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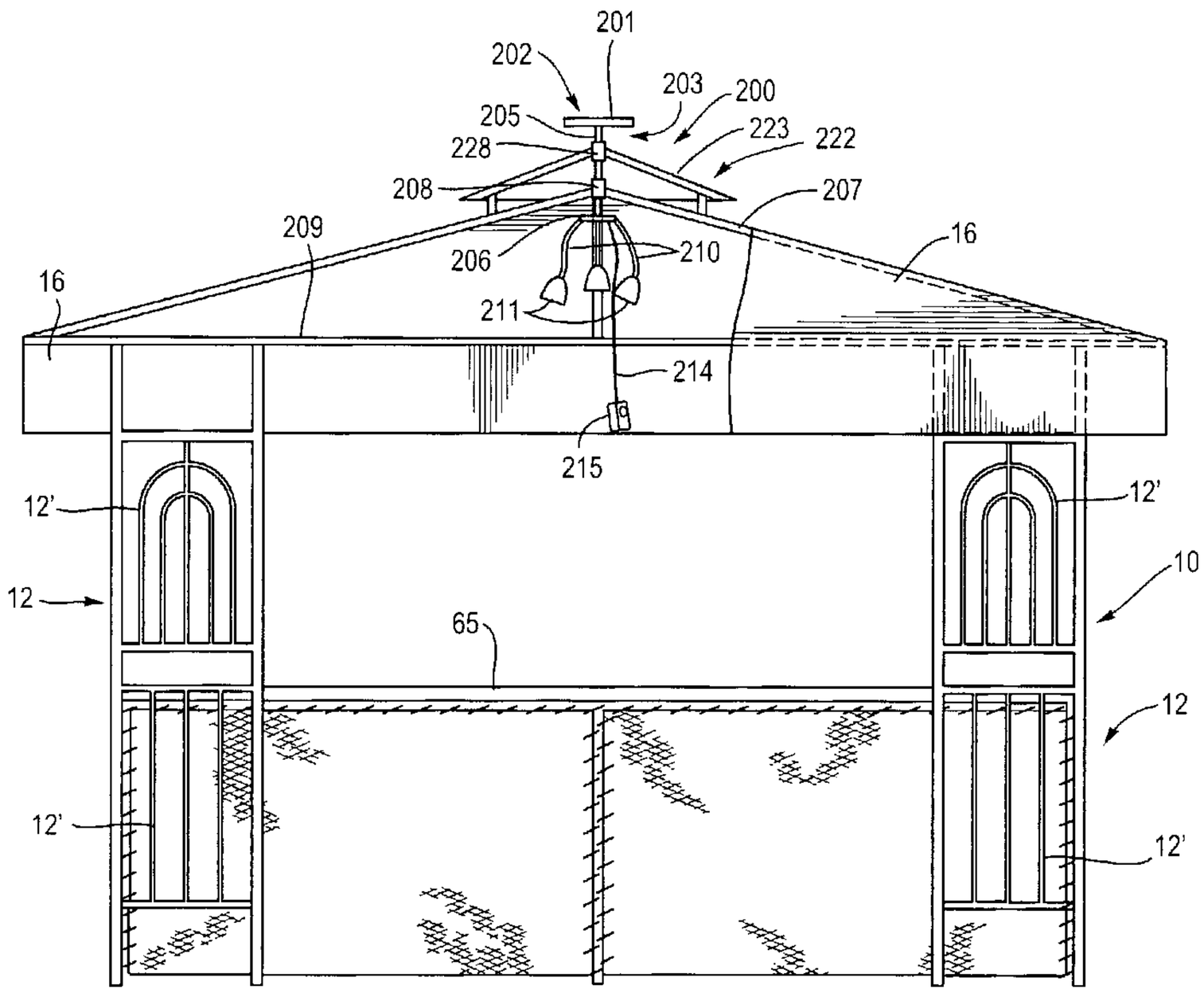
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A gazebo or pavilion has an integrated service bar joining two or more adjacent support panels and is configured with the server area of the service bar and the patron area of the service bar within the envelope of the shelter and the patron area is congruent with the optimal benefit area of the shelter. The service bar integrated with the shelter structure improves the structural stability of the shelter in two axes. A lighting system can be added and supported by the roof structure. The lighting system can be powered by solar energy or conventional electrical wiring, and a fan unit can be incorporated with it. A separate barbeque island with a barbeque unit can also be attached and a smoke screen can be used to prevent smoke from the barbeque island from entering into the service area or the patron area.

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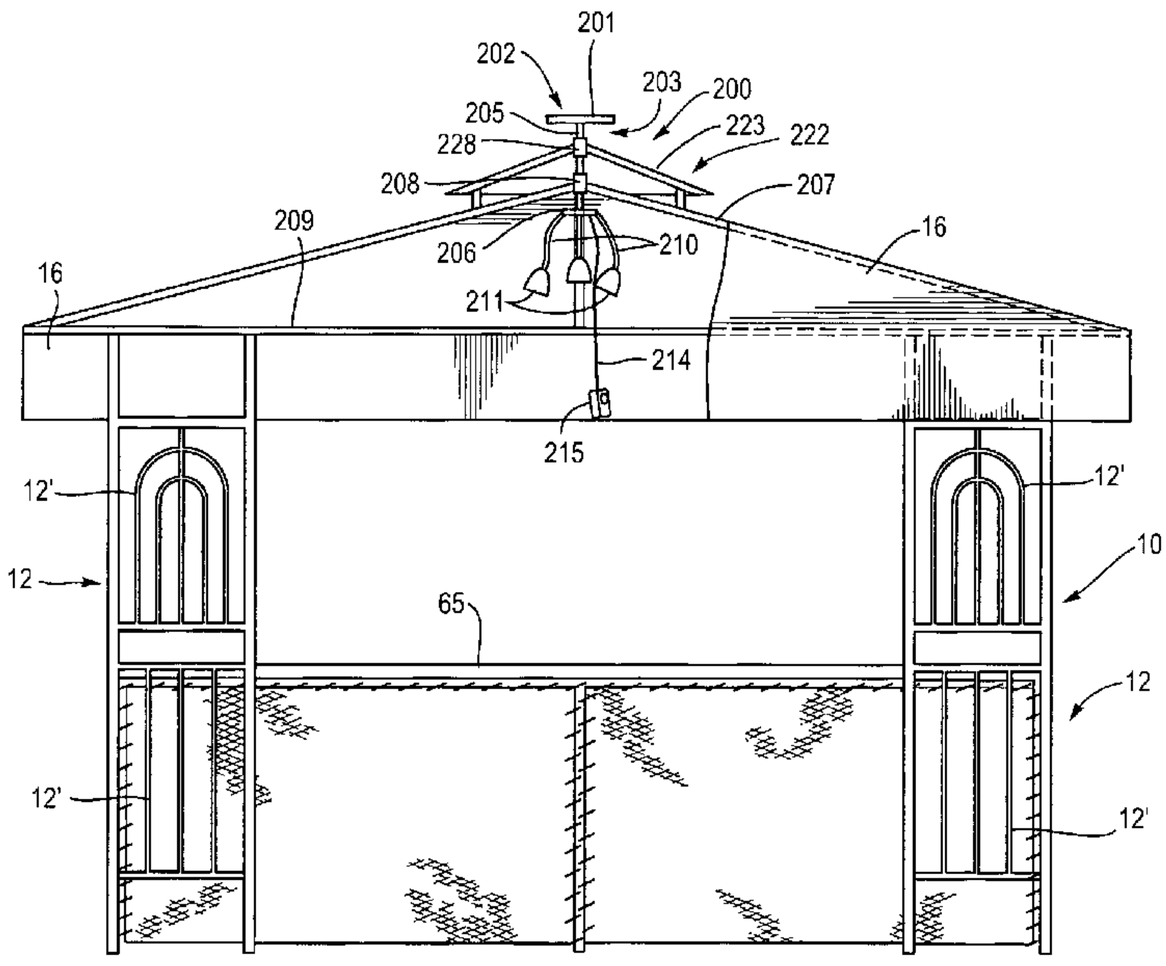
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GAZEBOS WITH INTEGRATED ADDITIONAL FEATURES

Field of the Invention

This invention is in the field of portable pavilions or gazebos, and more specifically, to portable pavilions or gazebos having integral service components as part of their structure.

Background of the Invention

Conventional gazebos or pavilions are often used to provide shade and or shelter for outdoor functions. However, such structures are usually stand alone devices that do not incorporate additional features into their structures.

In addition to conventional gazebos or pavilions, it is not uncommon for designers and homeowners to build elaborate outdoor living areas that can include decks, built-in barbeque and bar structures and even structures that approximate a kitchen due to running water, refrigeration, and gas appliances run off of gas lines. While such structures greatly enhance an outdoor living experience, and can increase the value and enjoyment of homes, they are costly to install.

What is needed is a gazebo or pavilion structure integrating one or more service components, such as a service counter or bar or grill, to improve the structural integrity and optimize guest benefits from the gazebo or pavilion. In addition, it would be desirable to add lighting without the necessity of running an outdoor electrical cord to the structure.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is generally directed to a portable shelter, gazebo or pavilion having an integrated service bar joining two or more adjacent support panels. Such a structure is configured with the server area of the service bar and the patron area of the service bar within the envelope of the shelter and the patron area of the service bar is congruent with the optimal benefit area of the shelter. Having the service bar integrated with the shelter structure improves the structural stability of the shelter along two axes.

In a first, separate group of aspects of the present invention, eight or more support panels are integrated into four or more support columns of a gazebo and the counter service unit is integrated between two adjacent support columns to provide increased structural stability.

In a second, separate group of aspects of the present invention, an integrated counter service unit includes the server area and the patron area within the gazebo envelope and some or all of the patron area is congruent with the optimal benefit area of the gazebo.

In a third, separate group of aspects of the present invention, one or more column counters can provide increased utility and integrated structural strength.

In other, separate aspects of the present invention, a portable shelter such as a gazebo or pavilion has a plurality of corner supports, each corner support having a top end and a bottom end and two or more legs connecting the top end and the bottom end, and a roof structure having a plurality of base corners, each base corner engaging the top end of one of the plurality of corner supports, the combination of the roof structure and the corner supports forming a gazebo envelope and defining an optimal benefit area within the gazebo envelope, and a service unit having a service area and a patron area, the service unit integrated between two adjacent corner supports, the service area and the patron area of the integrated service unit are within the gazebo envelope, and some or all of the patron area is congruent with the optimal benefit area.

In yet another, separate aspect of the present invention, a lighting unit supported by the roof structure is used to light up the service and patron areas of the gazebo. The lighting unit can be powered by solar energy or by an electrical connection at least partially concealed within the roof structure, and a ceiling fan can either be incorporated into the lighting unit or, alternatively, replace the lighting unit.

In a further, separate aspect of the present invention, a barbeque island is integrally attached to a gazebo having a service bar and the resulting structure is configure such that smoke does not enter within the covered gazebo. A smoke screen can be used to provide privacy and to block smoke.

Accordingly, it is a primary object of the present invention to provide an improved gazebo with additional features integrated into its structure.

This and further objects and advantages will be apparent to those skilled in the art in connection with the drawings and the detailed description of the invention set forth below.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a front elevation view of a BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the BARZEBO™ gazebo of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3A is a rear elevation view of a BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 3B is a detail view of an alternate embodiment for surface attachments for a BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a side view of a BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 6 is a front view of a support panel according to the present invention.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a support column according to the present invention.

Fig. 8 is a plan view of an alternate embodiment BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the BARZEBO™ gazebo of Fig. 8.

Fig. 10 is a plan view of another alternate embodiment BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 11 is a plan view of still another alternate embodiment BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 12 is a plan view of a further alternate embodiment BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention.

Fig. 13 is a front elevation view of still another alternate embodiment BARZEBO™ gazebo according to the present invention with a solar powered lighting unit in place.

Fig. 14 is a top elevation view a combination of a BARZEBO™ gazebo and a GRILLZEBO™ barbeque island according to the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the present invention, a gazebo or pavilion structure is provided with integrated additional features. Broadly speaking, the additional features can include a bar area with amenities, a solar lighting system and a separate grill add-on. The bar area with amenities is incorporated into the structure of the gazebo and is referred to hereinafter by its trademark BARZEBO while the grill add-on is referred to by its trademark GRILLZEBO. Both the BARZEBO and GRILLZEBO gazebo structures are collapsible and can be sold and shipped in an unassembled state, much like certain office furniture that has become very popular in recent years. Thus, both the BARZEBO and GRILLZEBO gazebos structures can be manufactured and sold for relatively inexpensive sums, far less than the thousands of dollars that would be required for custom or built-in units having similar features. In addition, because of their construction, units and features can be subject to add-ons or alterations. Thus, for example, it is possible to assemble a BARZEBO gazebo one year, and then add on a GRILLZEBO component the next year. This not only lessens the initial financial impact, and thus broadens appeal, but also allows for customization and upgrades. Similarly, the solar lighting system can be included in a BARZEBO gazebo when it is first assemble, or be subject to an add-on. All of this means that consumers now have a much more economical vehicle for creating diverse, useful and truly satisfying outdoor living areas at a fraction of the cost of custom designs, like built-in grilling islands.

The present invention will now be described in connection with several different preferred embodiments that illustrate various aspects of the inventive concepts described herein. Although the Figures illustrate BARZEBO and

GRILLZEBO gazebo structures in their assembled states, as already noted, such units can be shipped and sold in an unassembled state, and later assembled by consumers or, if preferred, someone paid to perform that service (as is typical in connection with certain modular office furniture that can be purchased today at various retail outlets). Moreover, because the details of assembling such units, and fastening the various components together would be well within the skill of a person of ordinary skill in the art with the benefit of the instant disclosure, the details of such assembly will not be provided herein.

In the Figures and the following more detailed description, numerals indicate various features of the invention, with like numerals referring to like features throughout both the drawings and the description. Although the Figures are described in greater detail below, the following is a glossary of the elements identified in the Figures:

10	gazebo
12	support panel
12'	support web
12"	support web
12F	feet
13	service shelf
14	roof structure
15	base corner
16	canopy
17	base corner
18	service unit
18P	patron area
18S	server area
19	base corner
20	apex vent
21	base corner
22	canopy
23	overhang

23' extension distance
24 corner
24' corner
26 support column
28 support column
30 support panels
32 bar corner
34 bar corner
36 support column
38 support column
40 gazebo envelope
42 gazebo volume
44 optimal benefit area
46 distance
48 service side
50 area
52 service unit side 52
54 service unit side 54
56 service unit side 56
60 vent opening
62 apex vent structure
64 vent separation
65 counter
66 shelf
68 shelf
70 service side
72 service side
74 service side
76 service side
77 hook
77A fabric
78 lacing

79 hole
80 attachment point
82 service unit leg
82' service unit leg
83 service unit leg
83' service unit leg
84 length
85 length
86 length
87 length
88 lateral support truss
90 web element
92 bottom bar
94 support panel
96 first leg
98 second leg
100 bottom
102 top
104 lateral support
106 support web
108 support web
110 support panel
110' first leg
112 support panel
112' first leg
114 leg edge
116 angle
118 service shelf
120 service shelf
122 gazebo
124 support panel
124' support web

124" support web
126 support panel
126' support panel
128 corner
128' corner
130 corner
130' corner
132 gazebo envelope
134 roof structure
136 gazebo volume
138 optimal benefit area
140 service unit
140P patron area
140S server area
142 service unit side
144 attachment point
146 service unit leg
146' service unit leg
148 service unit leg
150 area
152 width
154 length
156 length
158 length
160 length
162 gazebo
164 support panel
164' support panel
166 support panel
166' support panel
200 solar lighting unit
201 solar powered collector

202 solar panel
203 battery
205 shaft
206 light base
207 canopy support pole
208 center shaft connection
209 bar
210 light conduit
211 light
214 switch cord
215 light on/off switch
222 second canopy support structure
223 bar
300 barbeque island
300S area
301 barbeque grill unit
302 lengthwise portion
365 counter

In accordance with an especially preferred embodiment of the present invention, and referring now to Fig. 1, BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 includes 4 or more support panels such as support panel 12, a roof structure such as roof structure 14 covered by canopy 16, and a service unit such as service unit 18. In a currently preferred embodiment of the present invention, roof structure 14 also includes apex vent 20 and overhang 23 with extension distance 23'. Apex vent 20 may be shielded with vent canopy 22 to prevent precipitation incursion. Overhang extension distance 23' may be any suitable length.

Referring now to Fig. 2, in a plan view of BARZEBO™ gazebo 10, independent corners 24 and 24' each include two support panels 12 connected or joined to form support columns 26 and 28, respectively. Service unit 18 is connected or joined to support panels 30 in bar corners 32 and 34. Two or more

support panels 30 may be connected or joined together to form service unit support columns 36 and 38 in corners 32 and 34, respectively. Within the horizontal plane of Fig. 2, service unit support columns 36 and 38 in corners 32 and 34, respectively, and support columns 26 and 28 in corners 24 and 24', respectively, form gazebo envelope 40. Gazebo envelope 40 extends vertically from the ground to roof structure 14, enclosing volume 42. Optimal benefit area 44 is a 3-dimensional space formed within envelope 40, and is generally equidistant from gazebo envelope 40. Distance 46 separating optimal benefit area 44 from gazebo envelope 40 is a function of the latitude at which the BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 is located and the general climate of the location. One of the benefits of BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 is shade from solar radiation and as the latitude of the location of BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 increases, distance 46 will increase.

Service unit 18 includes server area 18S and patron area 18P. Patron area 189 is adjacent service unit side 48. In BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 according to the present invention patron area 18P and optimal benefit area 44 have an area of congruence identified in Fig. 2 as area 50.

Server area 18S is enclosed by service unit side 52, service unit side 54, service unit side 56 and gazebo envelope 40. Having server area 18S within gazebo envelope 40 permits someone working in server area 18S to be shielded from solar radiation and precipitation by using a plastic sheet, a shield, a tarp or other suitable material such as server shield 60 extending from the ground to roof structure 14 along gazebo service side 58.

Referring now to Fig. 3, in a currently preferred embodiment of the present invention, apex vent 20 is formed by vent opening 60 through canopy 16. Apex vent structure 62 is attached to roof structure 14 to provide support and shape to vent canopy 22, as well as vent separation 64.

Service unit 18 includes counter 65 and may also include one or more additional shelves such as shelves 66 and 68. Counter 65 and shelves 66 and 68 may be wood, metal, glass or any other suitable material, and they may be solid or they may be formed of any other suitable material such as metal mesh thus forming self-cleaning or self-drying shelves. Shelves 66 and 68 may be

accessed from server area 18S through service unit side 52, service unit side 54, or service unit side 56 which are not closed. Service sides 70, 72, 74, 48, 52, 54, and 56 may be closed or shielded using any suitable material such as, but not limited to, wood, metal, or glass. In an especially preferred current embodiment of the present invention, service sides 70, 72, 74, 48, 52, 54, and 56 are covered using canvas or any other suitable material such as fabric 76 laced or tied to service unit 18 using lacing 78 tied through holes 79. In another embodiment of the present invention, service sides 70, 72, 74, 48, 52, 54, and 56 may be covered using canvas or any other suitable material such as fabric 76 laced or tied to service unit 18 using lacing 78 tied through hooks such as hooks 77. Hooks 77 may be of any suitable shape and or size.

Referring now to Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, service unit 18 is an integral structural element of BARZEBO™ gazebo 10. Service unit 18 supports service unit support columns 36 and 38 at bar corners 32 and 34, respectively. Support panels 30 are attached to service unit 18 at attachment points such as attachment point 80. Service unit legs 82, 82', 83 and 83' extend from the ground to roof structure 14. Integration of service unit 18 with service unit support columns 36 and 38 extends the lateral support along axis X at bar corners 32 and 34 from length 84 of a standard support panel 12 to length 86. Integration of service unit 18 with service unit support columns 36 and 38 extends the lateral support along axis Y at bar corners 32 and 34 from length 85 of a standard support panel 12 to length 87.

In another embodiment of the present invention, lateral support truss 88 may be connected or otherwise attached between adjacent support columns such as service unit support column 36 and support column 26. Lateral support truss 88 may include one or more truss web elements such as web element 90. Web elements may adopt any decorative shapes.

Support panel 12 may have feet such as feet I2F or it may include a bottom bar 92 as shown in Fig. 5.

Referring now to Fig 5, roof structure 14 is generally pyramidal with base corners 15, 17, 19, and 21 engaging service unit support column 36, support column 26, support column 28, and service unit support column 38, respectively. In other embodiments of the present invention, base corners such as 15, 17, 19

and 21 may be supported by one, two or more support panels that may or may not be joined or otherwise connected to form support columns.

Roof structure 14 may or may not include an apex vent.

Referring now to Fig. 6, a support panel such as support panel 94 is formed by a first leg 96 and a second leg 98, each leg extends from bottom 100 to top 102. First leg 96 and a second leg 98 are generally parallel. One or more lateral supports 104 extend from and connect first leg 96 to second leg 98. One or more support web such as support webs 106 and 108 may also be secured between first leg 96 and second leg 98. Support webs such as support webs 106 and 108 may include decorative elements such as support web 12' shown on Fig. 4, support web 12" shown on Fig. 5, or support webs 124' or 124" shown on Fig. 9, or any other suitable configuration.

Referring now to Fig. 7, two or more support panels such as support panel 110 and support panel 112 may be joined or connected along leg edge 114 between support panel 110 first leg 110' and support panel 112 first leg 112'. Angle 116 between support panel 110 and support panel 112 may be any suitable angle and is preferred to be between 90 and 130 degrees. In a currently preferred embodiment of the present invention, angle 116 is 90 degrees. In an alternate embodiment of the present invention, support panel 110 and support panel 112 may be fabricated to share a common leg.

One or more service shelves such as service shelf 118 may be secured or otherwise joined between support panel 110 and support panel 112. Service shelf 118 may connect to lateral supports such as lateral supports 104'and 104", or between support webs such as support web 106' and support web 106". Service shelves such as service shelf 13 shown in Fig. 2 and service shelf 120 shown in Fig. 11 illustrate how service shelves may be incorporated in different embodiments of the present disclosure.

Referring now to Fig. 8 and Fig 9, in another embodiment of the present invention, BARZEBO™ gazebo 122 includes 2 support panels such as support panels 124 and 124' and two service support panels such as service support panels 126 and 126'. As disclosed above, within the horizontal plane of Fig. 8, BARZEBO™ gazebo envelope 132 formed by service unit support panels 126 and

126' in corners 128 and 128', respectively, and support panels 124 and 124' in corners 130 and 130', respectively. Gazebo envelope 132 extends vertically from the ground to roof structure 134, enclosing gazebo volume 136. Optimal benefit area 138 is a 3-dimensional space formed within gazebo envelope 136, and is generally equidistant from gazebo envelope 132.

Service unit 140 includes server area 140S and patron area 140P. Patron area 14OP is adjacent service unit side 142. In BARZEBO™ gazebo 122 according to the present invention, patron area 140P and optimal benefit area 138 have an area of congruence identified in Fig. 8 and Fig. 9 as gazebo area 150.

Service unit 140 is an integral structural element of BARZEBO™ gazebo 122. Service unit 140 supports service unit support panels 126 and 126' at bar corners 128 and 34, respectively. Support panels 126 and 126' are attached to service unit 140 at attachment points such as attachment point 144. Service unit legs 146, 146', and 148 extend from the ground to roof structure 134. Integration of service unit 140 with service unit support panel 126' extends the lateral support along axis X at bar corner 128' from width 152 of a support panel leg to length 154. Integration of service unit 140 with service unit support panel 126 extends the lateral support along axis X at bar corner 128 from length 156 of a support panel such as support panel 126 to length 154. Integration of service unit 18 with service unit support panels 126 and 126' extends the lateral support along axis Y at bar corners 128 and 128' from length 158 of a support panel such as support panel 126' to length 160.

Referring now to Fig. 10, in another embodiment of the present invention BARZEBO™ gazebo 162 includes support panels 164, 164', 166 and 166' that are turned at an angle 170 from the X axis and the Y axis. In a currently preferred embodiment of the present invention, angle 170 is 45 degrees, although other suitable angles or combinations of angles may be used. The width of support panels may be varied and with the orientation of the support panels, support panels such as support panel 166' may extend beyond gazebo envelope 172 as shown. Support panels such as support panel 164 may have any suitable width between and including width 174 to width 176.

Referring now to Fig. 11, in still another embodiment of the present invention BARZEBO™ gazebo 180 includes compound support columns 182, 184, 186, and 188. Each compound support column includes 3 or more support panels such as compound support column 182 including support panels 182', 182", and 182". Each support panel may be configured as discussed above.

Referring now to Fig. 12, in another further embodiment of the present invention BARZEBO™ gazebo 190 is octagonal with 8 support columns such as support column 192. In this embodiment gazebo envelope 194 is defined by the support columns and the roof structure. Optimal benefit area 196 is again equidistant from gazebo envelope 194 and separation distance 198 is determined by the latitude and the environment. The congruence of optimal benefit area 196 and patron area 199 defines gazebo area 200.

Referring now to Fig. 13, Fig. 13 depicts a BARZEBO gazebo 10 with a solar lighting unit 200. Solar lighting unit 200 has a solar powered collector 201 that sits atop shaft 205. Solar powered collector 201 has solar panels 202 and one or more rechargeable batteries 203 (e.g., 4 AA rechargeable batteries). Wiring runs between batteries 203 and light base 206 within shaft 205. A switch cord 214 with a light on/off switch 215 and multiple lights 211 hanging from light conduits 211 extend downwardly from light base 206. The lights 211 are preferably low energy consuming, high output lights, such as LED lights with high quality reflectors. The specific details of lighting unit 200, including solar powered collector 201, and the arrangement of one or more lights 211, are not crucial to the present invention and their details are well within the scope of a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Shaft 205 is held in place and supported in the center of gazebo 10 by four canopy support poles 207 that support shaft 205 at center shaft connection 208. Each of the support poles 207 are affixed to support panels extending upward from the four corners of gazebo 10 (shown as 26, 28, 36 and 38 in Fig. 2). Canopy support poles 207 are also supported by a square framework connected at the top of the support panels; Fig. 13 shows a portion of a bar 209 that forms one of the four legs of the square framework, and the square framework can be formed in many different ways. (One way to form the framework is to connect four

bars between the four support panels.) Canopy support poles 207 can extend outward beyond the four corners of gazebo 10, as is shown in Fig. 13, although they can also be flush with the corners if no additional overhang of the canopy is desired.

Fig. 13 depicts a BARZEBO gazebo 10 which is designed to include a second canopy 22 atop canopy 16 as is shown in Fig. 1, although canopy 22 is not shown. Second canopy 22 is supported by a second canopy support structure 222 which includes four bars 223, each of which is also attached to one of canopy support poles 207, and which are attached to shaft 205 at upper center shaft connection 228.

BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 shown in Fig. 13 does not include any decorative features or designs for shielding solar powered collector 201 from view, although it is clearly contemplated that an additional design which accomplishes this purpose might be desired. To accomplish this purpose, the design needs to block solar powered collector 201 from view of a person standing outside of BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 without in any way interfering with the ability of solar collector 201 to collect solar energy. The specific design of any such construction is not within the scope of the present invention.

As should be apparent from the above description of solar lighting unit 200, a BARZEBO™ gazebo fitted with such a device does not require any external power feed to function. This avoids the unsightly and problematic necessity of running a power cord from an electrical outlet to the gazebo to power lights, and eliminates the need to worry about having to constantly recharge batteries of battery powered lights, or replaced used batteries. This in turn makes use of such a BARZEBO™ gazebo much more enjoyable, and also opens up the possibility of its use at night.

It is contemplated that BARZEBO™ gazebos can be shipped and sold with solar lighting units as part of the standard design, or that solar lighting units can be included as an add on feature to a more basic BARZEBO™ gazebo that initially comes without such a unit. In addition, it is also contemplated that a base model might include a solar powered collector 201 designed for storing enough electricity to run the units lights for a preselected period of time (e.g., 3 hours)

while additional units might simply be plugged in as an add on feature to increase the amount of time the solar lighting unit can be used at one time.

It is also contemplated that non-solar lighting units can be included as part of the standard design of BARZEBO™ gazebos or as an add on feature, although such an option is not as preferred as a solar lighting unit. If a non-solar lighting unit is used, it could still be supported by shaft 205, and have a light base positioned in the same fashion as light base 206, and then have electrical wiring run up shaft 205, extend through one or more canopy support poles 207, and then run down through hollow tubes of one or more support panels extending upward from the four corners of gazebo 10, so that the ultimate external contact for an electrical plug would be at ground level of gazebo 10. If such external wiring is included, it is also contemplated that a fan unit (not shown) can be supported by shaft 205, probably so that the fan unit and a lighting fixture are incorporated into the same structure, such as is common in light/fan combinations currently sold for home use. However, before a fan unit can be included in gazebo 10, shaft 205 must be sufficiently supported so that it can withstand the weight of such a unit, as well as the stress caused by operation of the fan unit. Also, if solar energy sources are robust enough to provide the electricity needed to power a fan unit, a fan could be included in a gazebo 10 that is powered solely by solar energy which would be collected by a solar power collector 201 atop the gazebo.

Referring now to Fig. 14, Fig. 14 depicts a BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 with a GRILLZEBO™ barbeque island 300 unit attached to it as an add on. The island shown in Fig. 14 has an L shape, because this shape is especially preferred, but island unit 300 need not have such a shape. Barbeque island 300 is joined to BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 at support column 38 at bar corner 34 and along service side 72 by a suitable fastening mechanism. Barbeque island 300 contains a barbeque grill unit 301 that is built into and held in place in it. As was the case with BARZEBO™ gazebo 10, island unit 300 has a counter 365 and can contain a number of different shelves (not shown).

As shown in Fig. 14, an additional area 300S is formed between server area 18S and lengthwise portion 302 of island unit 300. Area 300S has no covering over it, nor is there any covering over barbeque grill unit 301, and it is

desirable that area 300S be sufficiently large to easily allow a person using barbeque grill unit 301 to move within it. Because these areas are not covered, smoke from barbeque grill unit 301 should not enter into area 18S (absent wind) where it might rise to soil canopy 16. An optional smoke screen canvass (not shown) can be positioned between the intersection of 300S and 18S to prevent smoke from getting inside of BARZEBO™ gazebo 10 when wind is present. The smoke screen canvass need not extend from canopy 16 to the ground; it can simply extend three feet or so from the edge of canopy 16, enough so that it keeps smoke from entering gazebo 10. The smoke screen canvass can also be used as a privacy screen between patron area 18P and area 300S, and it can be set up on a track along bar 223 so that it can easily be pulled open or closed in the same fashion as a curtain. And, similar to curtains, such a smoke screen could be periodically cleaned or changed.

When a GRILLZEBO™ barbeque island 300 is affixed to a BARZEBO™ gazebo 10, the result is a truly diverse outdoor living area, with many different entertaining features that could not heretofore be obtained without a very costly customized construction of a barbeque island and bar structure. However, because such a construction can now be done by modular units, such a structure can be constructed for a fraction of the cost of customized units, and it can even be built over time to thereby initial capital outlays.

While the invention has been described herein with reference to several especially preferred embodiments, these embodiments have been presented by way of example only, and not to limit the scope of the invention. Additional embodiments thereof will be obvious to those skilled in the art having the benefit of this detailed description, especially to meet specific requirements or conditions. Further modifications are also possible in alternative embodiments without departing from the inventive concept.

Accordingly, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that still further changes and modifications in the actual concepts described herein can readily be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the disclosed inventions as defined by the following claims.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A gazebo comprising:

a plurality of corner supports, each corner support having a top end and a bottom end and two or more legs connecting the top end and the bottom end;

a roof structure having a plurality of base corners, each base corner engaging the top end of one of the plurality of corner supports, the combination of the roof structure and the corner supports forming a gazebo envelope and defining an optimal benefit area within the gazebo envelope;

a service unit having a service area and a patron area, the service unit integrated between two adjacent corner supports, the service area and the patron area of the integrated service unit are within the gazebo envelope, and some or all of the patron area is congruent with the optimal benefit area.

2. The gazebo of claim 1, wherein the plurality of corner supports further comprises:

one or more support panels, each support panel having a top end and a bottom end and two generally parallel legs connecting the top end to the bottom end, and one or more support webs connected between the two generally parallel legs, and one or more lateral supports connected between the two generally parallel legs.

3. The gazebo of claim 1, wherein the plurality of corner supports further comprises:

a plurality of support columns.

4. The gazebo of claim 3, wherein each of the plurality of support columns further comprise:

two or more support panels, the two or more support panels connected along adjacent leg edges.

5. The gazebo of claim 1, wherein the roof structure further comprises:

an apex vent.

6. The gazebo of claim 5, wherein the apex vent further comprises:

an apex opening in the roof structure;

a second tier vent structure secured within the apex opening; and

a second tier roof covering secured to the second tier roof structure.

7. The gazebo of claim 1, wherein the service unit further comprises:

a generally U-shaped counter between the service area and the patron area, the service area the service area bounded on three sides by the generally U-shaped counter.

8. The gazebo of claim 7, wherein the service unit further comprises:

one or more shelves.

9. The gazebo of claim 7, wherein the service unit further comprises:

one or more self-draining shelves.

10. The gazebo of claim 3, further comprising:

one or more service shelves, each of the one or more service shelves secured to a support column.

11. The gazebo of claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of support trusses, each support truss connected between adjacent corner supports.

12. The gazebo of claim 1, further comprising:

a lighting unit for providing light to the service area and the patron area that is supported by the roof structure.

13. The gazebo of claim 12, further comprising:

a barbeque island adjacent to the service area that is affixed to at least one of the plurality of base corners and extends outwardly away from the gazebo.

14. The gazebo of claim 13, further comprising:

a smoke screen to prevent smoke from the barbeque island from entering into the service area or the patron area.

15. The gazebo of claim 12, wherein the lighting unit is powered by solar power.

16. The gazebo of claim 12, wherein the lighting unit is powered by an electrical connection that is at least partially concealed within the roof structure.

17. The gazebo of claim 17, further comprising a fan unit supported by the roof structure.

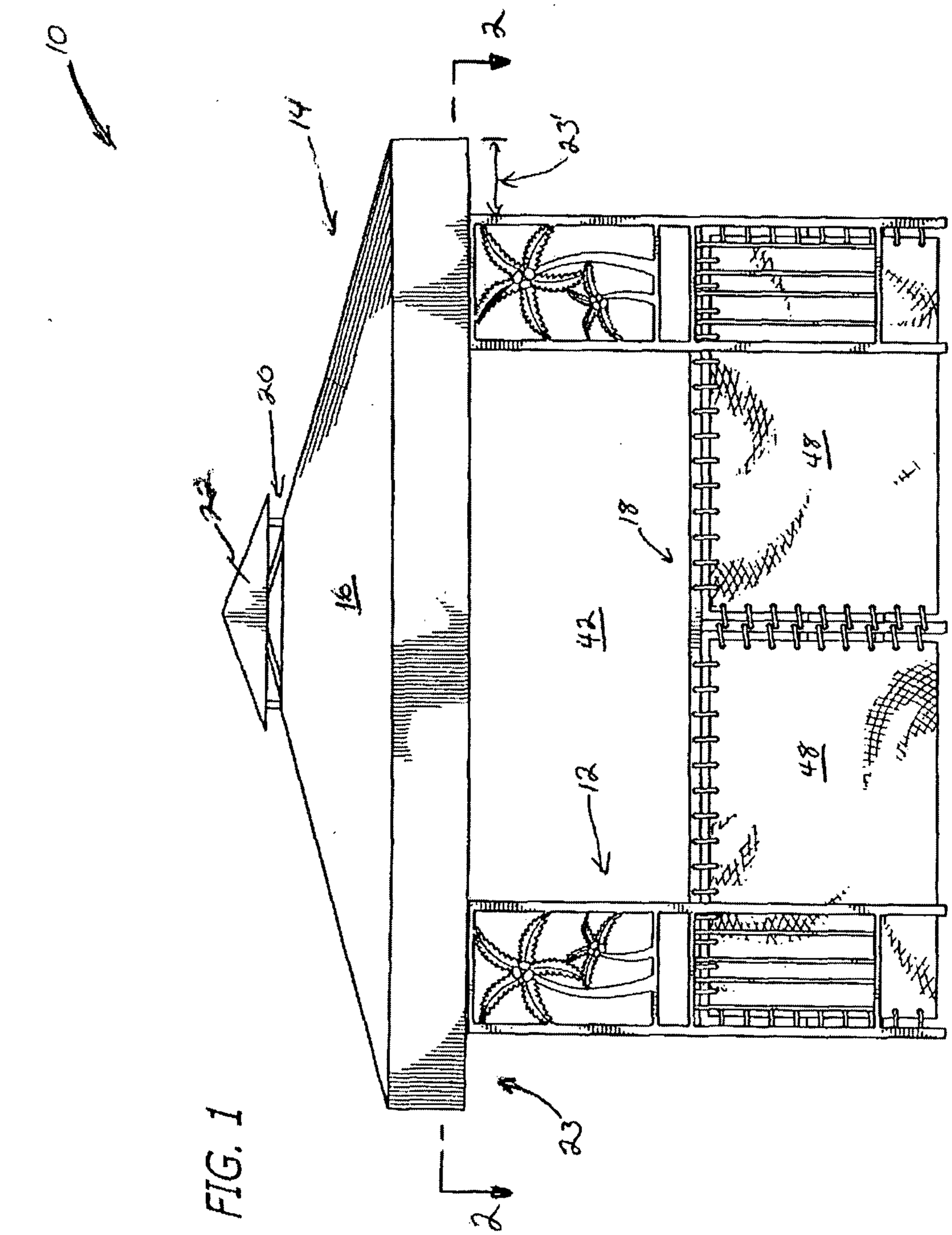


FIG. 1

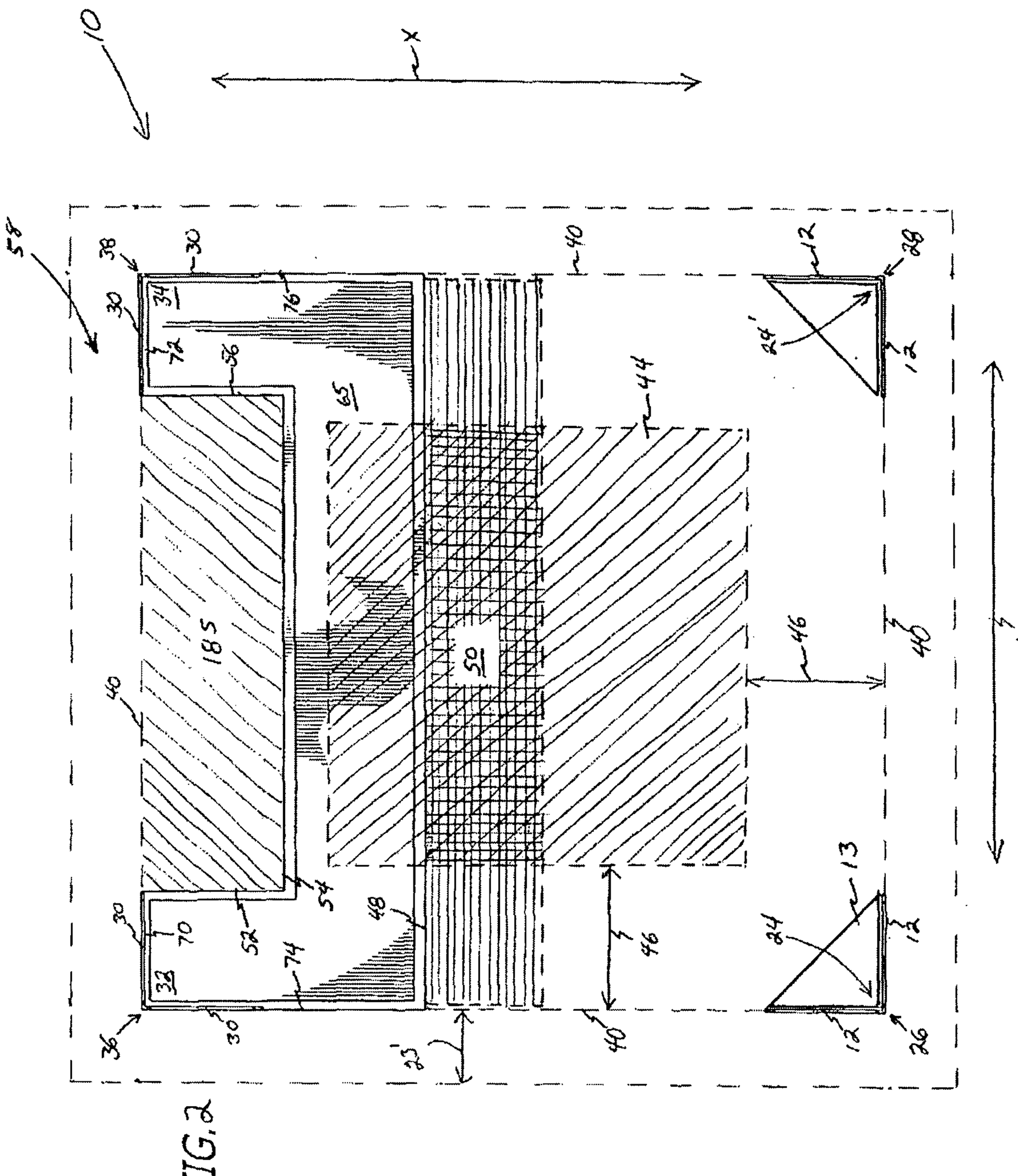

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FIG. 2

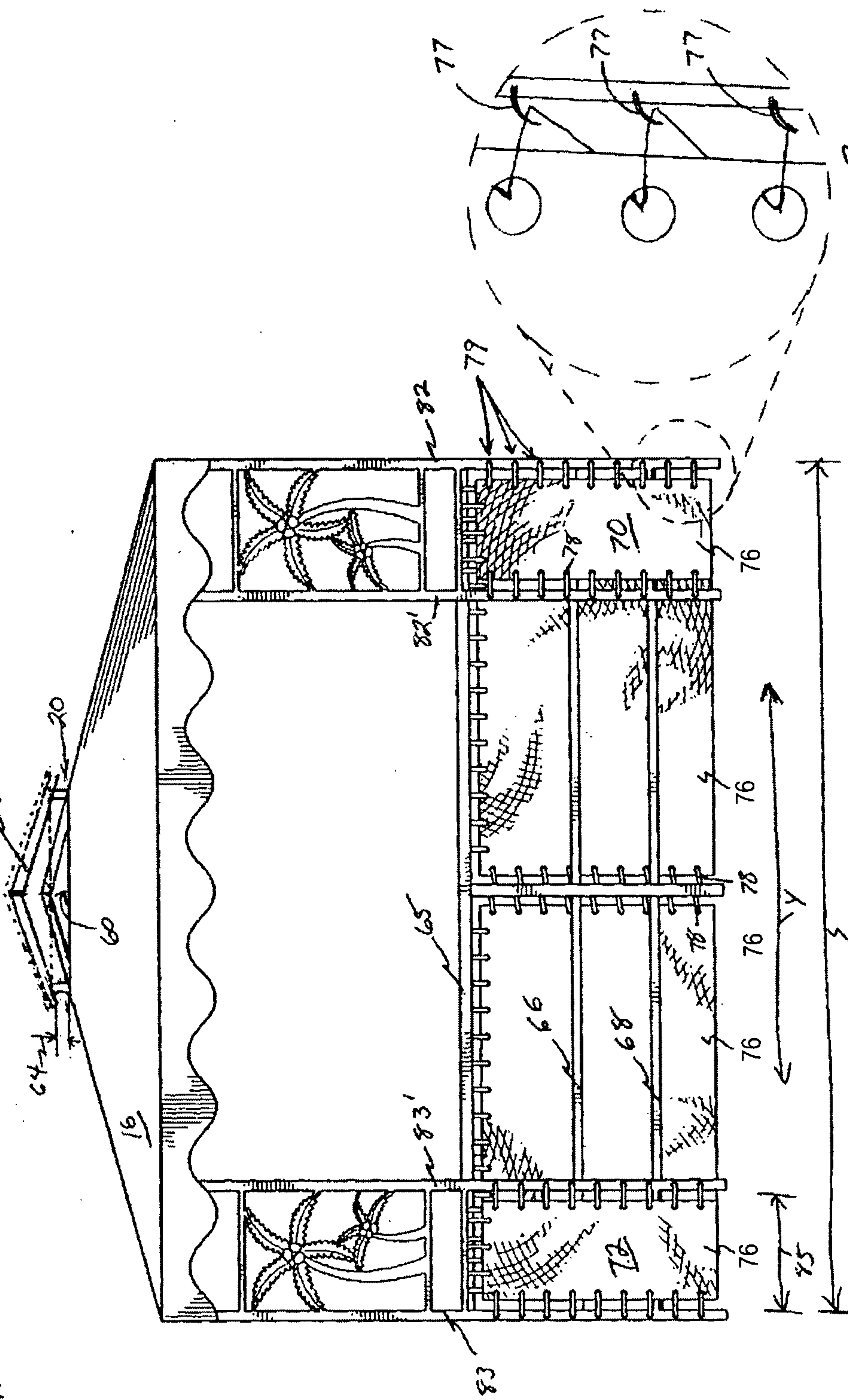

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Fig 3B.

FIG. 3A

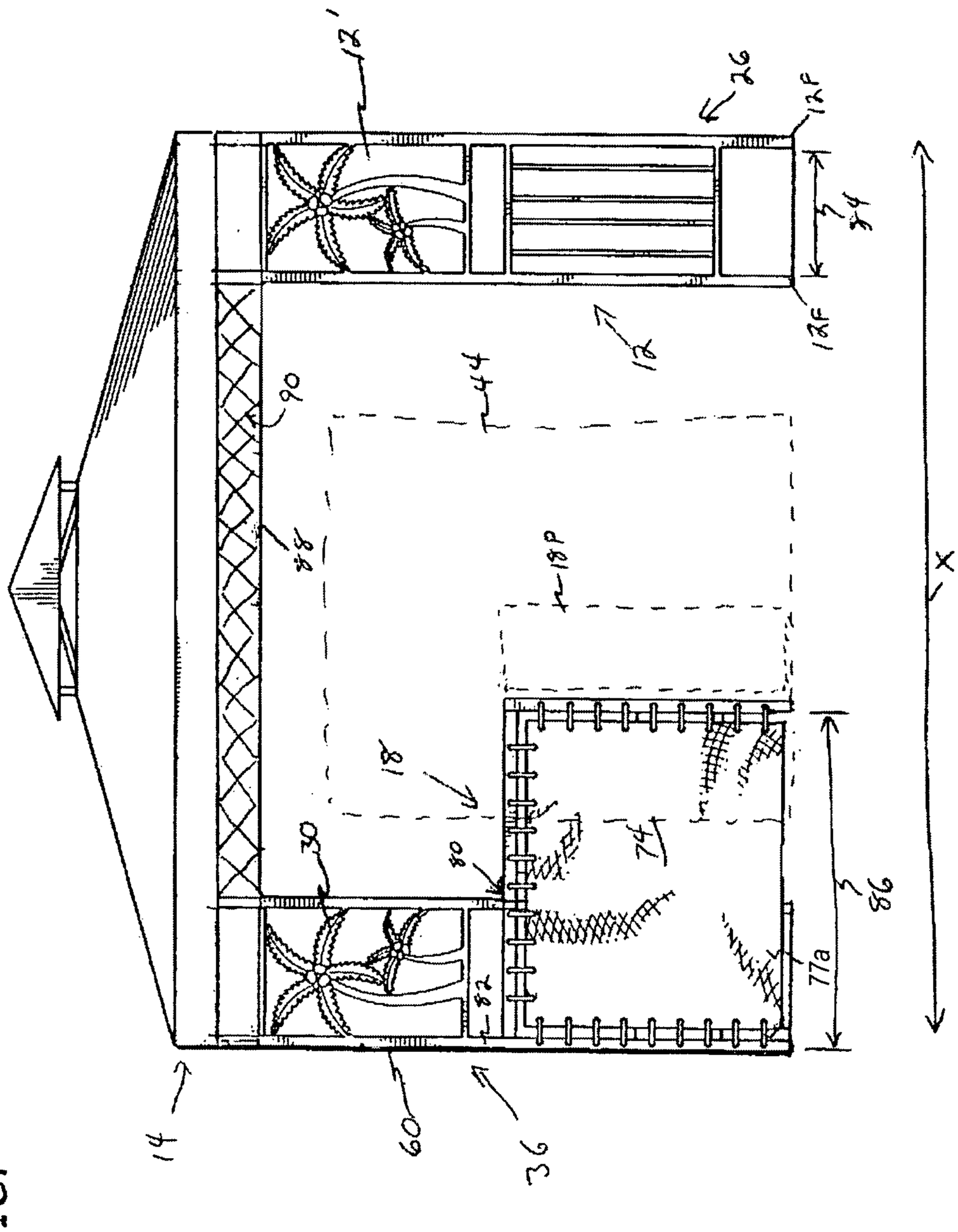


FIG. 4

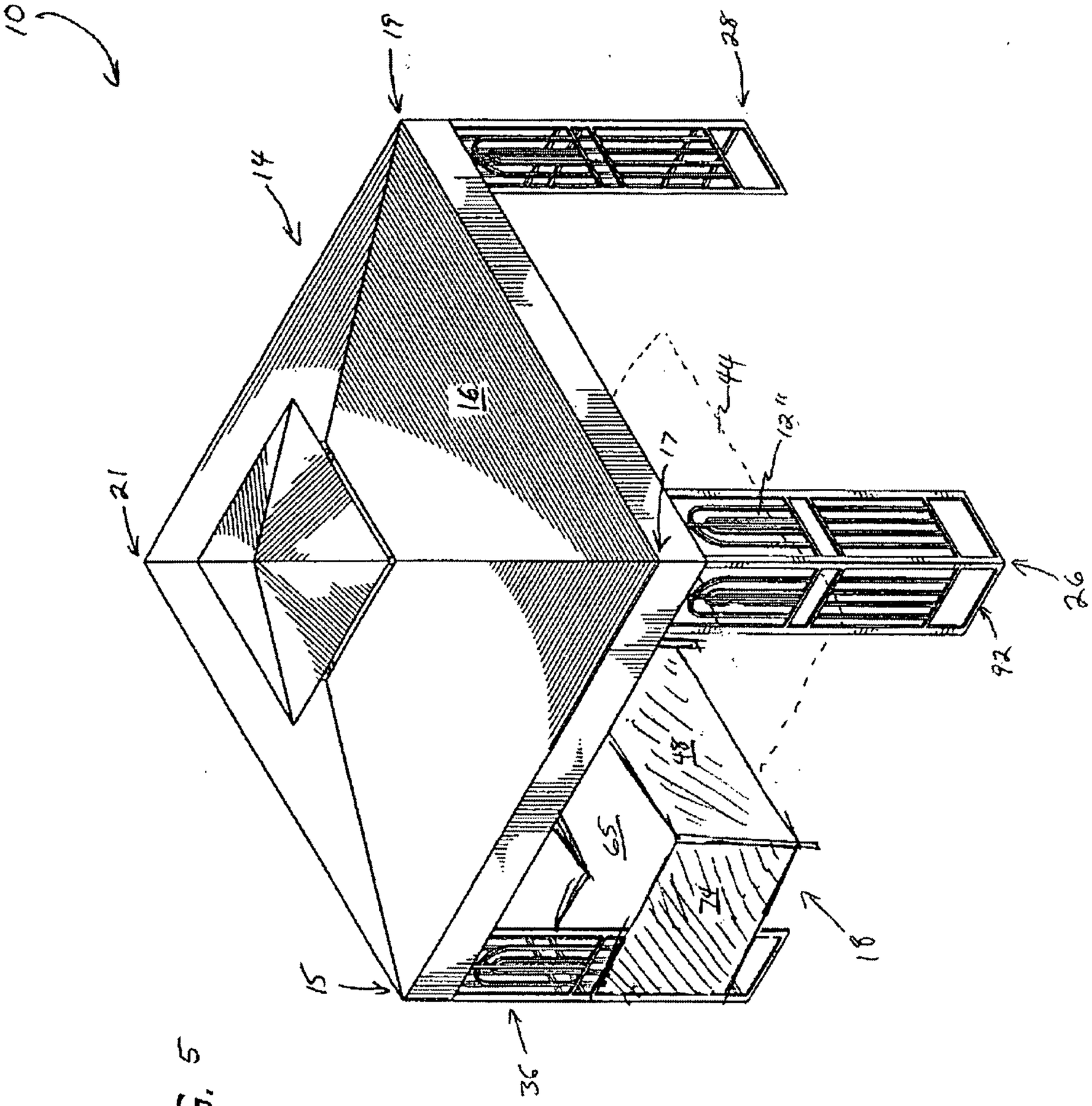


FIG. 5

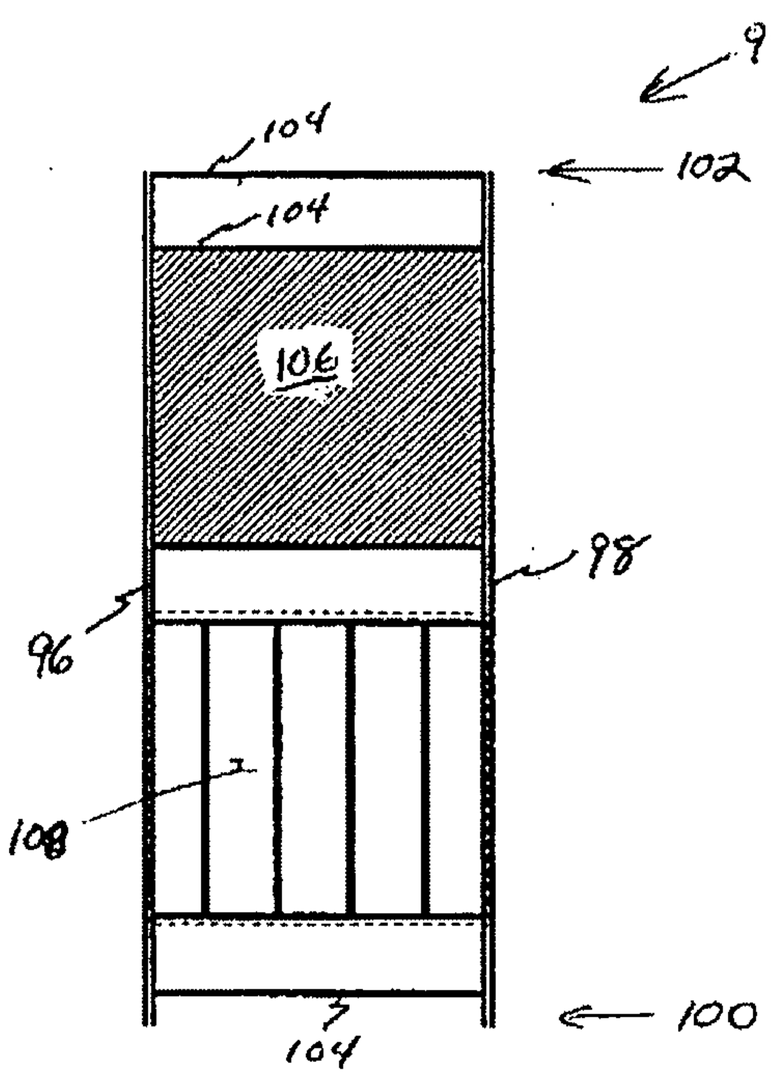

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Fig. 6.

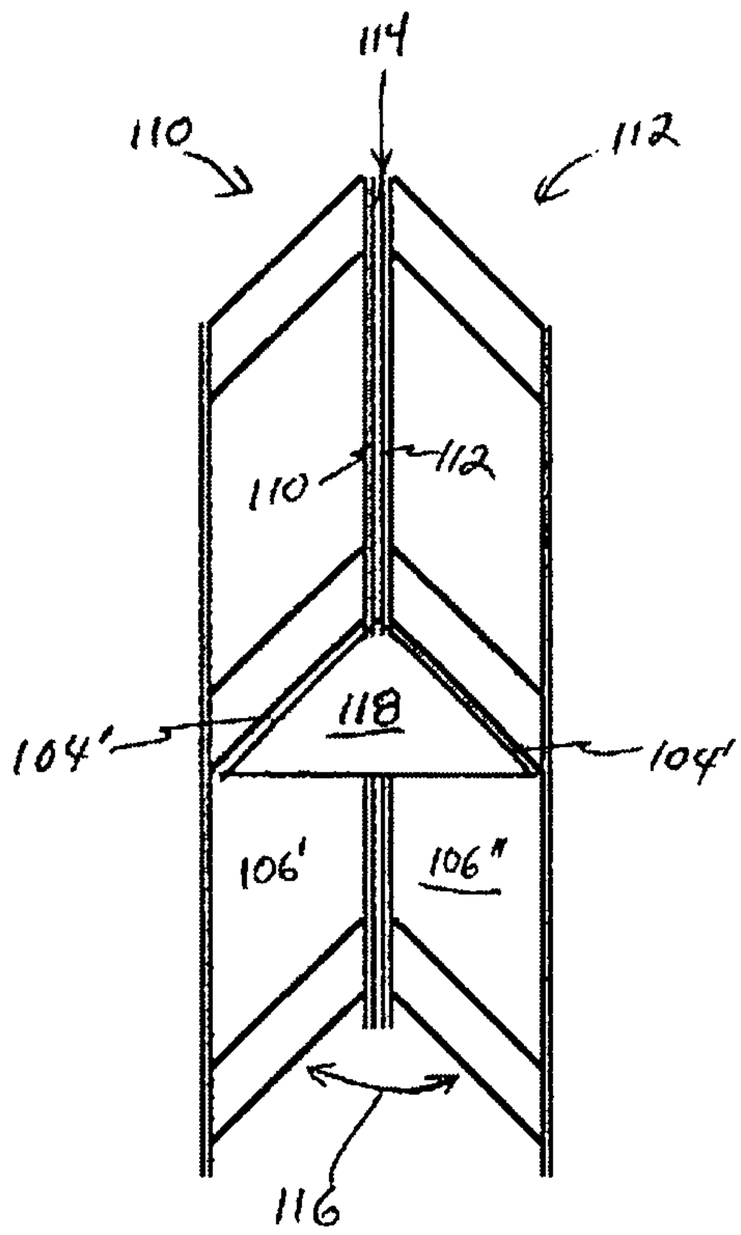

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116

Fig. 7

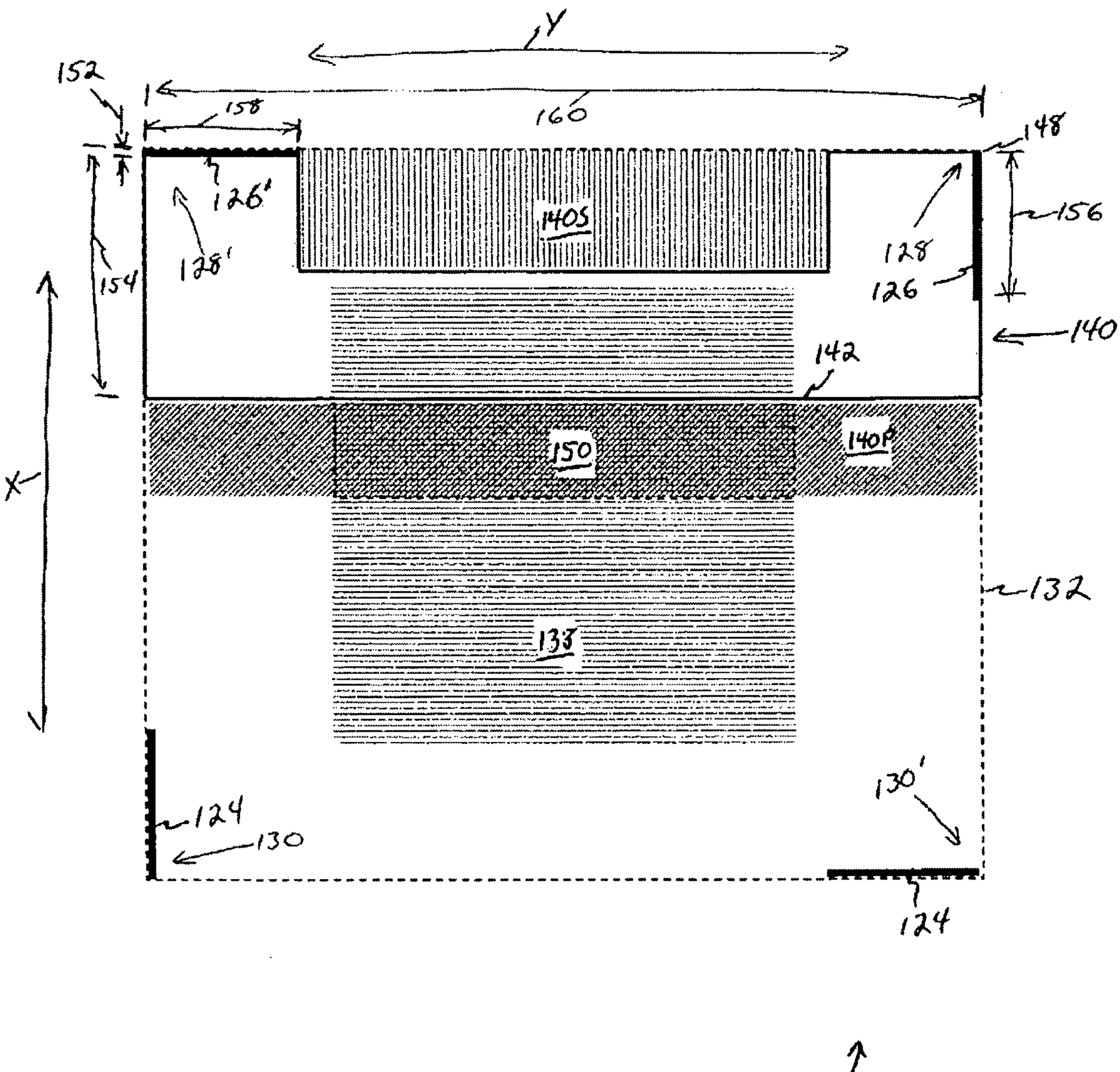

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Fig. 8

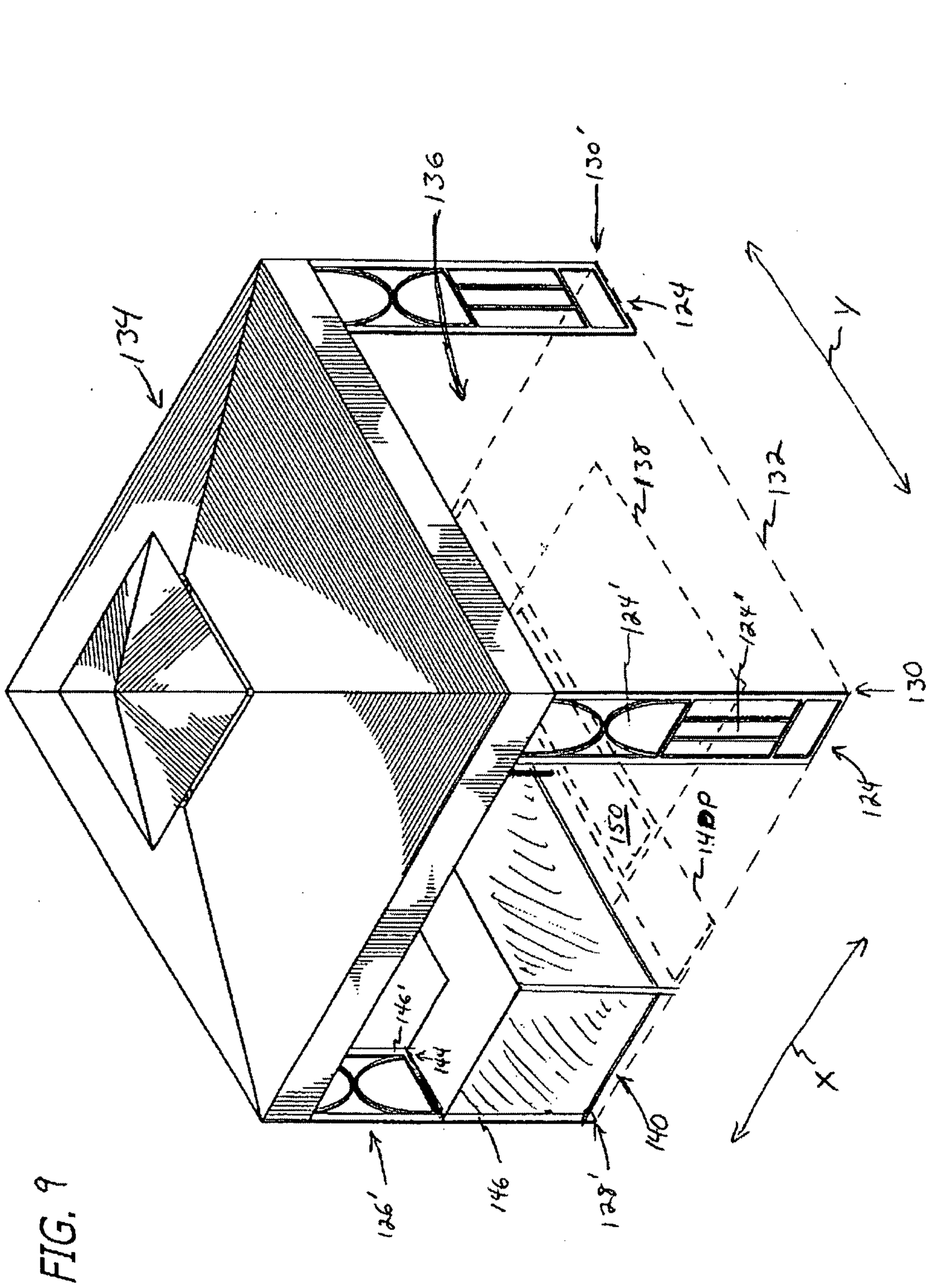

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FIG. 9

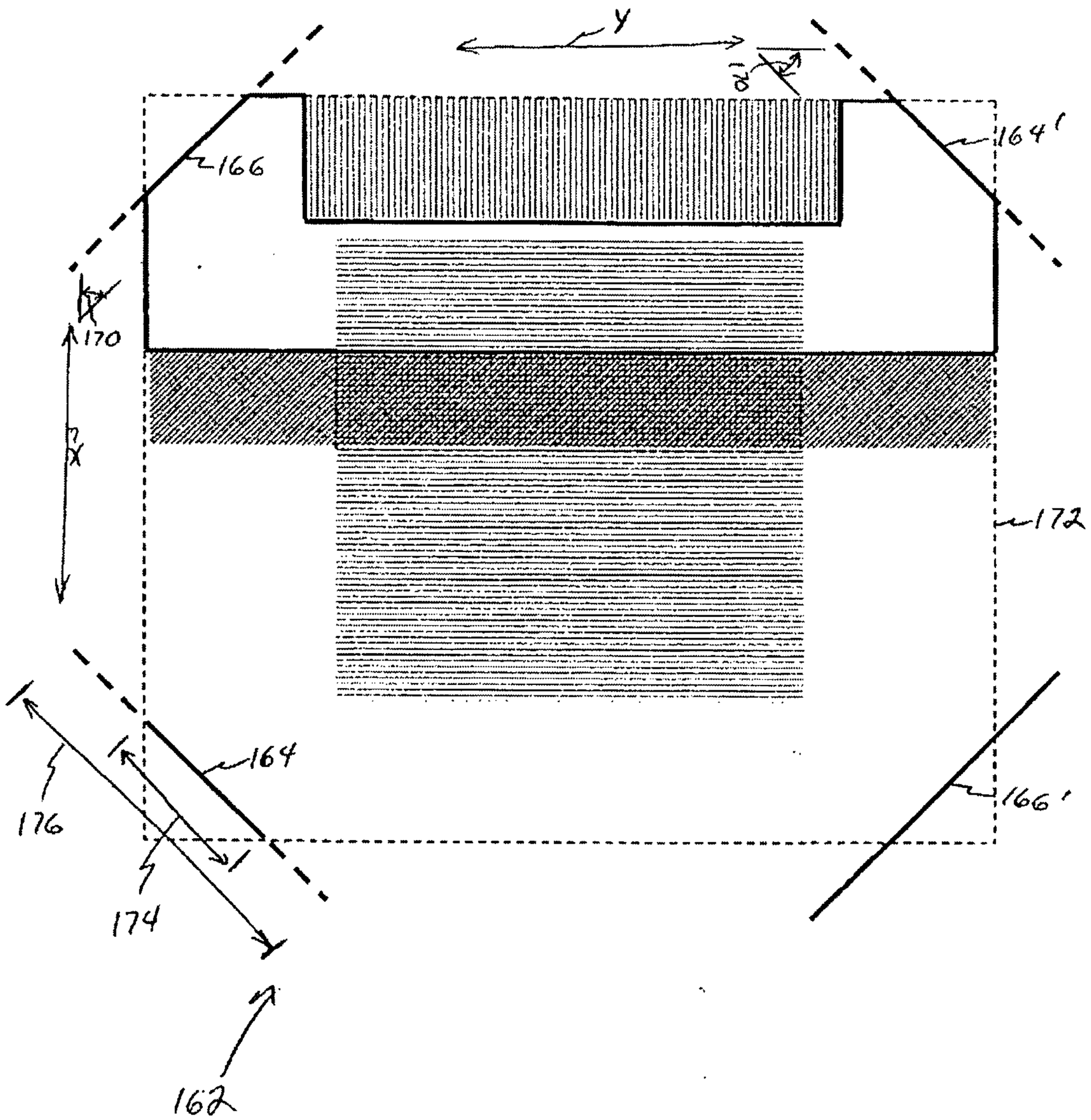


Fig. 10

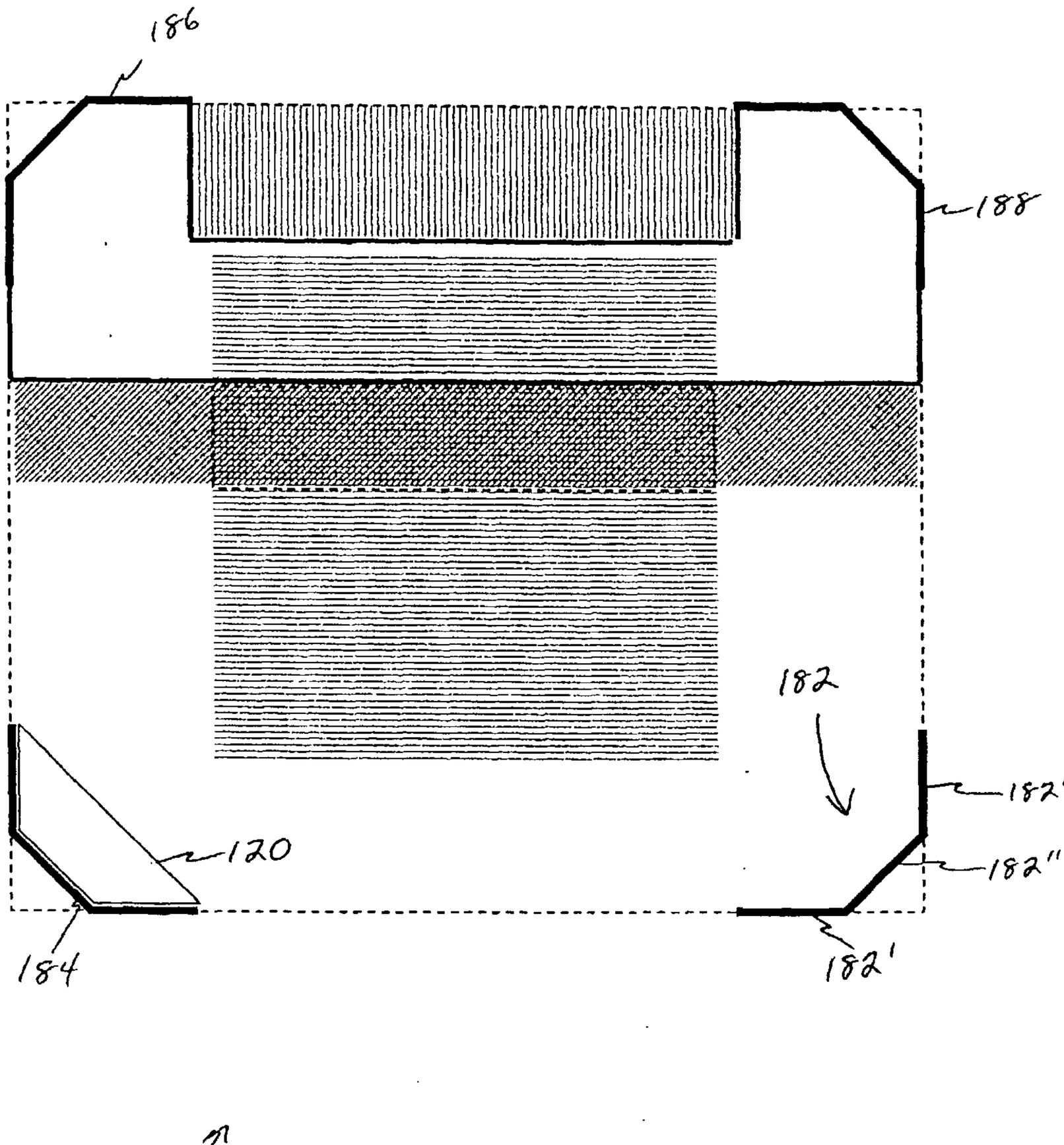


Fig. 11

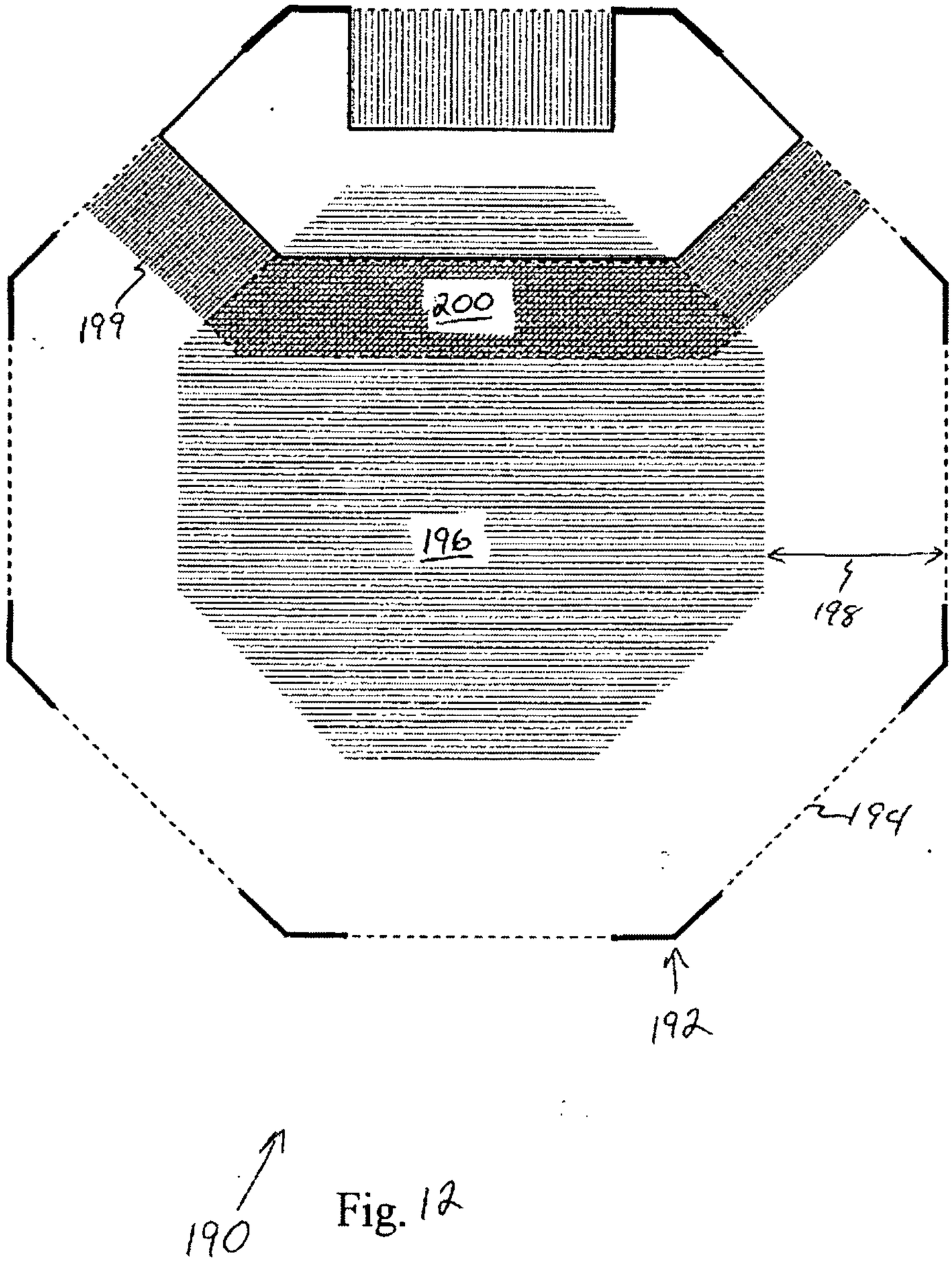


Fig. 12

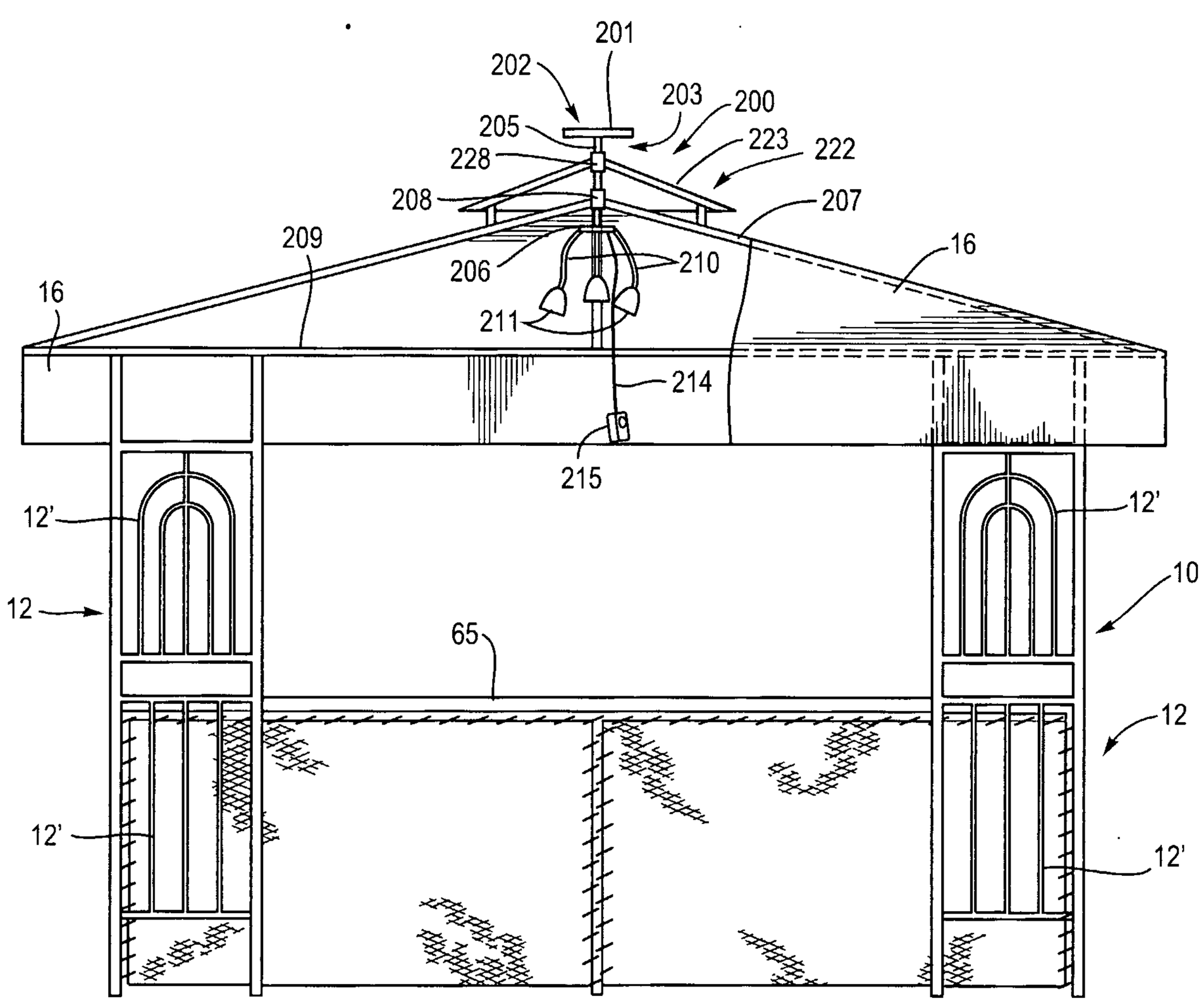

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Fig. 13

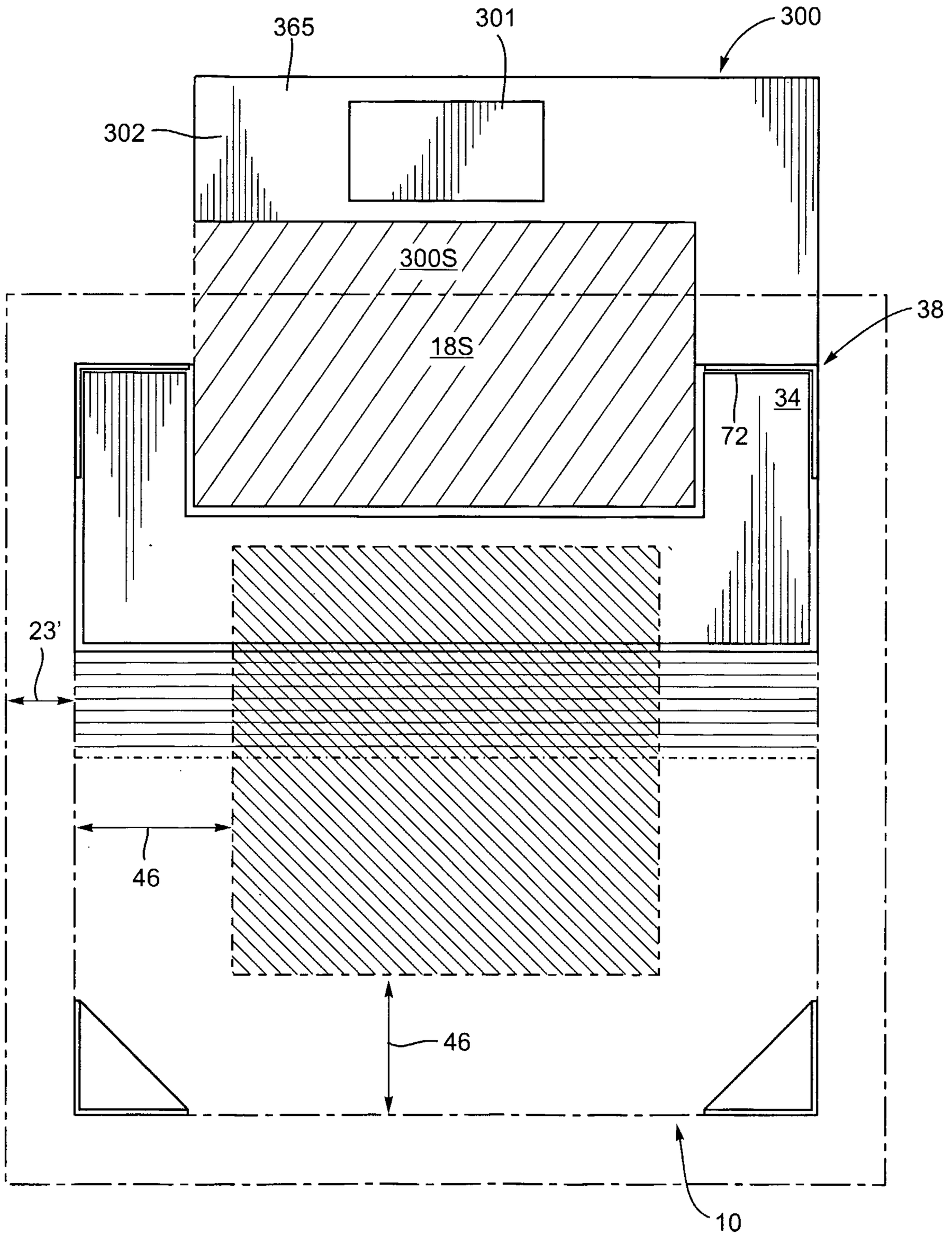
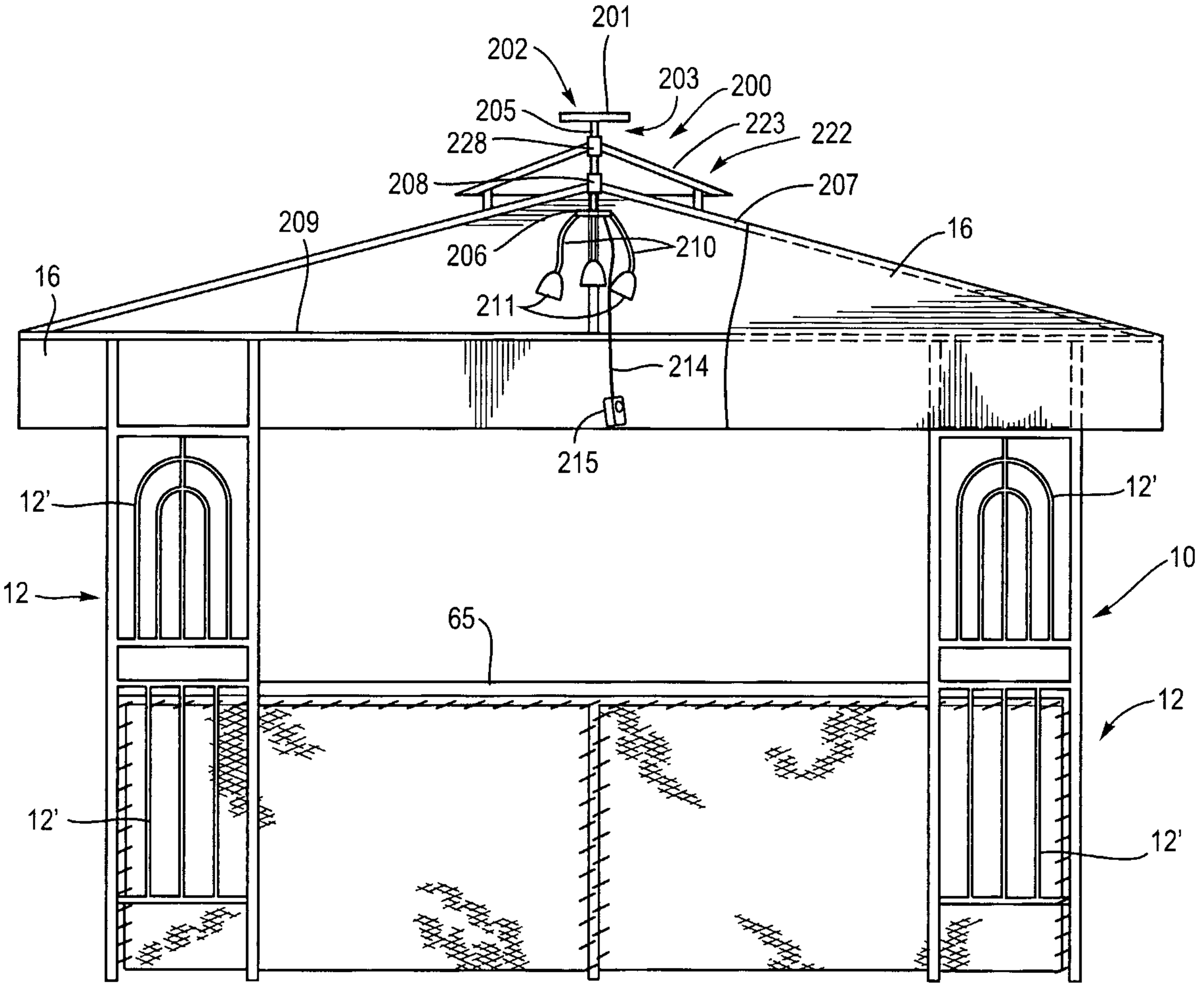


Fig. 14


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