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HANGER PANEL FOR VENEER MASONRY BLOCKS

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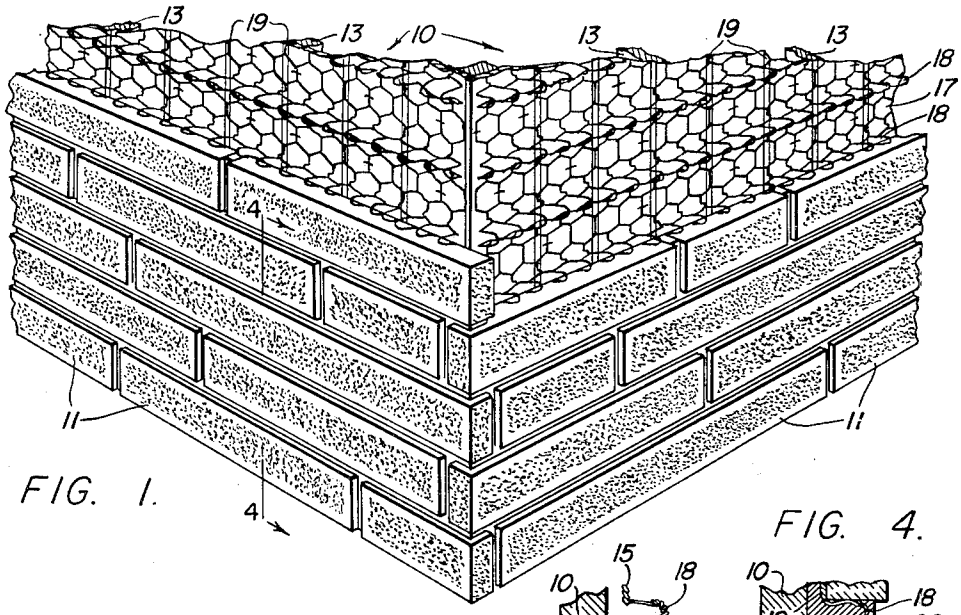


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

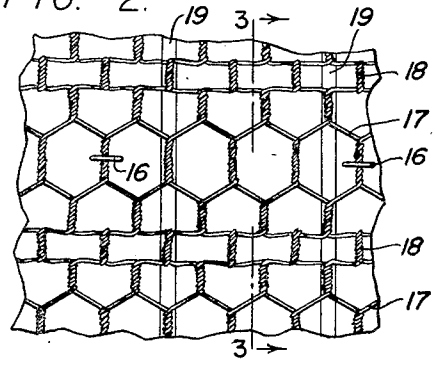


FIG. 3.

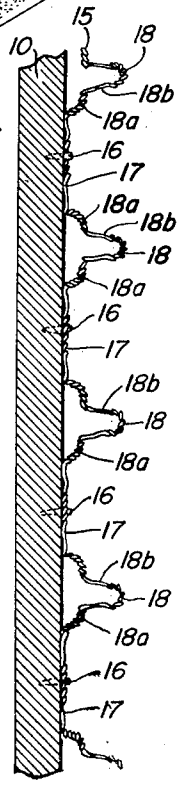


FIG. 4.

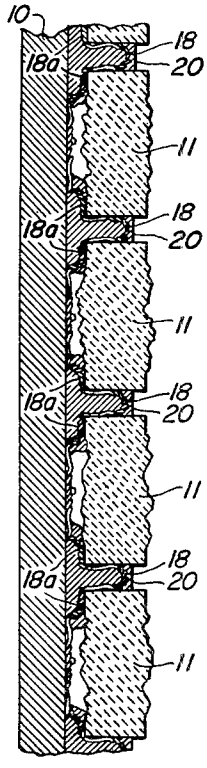
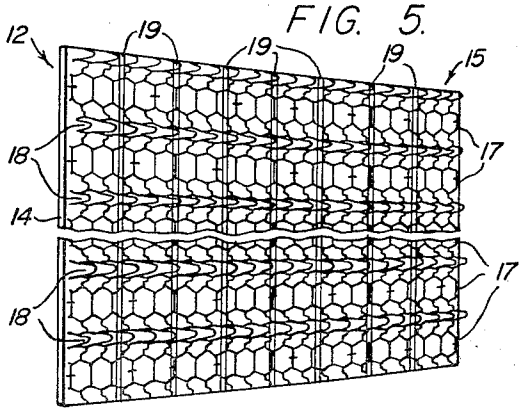


FIG. 5.



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HANGER PANEL FOR VENEER MASONRY BLOCKS

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This invention relates to structural hangers for anchoring veneer masonry blocks in building construction, and is particularly concerned with providing such hangers in panel formation so that they may be easily and quickly applied to walls being newly constructed or re-faced.

A variety of types of structural hanger strips adapted for application vertically in mutually spaced, side-by-side relationship to wall faces, for receiving and anchoring horizontal courses of veneer bricks and other types of veneer masonry blocks have been developed heretofore and have been widely used in both new construction and the remodeling of old structures. Their application to wall surfaces, however, is time consuming, and it is almost impossible to obtain sufficiently precise lateral alignment of the block anchoring formations to insure block courses which are straight and true in accordance with acceptable masonry standards.

A principal object of this invention is to provide a structural panel having a facing adapted to receive and positively anchor veneer masonry blocks in true masonry formation.

Veneer bricks are usually made by splitting special blocks of cement and cinder, pumice, or other lightweight aggregate along rectilinear recesses or kerfs. This means that they have rough front and rear faces, which will not fit flush against a wall surface.

Accordingly, another object of the invention is to provide such a panel whose facing effectively holds the veneer bricks or blocks in properly aligned relationship despite their rear surface roughness.

Outstanding features of the invention in the accomplishment of these objects are the provision of a formed wire mesh facing presenting alternate rows of channels and ridges and extending substantially coextensively over one face of a backing panel, the provision of shouldered bases for the ridges as positive seating means disposed a predetermined distance outwardly from the panel face, and the provision of vertical mortar line guides marked on the panel face.

Further objects and features of the invention will become apparent from the following detailed description of the presently preferred specific embodiment illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 represents a fragmentary front perspective view of a corner of a building whose walls are faced with the hanger panels of the invention, several courses of veneer bricks being shown anchored in place;

FIG. 2, a fragmentary front elevation drawn to an enlarged scale;

FIG. 3, a vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of FIG 2;

FIG. 4, a similar vertical section taken on the line 4—4 of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 5, a perspective view of one of the hanger panels per se.

Referring to the drawing:

In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, the walls 10, FIG. 1, of a building are faced with veneer bricks 11 in masonry courses as illustrated, the veneer bricks being held in proper masonry course formation by means of hanger panels 12, see particularly FIG. 5,

which abut edgewise and are nailed or otherwise secured to the wall framing 13.

Each of the individual hanger panels comprises a backing panel 14 of any suitable material, such as wood or composition board, and an expanse of wire mesh 15 secured to a face of such backing panel by any suitable means, preferably wire staples 16.

The wire mesh 15 is approximately coextensive with the panel face, and is formed by any suitable means, e.g. a press and dies, with alternate channels 17 and ridges 18 extending in parallel rows across the outer, exposed face thereof for receiving and holding the veneer bricks 11.

The channels 17 have respective widths adapted to snugly receive the veneer bricks. They are slightly less in width than such bricks, at least along lower portions of their depths adjacent to the brick-seating zone, so as to insure resilient gripping of the bricks when seated in the wall-facing positions shown in FIGS. 1 and 4.

In this illustrated embodiment, ridges 18 are shouldered at their bases, and the brick-seating zone is established outwardly of the panel face by the shoulders 18*a*, see particularly FIG. 4. This enables the hangers to accommodate rough protruding faces of bricks, as illustrated, without disrupting the veneer finish facing of the wall.

The opposite sides 18*b* of each ridge 18 are approximately normal to the panel face, so as to permit pushing of the bricks into the channels 17 from and through the open tops thereof directly at the desired locations of positioning. As such bricks are pushed into seating position, they are resiliently gripped by the numerous edges presented by the wire mesh and are held tightly in their mutually aligned positions.

For aiding rapid building up of the veneer facing, it is a feature of the invention that guide lines 19 running at right angles across the channels 17 and ridges 18 are marked in some suitable manner, as by printing on the working face of each of the panels 14. These are spaced at regular intervals determined by the length of the bricks, so that there is always a vertical mortar line spacing guide for each brick laid.

Mortar is troweled between the veneer bricks as laid, following both the horizontal and vertical lines established by the ridges 18 and guide markings 19, respectively. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the ridges 18 are of such length as to terminate short of the normal mortar line facings 20, whereby they are covered and concealed by the applied mortar.

It can be seen that, with this panel hanger, the veneer bricks or blocks are resiliently and substantially continuously supported and gripped along their lengths, as contrasted with the localized support and grip of the usual hanger strips, and are, therefore, not nearly as subject to breakage during application or later as when the latter type of hanger are utilized. Moreover, the mortar tends to exude through the mesh and become firmly anchored substantially continuously along the length of the mortar lines. An additional advantage is that bricks or blocks of exceptionally long and exceptionally short lengths may be easily used together.

The term "wire mesh" as here used is to be interpreted sufficiently broadly to include such similar materials as certain varieties of expanded metal.

While the hanger panels may be fabricated in any convenient size for shipment and application, it has been found that 4' x 8' or 4' x 10' are generally desirable sizes minimizing the number of abutment joinders in any given wall and insuring maximum strength and ease of application with acceptable shipping, storage, and handling characteristics.

Whereas this invention is here illustrated and described

with respect to a particular preferred embodiment thereof, it is to be understood that various changes may be made without departing from the generic inventive concepts disclosed.

I claim:

1. A hanger panel for veneer blocks, comprising a backing panel adapted to cover a portion of a wall expanse and to be secured to the wall framing; an expanse of wire mesh substantially coextensive with said backing panel and secured to a face thereof, said wire mesh being formed with alternate channels and ridges extending in parallel rows across the exposed face thereof, the said ridges having sides adjacent their tips, respectively, which are approximately normal to the said face of the backing panel and mutually similar shoulders extending outwardly at and along their bases, respectively, and spaced from said backing panel, so as to permit insertion of blocks directly into the channels from the open tops thereof; and blocks resting on the mutually opposite and confronting shoulders of mutually adjacent channel-defining ridges, respectively, the spacing between the sides of

the mutually adjacent ridges being slightly less than the width of said blocks to insure resilient gripping of such blocks in spaced relationship with the backing panel when seated in wall-facing positions on the ridge shoulders, said ridges and shoulders thereof affording passage for mortar in the pointing up of the resulting block courses.

2. The hanger panel of claim 1, wherein mortar line guides are marked on said panel face at right angles to and extending across the channels.

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