Jan. 16, 1940. E. R. LEARY 2,187,087

FLEXIBLE TEMPLATE

Filed Dec. 31, 1937

Fig. 2.

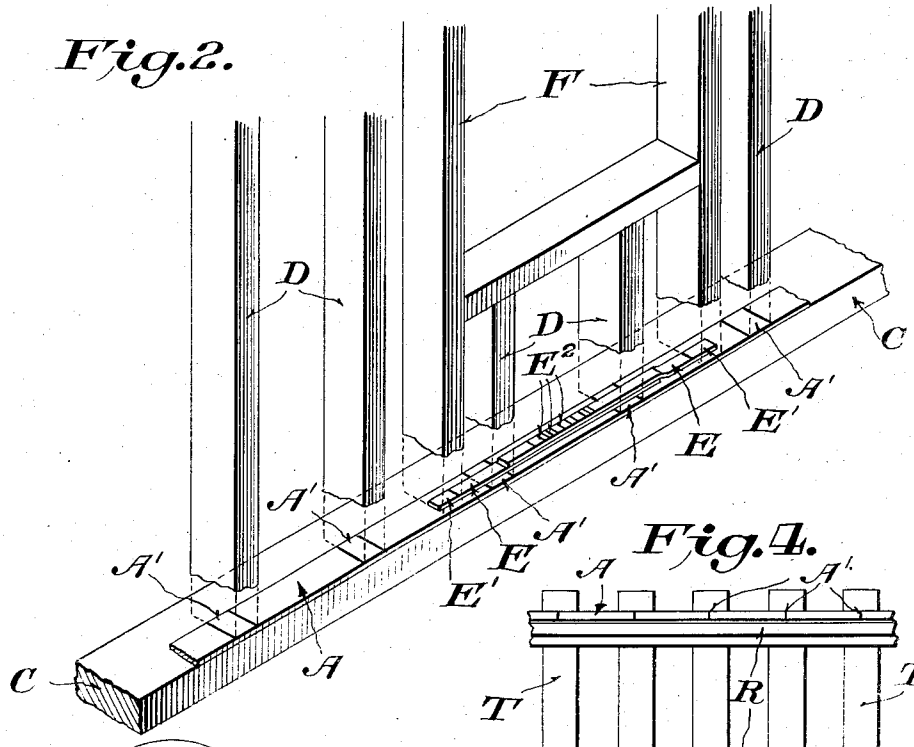


Fig. 4.

Fig. 1.

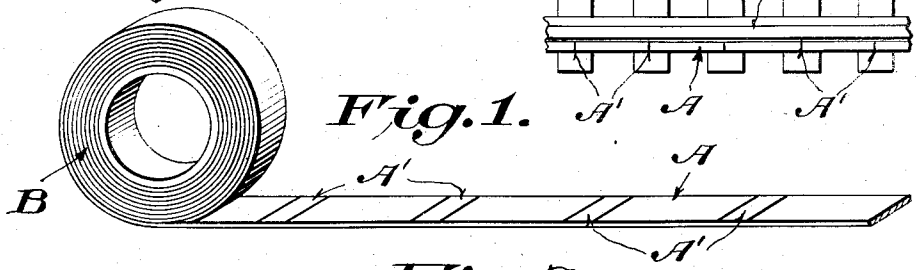
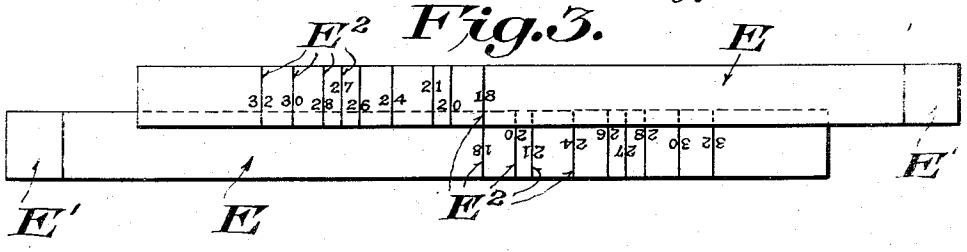


Fig. 3.



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FLEXIBLE TEMPLATE

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Application December 31, 1937, Serial No. 182,878

5 Claims. (Cl. 33—137)

This invention is a novel flexible template or guide particularly adapted for use in the construction of buildings and the like to indicate or guide the placing of the principal component parts which go to make up the completed frame structure, such parts comprising studding, beams, and parts forming the rough openings for doors and windows, etc.; and the principal object of the invention is to provide a flexible template in the form of a tape having indicia thereon denoting predetermined spacings or locations of such parts, said tape being of inexpensive material intended to be retained in the structure when completed.

A further object of this invention is to provide a flexible template in the form of a roll of gummed or plain tape having indicia thereon, which tape may be manufactured at small cost, and lengths of the roll utilized in the construction of buildings or the like, thereby eliminating the usual expense of manually laying off the spacings for studdings, beams, rafters, and the like, now necessary in the construction of buildings, same being customarily performed by skilled workmen, my template being adapted for use by ordinary workmen by simply laying a length of the tape on a sill or the like to thereby directly obtain without error the spacings for the studs, framing for rough openings for windows and doors, etc., which may be erected directly over the tape.

I will explain the invention with reference to the accompanying drawing which illustrates several practical embodiments thereof to enable others familiar with the art to adopt and use the same; and will summarize in the claims the essential features of the invention for which protection is desired.

In said drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a roll of the tape forming the main portion of the template.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a part of a frame structure showing the use of my novel flexible template for positioning or spacing the studding, and the frame members for a window opening.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a supplementary template used for gauging the spacings of the member forming the rough opening of a window.

Fig. 4 is a plan view showing the use of my novel template for spacing railroad ties.

As shown in Fig. 1, the flexible template consists of gummed or plain tape A, of inexpensive material such as paper, gauze, or the like, which tape is preferably made up in the form of a roll B of convenient size, the tape having printed, stamped, embossed, perforated, or otherwise displayed on one or both faces, indicia A' corresponding with the desired spacing of elements, such as the studdings or beams for buildings, spacing of railroad ties, or the like. Preferably the tape is gummed so that it may be adhesively secured to a base object, and the material of the tape is such that it will remain in place at least a sufficient length of time to permit the parts to be assembled, although same may eventually become incorporated in the entire building structure.

As shown in Fig. 2, the building comprises a sill C upon the top surface of which adjacent the outer edge is secured, either by the adhesive gum or by suitable extraneous fastenings, a length of tape A bearing the indicia A', whereby the indicia will indicate directly to an unskilled workman the proper location or spacing of the studdings D which are to be erected upon sill C directly over the tape A covering the indicia A' thereof, the indicia also serving as a means for squaring or setting the studding at the proper angle with respect to the sill. Usually in building construction, the studding is spaced on sixteen inch centers, and the indicia would correspond with this spacing; but the indicia may be such as will suit any desired design.

The tape A would in practice extend around the entire sill not only to locate the studding, etc., but also to locate the door and window openings. For the spacing of the door and window openings, we preferably utilize a supplemental template of the form shown in Fig. 3, the same consisting of two identical tape members E, E, of similar material as the tape A, which members E, E, in practice are superimposed in reverse relation (although for the purpose of illustration in Fig. 3 same are shown as somewhat displaced laterally) each of the members E, E, having indicia E' at one end to indicate the exact locations of the window studs F (Fig. 2). Each of the members E, E, have series of indicia or markings E^2, E^2, adjacent their other ends bearing numbers denoting openings of various widths, whereby when the two members E, E, are superimposed with the same indicia coinciding, the template will denote an opening of corresponding width. Thus in Fig. 3 indicia number 18 of both members E, E, are shown as coinciding, thus producing a template for the proper spacing of studs F, F, for a window having an 18" glass. If the indicia numbered 32 were coinciding, the template would be correct for a window having a 32" glass. Any

desired scale of indicia E^2 may be used. Incidentally, the line of coincidence of the same indicia E^2 (such as 18, Fig. 3) in the template members E, E, is the center of the template, and this line may be used by the builder to center the template in relation to the plan of the structure.

The template E, E, indicating the width of the opening for the windows or doors is preferably made narrower than the main tape A, so that when the gauge E, E, is placed upon the tape A, as shown in Fig. 2, the underlying markings on tape A will not be entirely hidden from view. Moreover, the builder, when seeing the template E superimposed upon tape A, will readily know that an opening is to be planned, thus acting as a check against possible error at that point. For the spacing of frame members for door openings templates similar to that shown in Fig. 3 may be used, same bearing proper indicia E^2 of the same character shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 4 shows an application of tape A to laying railroad ties, in which lengths of tapes A are secured to the rails R, the indicia A' on the tapes denoting the proper spacing for the ties T which may be readily positioned beneath the rails at their proper spacings, without resorting to other measuring or geometrical apparatus.

My invention thus provides a simple, efficient and very inexpensive means for readily laying out the spacings of members for any construction work, eliminating costly and careless mistakes often encountered in framing, and the templates, being inexpensive to manufacture, need only be used once. The particular indicia on the templates may be of any desired spacing nature.

While I have illustrated several applications of the template, obviously the same may be extensively used in other types of structural or fabrication work, such as in roof structures, bridge structures, concrete form work, and many other analogous uses.

I claim:

1. A flexible template, comprising a length of tape adapted to be permanently secured to an object, and having a series of spaced indicia thereon; and a supplemental template secured upon the said first tape intermediate its ends, and comprising a pair of relatively short tape members having spaced series of indicia thereon, said members being superimposed in reverse relationship with one corresponding indicia on each member coinciding.

2. In a template as set forth in claim 1, said supplemental template being of narrower width than the first tape.

3. In a template as set forth in claim 1, said members each having an indicia at one end, and the spaced series of indicia being disposed adjacent the other end.

4. A flexible template, comprising a pair of continuously gummed tape members having spaced series of indicia thereon, said members being superimposed in reverse relationship with one corresponding indicia on each member coinciding.

5. In a template as set forth in claim 4, said members each having an indicia at one end, and the spaced series of indicia being disposed adjacent the other end.

EARL R. LEARY.