May 3, 1938. J. H. WHITMARSH 2,116,457

VENTILATING BUILDING BLOCK

Filed Aug. 23, 1937

Fig. 1.

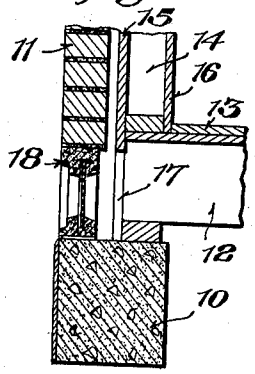


Fig. 2.

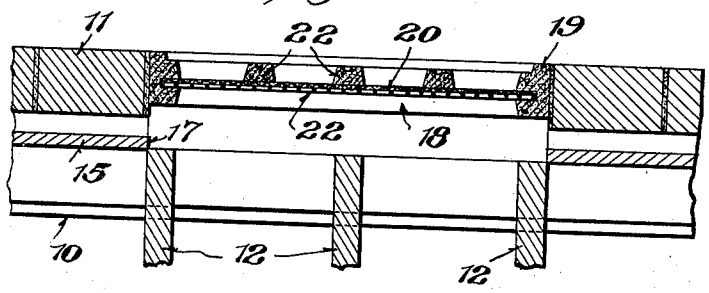


Fig. 3.

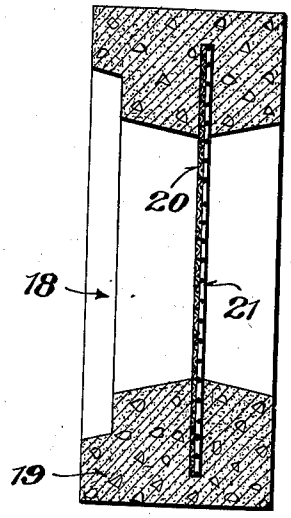


Fig. 5

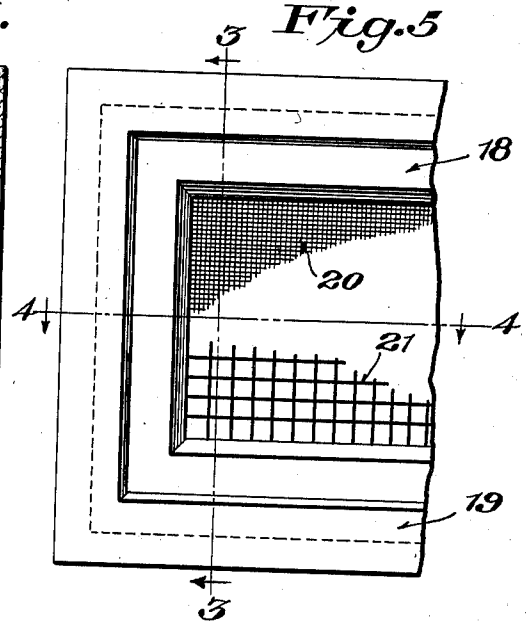
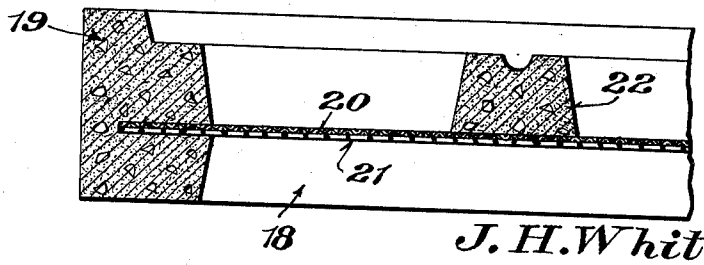


Fig. 4.



Inventor

J. H. Whitmarsh,

By Emery Booth Wheeler & Mills

Attorneys

Patented May 3, 1938 2,116,457

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,116,457

VENTILATING BUILDING BLOCK

James H. Whitmarsh, Dallas, Tex.

Application August 23, 1937, Serial No. 160,528

3 Claims. (Cl. 72—1)

The present invention relates to wall ventilators for buildings and aims generally to improve ventilators of that type as well as the construction of buildings in which it is used.

Among the principal aims and objects of the invention is the provision of a cast or like stone ventilator adapted for stone, brick or veneer buildings, which will fit into the veneer finish, providing suitable ventilation for the outside wall of a building, as for example below the floor of a cellarless building.

These and other advantages of the invention will be apparent from the more detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the invention such as are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a detail vertical sectional view of a portion of a building with my improved wall ventilator in place;

Fig. 2 is a detail horizontal sectional view thereof as taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional view of the ventilator;

Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view thereof; and

Fig. 5 is a front elevation of a modified form of ventilator.

According to the invention, the building may include a foundation wall or footing 10 of suitable construction, as for example, concrete block, stone or brick, of suitable thickness to support the veneering 11 and the interior structural members including joists 12 on which are supported the flooring 13, studs 14, carrying the usual sheathing 15 and wall finish 16. The sheathing 15 may extend down over the ends of the joists 12 as shown, being open or cut out as at 17 at certain areas to permit circulation of air from the outside between the joists.

The veneering 11 may be of any suitable construction as for example brick, stone or rock, and includes preferably in each wall, one or more ventilator blocks 18 supported on the foundation 10 and in line with the cut out portion 17 or open ended joists 12. The ventilator advantageously is of such size as to support the veneering 11 and preferably has a vertical area corresponding to the area of a given number of standard building bricks. Preferably the ventilator is spaced from the sheathing 15 so as to establish a circulation of air from the outside of the building into the space between the veneering 11 and sheathing 15 as well as between the joists.

The ventilator 18 advantageously may be formed of cast stone or other cementitious material and preferably comprises a cast cementitious rectangular frame 19 of substantial cross section. The interior of the frame 19, which is open, is provided with a fine copper screen 20, preferably of 16-mesh, backed by a reinforcing coarser screen 21, preferably of 3-mesh galvanized wire. The two contacting screens 20 and 21 are of greater dimension than the opening of the frame 19, and are cast in the frame as it is molded. As shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the screens extend more than half way into the body of the frame 19 and act to reinforce the cementitious frame against breakage.

The ventilators are preferably made in a variety of sizes ranging from 16½ inches to 33½ inches in length by 7¾ to 10½ inches in height. The larger size of ventilators have, of course, correspondingly larger openings and preferably the upper and lower walls of the frame are reinforced against compressive forces by means of cementitious stiles or dividers 22 cast integrally with the sides of the frames. The screens 20 and 21 may, if desired, be embedded in the stiles 22 to add rigidity to the screens.

Advantages of the invention reside in the provision of a simply constructed cast stone ventilator especially adapted to fit and be used in the construction of veneer buildings. My improved ventilator, as reinforced by the screens and stiles, is sufficiently strong to support the veneer of the building. The fine copper screen 20 permits an adequate circulation of air into the interior of the foundation walls, will exclude any insects such as mosquitoes and the like. The fine screen, when reinforced by the heavier wire screen 21 is sufficiently strong to be protected against breakage by rodents and the like.

Other advantages will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

I claim:

1. A building construction of the class described comprising a foundation wall, floor joists supported on said wall, a flooring overlying said joists, a cementitious ventilating building block supported on said foundation wall in the plane of said joists, a veneering of brick and the like supported on said ventilating block, and a screened ventilating opening in said block for establishing a circulation of air from the outside of said building and between said floor joists.

2. A building construction as defined in claim 1 characterized in that the ventilating building block is screened by contacting layers of a relatively fine copper screen and a relatively heavier coarse reinforcing screen, both of said screens

being embedded in the walls of said block and reinforcing the latter.

3. A building construction as defined in claim 1 characterized in that the ventilating building block is formed with a relatively large rectangular opening extending transversely through said block, said opening being screened by a relatively fine copper screen and a relatively heavy reinforcing screen, and cementitious stiles formed integrally with one side of the block and bridging the opening vertically to reinforce the longitudinal sides thereof.

JAMES H. WHITMARSH.