June 28, 1960 M. GRAIN 2,942,354

COMMUNITY PLANNER AND CITY AND VILLAGE LAYOUT KIT

Filed April 19, 1956 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

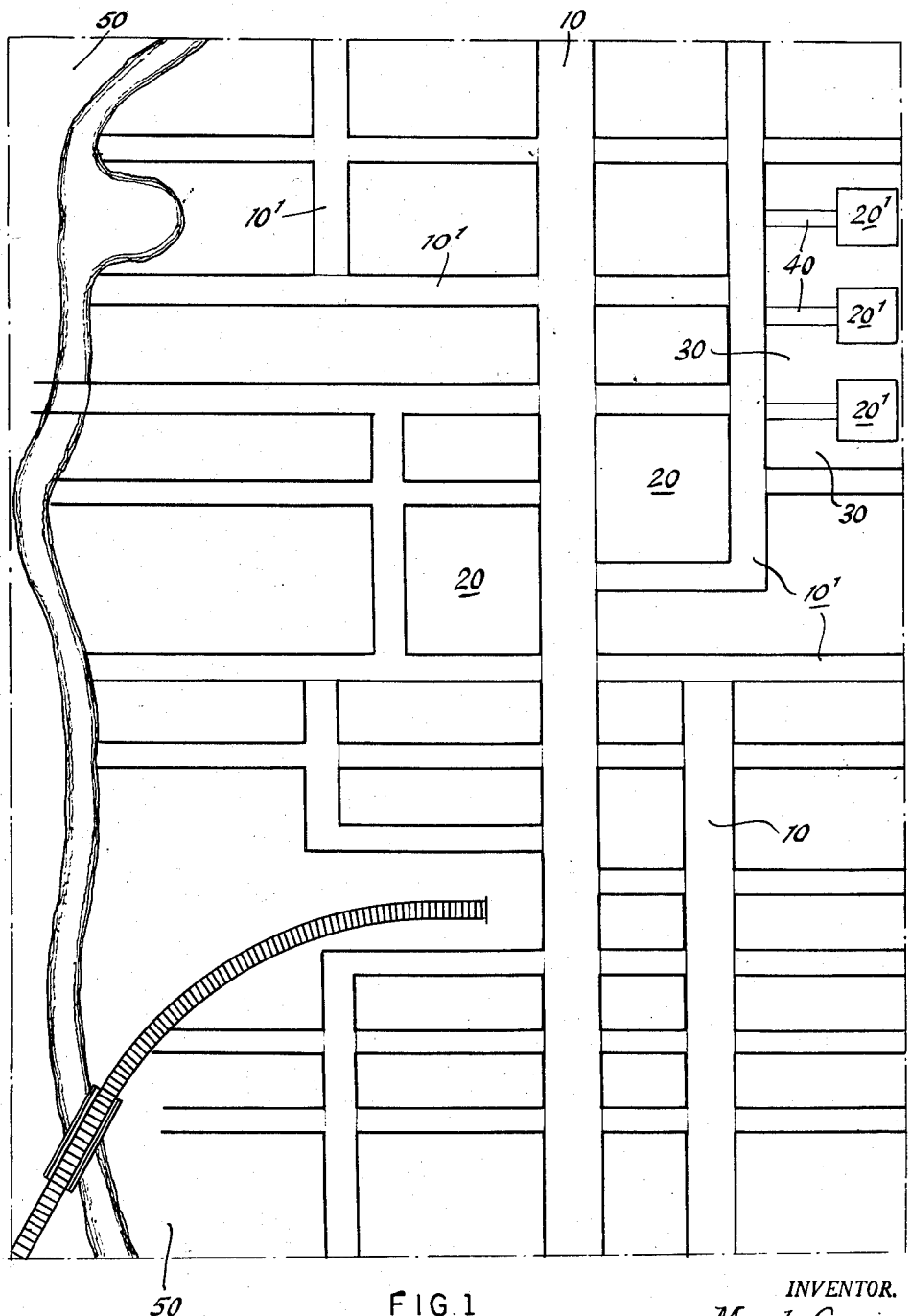


FIG. 1

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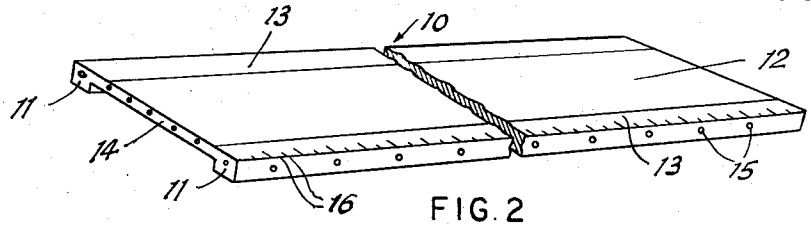


FIG. 2

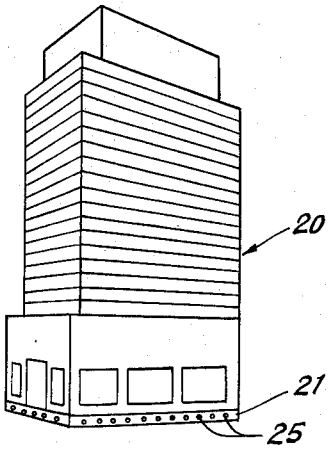


FIG. 3

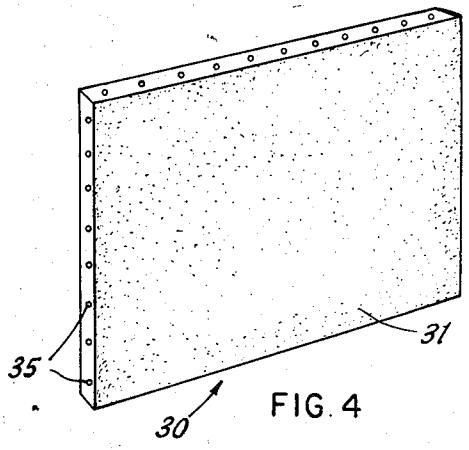


FIG. 4

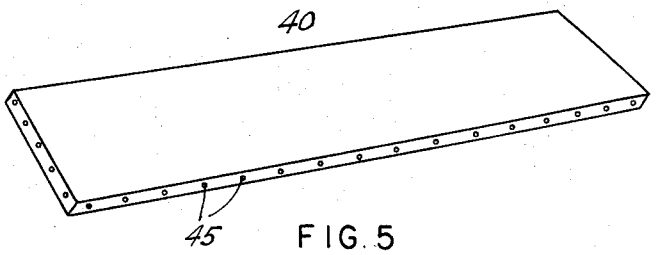


FIG. 5

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COMMUNITY PLANNER AND CITY AND VILLAGE LAYOUT KIT

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3 Claims. (Cl. 35—7)

This invention relates to model community layouts assembled from street, building and other units, and, more particularly, to a layout including units provided with longitudinally spaced recesses along their base edges for receiving cement to secure the units into a unitary layout assembly.

An object of the invention is to provide units which can be rapidly assembled to form communities such as villages or cities.

In accordance with the invention, street simulating units are formed of strips of plastic or the like configured or imprinted on the upper surface to simulate roadways and sidewalks. The side edges, and preferably the end edges are formed with spaced holes or recesses, and the outer edges of the "sidewalks" are notched with scale marks. Building units, front walk units, lawn-simulating units, and other model units have their base side edges formed with similar recesses.

The layout is assembled by placing the street sections on a flat surface and then positioning the outer units therealong utilizing the scale notches. When the final layout is determined, cement is applied to fill the recesses and the units are secured together by pressing them laterally toward each other with the modulus holes aligned.

For an understanding of the invention principles, reference is made to the following description of a typical embodiment thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawing. In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a model community layout embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a model "street" section;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a model building;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a model "lawn" section; and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a model "front walk" section.

Referring to the drawing, a model community layout, as illustrated in Fig. 1, is assembled using street, walk, lawn, building, and other units typical examples of which are illustrated in Figs. 2 through 5. Each of the units has longitudinally spaced holes, recesses or depressions along the edges of its base, to receive deposits of cement for securing the units selectively into a unitary layout, such as illustrated in Fig. 1.

The layout is assembled by first positioning at least one "main street" unit in a desired location, a typical street unit being shown at **10** in Fig. 2. Street unit or section **10** may be formed of plastic, wood, or other suitable relatively rigid material. The lower or supporting surface of section **10** comprises parallel, elongated ribs **11** along each side edge which support the roadway **12** and sidewalks **13**, marked or impressed on an upper span or section **14**, above the base, such as a floor or panel, on which the layout is assembled. Roadway **12** may be depressed below sidewalks **13** to form a trough, thus providing curbs.

In accordance with the invention, the side edges of section **10**, which may be about 3/16" high or thick are

formed with longitudinally spaced holes, depressions, or recesses **15**. These may be, for example, about 1/16" wide and 1/8" deep. Also, in a typical example, the principal street sections **10** may be 7/8" wide and 5" long, the subsidiary street and alley section **10'** being narrower and preferably somewhat shorter.

As a further feature of the invention, one or both sidewalks **13** are provided with uniformly spaced notches along the outer edge, these notches forming a "scale" for properly positioning the building, walk and lawn sections along the streets, as well as for uniformity in the positioning of alleys and cross streets as to intersections. The holes **15** may be provided along the end edges of section **10**, **10'** for joining these sections in end-to-end or intersecting relation. Scale notches **16** may be actual "ruler" marks; that is, actual "inch" and "fraction of an inch" marks as in a scale or ruler.

Fig. 3 illustrates a typical office building or skyscraper unit **20**. This may be one piece or may comprise superposed single or multiple floor sections. In accordance with the invention, the base **21** of building unit **20** has holes or recesses **25** spaced therealong, corresponding to recesses or holes **15**. Unit **20** is typical of other building units, such as private houses **20'**, for example, each of which has the spaced recesses along its base. The building units are made of the same material as units **10**.

Fig. 4 illustrates a typical "lawn" section used in the "residential" areas of the layout. These are relatively flat pieces having the same thickness as the street units and with the upper surfaces imprinted or decorated, as at **31**, to simulate a lawn. The edges of units **30** have the recesses **35** uniformly spaced therealong to align with recesses **15** and **25**. The lawn units **30**, in plan, may be various sizes and shapes as necessary or desirable.

The front walks of houses in the "residential" area are provided by units **40**, as shown in Fig. 5. These are the same material and the same thickness as units **10**, **20** and **30**, and are formed along their sides with recesses **45** in the same manner as described. The upper surfaces of units **40** may be suitably imprinted or impressed, if desired, to simulate various types of front walks.

To complete the kit for assembling the layout of Fig. 1, other flat pieces **50** simulating railroad tracks, rivers, ponds, parking lots and the like, may be provided, these units being formed in the same manner as units **30**, for example.

In assemblying the layout of Fig. 1, the several units are initially movably positioned on a flat surface by first positioning the street sections **10**, **10'** and then positioning the other units along the streets using the scale notches **16** (Fig. 2). After all the units are in their final positions, recesses **15**, **25**, **35**, **45** etc. are filled with a suitable quick setting cement from a suitable collapsing tube dispenser, and juxtaposed units are pressed into firm contact to "set" the layout.

By the term "modulus recesses," as used in the claims, is meant that the longitudinal spacing of the recesses **15** on the side of the several sections is the same on all sections, and that recesses **15** are always at the same height above the base of a section so that, when two sections are in edge to edge abutment, their respective recesses may readily be aligned with each other.

While a specific embodiment of the invention has been shown and described in detail to illustrate the application principles, it will be understood that the invention may be embodied otherwise without departing from such principles.

What is claimed:

1. A model community layout kit comprising, in combination, street simulating strip units formed with longitudinally correspondingly spaced modulus recesses along their edges; scale notches formed in scaled relation

along the upper longitudinal edges of said street units; and offstreet structure and plot simulating units formed with longitudinally spaced recesses along their edges; said offstreet units being selectively positionable along the street units by reference to said scale notches; whereby said units may be joined into a layout by filling the recesses with a sealing adhesive and pressing juxtaposed units into engagement with the modulus recesses aligned.

2. A kit as claimed in claim 1 in which said offstreet units comprise flat strips simulating front walks and lawns; and blocks simulating buildings and having the modulus recesses along the edges of their bases.

3. A kit as claimed in claim 1 in which said street strips have upper surfaces simulating roadways and sidewalks; the upper surfaces being supported on parallel longitudinal ribs extending along the undersurfaces of the strips at each side thereof.

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