Sept. 18, 1951 E. W. DUNHAM ET AL 2,568,490

MEANS FOR MOUNTING WALL AND CEILING PANELING

Filed Nov. 14, 1949

Fig. 1.

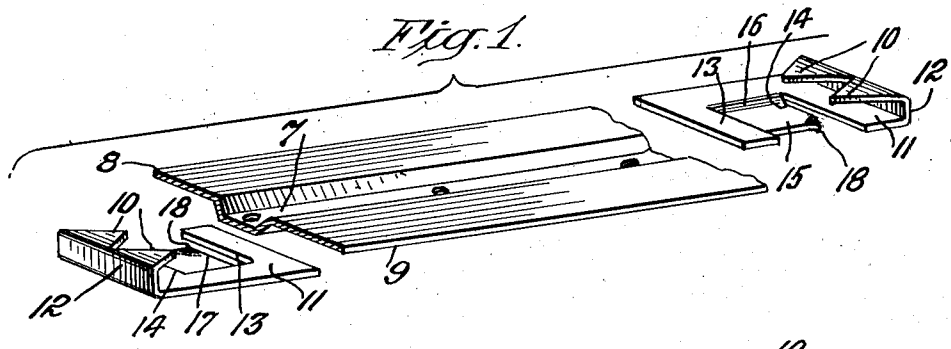


Fig. 2.

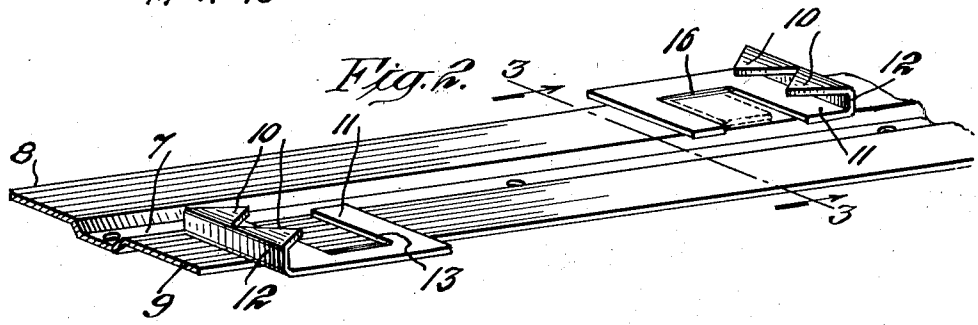


Fig. 3.

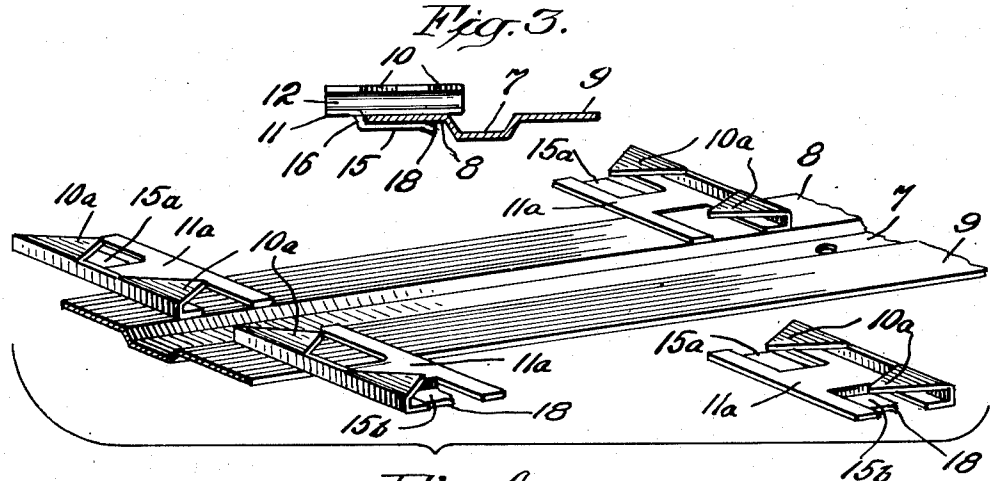


Fig. 4.

INVENTORS
EDWARD W. DUNHAM
BY WALLACE A. WIEGERT
Philip S. Hoffman
ATTORNEY

Patented Sept. 18, 1951 2,568,490

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,568,490

MEANS FOR MOUNTING WALL AND CEILING PANELING

Edward W. Dunham and Wallace A. Wiegert,
Floral Park, N. Y.

Application November 14, 1949, Serial No. 127,132

1 Claim. (Cl. 20—15)

1

The invention here disclosed relates to the mounting of wall and ceiling panels and is in the nature of an improvement on the panel securing means covered in Patent No. 2,469,252 issued May 3, 1949.

In the patent mentioned the wall or ceiling panels, made up as preformed slabs, tiles, boards or planks, are secured over a wall face by means of furring strips nailed to the wall and clips slidably adjustable along flanges on the furring strips and having points driven into the edges of the panels.

The present invention is more particularly directed to the structure of these panel holding clips.

Objects of the invention are to reduce the cost and simplify manufacture of the clips and further, to provide a form of clip which may be used with equal facility on either side flange of the furring strip and faced in either direction, in other words, a universal form of clip adapted to be used in all the several possible ways on the furring strip.

Other desirable objects attained by the invention and the novel features of construction, combination and relation of parts through which all such objects are attained, are set forth or will appear in the course of the following specification.

The drawing accompanying and forming part of the specification illustrates certain present practical embodiments of the invention. Structure, however, may be further modified and changed as regards the immediate illustration, all within the true intent and scope of the invention as hereinafter defined and claimed.

Fig. 1 in the drawing is a perspective view of a length of furring strip and two oppositely faced panel clips positioned ready for engagement over the flanges along the opposite sides of the furring strip, the latter shown in section and being broken away at one end;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the clips adjustably engaged over the side flanges of the furring strip;

Fig. 3 is a broken cross sectional detail on substantially the plane of line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view similar to Fig. 2, showing a universal type of clip construction and the different ways it may be used on the furring strip.

In the drawing a furring strip of sheet metal like that disclosed in the patent identified is shown, having a central, depressed, longitudinally extending trough or groove 7 for accommodating

2

the heads of the nails used in fastening the strip over the wall, and laterally extending side flanges 8 and 9 for supporting the paneling and for carrying the clips which secure the paneling over the face of the strip.

Two of the new clips are shown in Fig. 1, having tile engaging prongs 10 in spaced, substantially parallel relation across the flat, substantially rectangular base portion 11 of the clip.

These prongs are formed by extending one edge portion of the base, as at 12, to provide the necessary offset and then bending the prong forming material portion of this extension into substantially parallel relation over the face of the base.

The substantially square base portion 11 is slitted inward from one edge along generally parallel lines 13, 14, to provide an intermediate tongue portion 15 between separated sections of the base and connected with the base by a slight offset 16, serving to dispose the tongue in substantially parallel relation closely offset from the back of the base.

The spacing of this offset, as indicated at 17, is approximately or even slightly less than the thickness of the side flanges 8, 9, of the furring strip, so that when the base of the clip is slipped over the front of these flanges the tongue 15 will act as a spring jaw yieldingly and frictionally engaging the back of the flange.

This yielding frictional engagement is sufficient to hold the clip in position on the flange and yet permit the clip to be slid along the flange on being driven with a hammer or the like into securing engagement with the edge portion of an overlying wall panel.

This possibility of sliding along the furring strip flanges enables the prongs of the clips to be fully embedded in the edge portions of the panels for firmly securing the panels and for completely concealing the clips from view.

The securing tongues 15 are shown cut in from one edge of the base to nearly the far opposite edge of the base so as to afford a substantial frictional grip on the furring strip flange, and these tongues are further shown as of substantial width, taking up the greater portion of the width of the base to promote substantial gripping engagement on the furring strip flange.

Fig. 2 shows how two of the same form of clip may be engaged on opposite side flanges of the furring strip with the prongs of the two clips faced toward each other to grip opposite edges of a panel seated on the furring strip. Thus, where both flanges of the furring strip are ac-

cessible, the same form of clip may be used to hold opposite edges of a panel or tile. Where only one flange is available, an alternate form of clip may be used with the prongs **10** extended from the directly opposite edge of the base. These two forms of the clip may be considered as "rights" and "lefts," to be used as required in various installations.

A universal type of clip is shown in Fig. 4, in which the base portion **11***a* is elongated and companion, oppositely extending tongues **15***a*, **15***b*, are cut in from the opposite edges of the elongated base, available for engagement with either flange of the furring strip regardless of the way in which the securing prongs are faced.

Thus, as indicated, this one style of clip may be used in all the various positions required on the furring strip.

Both the single and the double form of clip have the advantage that they may be made of inexpensive sheet metal and produced in a simple stamping and slitting operation, with inexpensive and relatively simple die mechanism. Also, a minimum amount of material is required since the securing tongues are struck out of the intermediate body portion of the flat base of the clip.

The nail receiving trough sunk in the metal of the furring strip forms an embossment which by engagement with the wall surface serves to locate the flat, narrow edge flanges of the strip in close, substantially parallel relation at the front of the wall structure.

To facilitate quick, easy engagement of the clips over the supporting flanges, the corners of the spring holding tongues may be bent back substantially as indicated at **18**. This is of particular value where the clips are made of fairly heavy sheet material and are biased to afford a strong, spring holding grip, since these inclined corners may then act as small wedges assisting in opening the spring fingers sufficiently to engage them over the supporting flanges.

In both forms of the invention illustrated the panel engaging prongs project from an edge of the substantially rectangular base plate which is substantially at a right angle to that edge from which the spring holding tongue projects. The prongs and tongue thus project at right angles to each other so that in driving the prongs into the edge of the wall panel the clip can slide in self-adjusting relation along the supporting flange of the furring strip.

What is claimed is:

A clip for securing wall paneling on a furring strip of thin, flat material having a central nail penetrable portion for flat attachment over a wall structure and forwardly offset, thin, flat flanges along the edges of the same at opposite sides of said central nailing portion and supported thereby in closely spaced, substantially parallel, forwardly offset relation in front of the wall structure over which the furring strip is secured, and comprising a wall panel supporting clip for engagement over one of the edge flanges of said furring strip and including a flat piece of thin, springy sheet metal having a substantially rectangular base portion engageable over the front of one of said edge flanges, said base portion being slitted inward from one edge in generally parallel lines defining an intermediate spring tongue between separated sections of the base, said intermediate spring tongue being offset rearwardly at the back of said base portion a distance approximating the thickness of said edge flanges for engagement over the back of said edge flanges to yieldingly confine the base portion in slidable engagement on said flanges and said base portion further having a forwardly offset extension at one edge of the same terminating in a wall panel penetrating point projecting in closely spaced, substantially parallel relation across the front of said base portion in position for entry in the edge of a wall panel placed in supported engagement over the front of said furring strip, and said base portion further being slit inwardly from the opposite edge and in the opposite direction from the first mentioned slits, providing a second, reversely extending tongue enabling complete reversal and use of the clip in various positions on both edge flanges of the furring strip.

EDWARD W. DUNHAM.
WALLACE A. WIEGERT.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
734,275	Lyon	July 21, 1903
2,469,252	Wiegert	May 3, 1949