such as the opening **12** does not possess completely straight or completely parallel walls. The jamb structure **10** may be formed so as to be used in this eventually by including in the central part **30** between the arms **36** and **40** on such part **30** various openings **60**. Preferably these openings **60** are located at periodic, equally spaced intervals.

When they are employed spacer members **62** in the nature of wedges may be inserted through them so as to shim up the central channel **26** so that it extends in a desired path and a fastener such as a fastener **44** may be located so as to extend throuih any spacer member **62** used.

The particular spacer member **62** illustrated in FIG. 3 has a plurality of stepped shoulders **64** corresponding to various amounts of spacing frequently needed. With this structure the spacer members **62** will rest at the bottom of an opening **60** with one of the stepped shoulders **64** engaging the center part **30** so as to stay in place as the installation procedure involving the fasteners **44** is carried out.

When the jamb structure **10** is used as described the trim channel **46** carried by the center part **30** serves as an effective door stop. Doors may be installed in a complete jamb structure **10** in accordance with conventional practice so as to abut against this particular trim channel **46**. If desired, electrical conduit such as bell wire **66** may be run through a trim channel **46** so as to be secured in place. When this is done in effect the combination of the channels **26** and **46** serves as a conduit for the wire carried in this manner.

I claim:

1. In combination:

a wall having parallel sides and an opening extending between said sides, said opening being defined by a wall extending transverse to said parallel sides,

a continuous, unitary jamb member having an elongated center part extending across said wall defining said opening between said sides of said wall,

said center part having parallel side edges located adjacent to the intersections of said parallel sides and said wall defining said opening,

said jamb member also having covering parts extending from each of said side edges or said center part,

said covering parts extending from the same side of said center part and being located parallel to one another,

said covering parts overlying and covering said sides of said wall, said center part and said covering parts extending the length of said jamb member,

identical holding means located on the surfaces of said center part and said covering parts which are remote from said wall,

each of said holding means extending the length of said jamb member,

each of said holding means comprising two parallel arms spaced from one another a sufficient distance so that fasteners may be located between said arms,

said arms being formed integrally with said jamb and being resilient so as to be capable of temporary deformation, each of said arms having a heated terminal end,

fastening means extending between the arms of each of said holding means,

said fastening means all extending through said jamb member into said wall so as to secure said jamb member to said wall,

an identical trim channel held by each of said holding means,

said trim channels each having a center wall joining and supporting two integrally formed arms,

each of said arms having a hooked shaped extremity,

said trim channels being resilient and being located on said holding means so that said center walls extend so as to cover fastening means and so that the arms on said trim channels engage said arms on said holding means so as to secure said trim channels in place on said jamb member,

said trim channels extending the length of said jamb member,

said arms on said trim channels and said holding means being sufficiently resilient so that said trim channels can be snapped into place on said holding means.

2. The combination claimed in claim **1** wherein:

said center part of said jamb member has a plurality of spaced openings formed therein,

said openings extending through said center part and being positioned between the arms of said holding means on said center part,

a spacer member for shimming said jamb member to a desired position located so as to extend through one of said openings,

said spacer member having stepped shoulders, one of said shoulders of said spacer member engaging an edge of said one of said openings so as to be supported between said wall and said center part in order to position said center part relative to said wall.

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