Nov. 20, 1956 W. R. WRIGHT 2,770,847

BUILDING CORNER CONSTRUCTION

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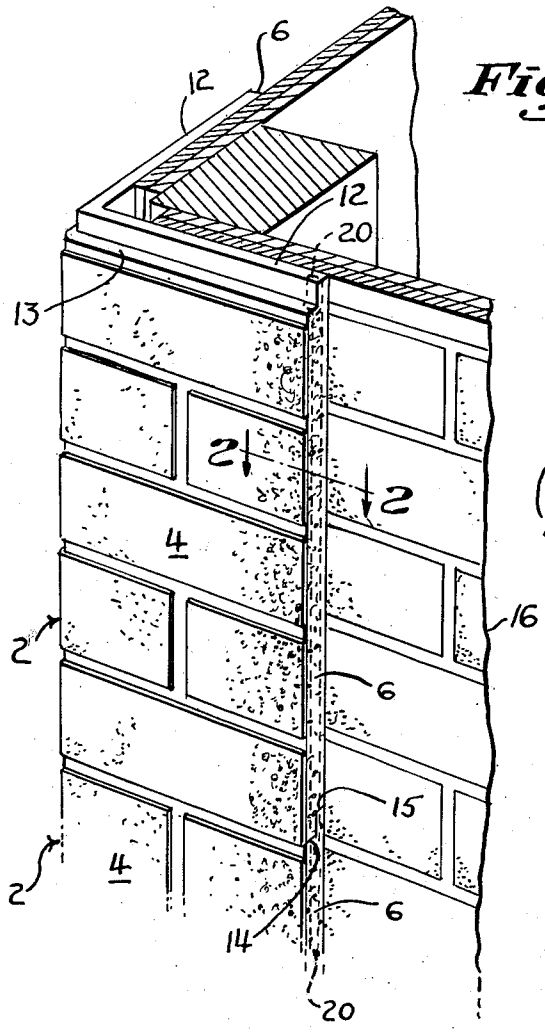
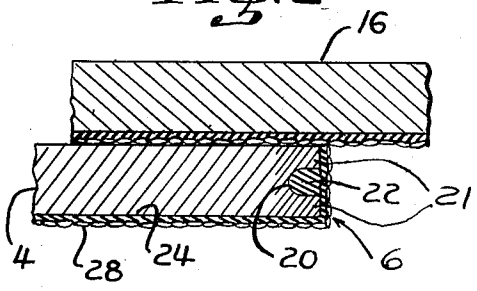


Fig. 1

Fig. 2



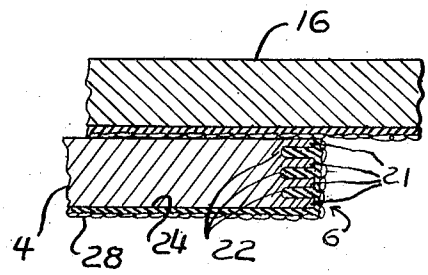


Fig. 3

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BUILDING CORNER CONSTRUCTION

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This invention relates to building corner construction and more specifically to a building corner element which may be applied to the outside of a building in overlapping relation thereto usually in vertical series with overlapping or coplanar interfitted horizontal joints.

The corner elements of my invention are especially adapted for use at corner junctions of building walls provided with ornamental siding panels of a type known to the art which are applied with horizontal joints, either flush, as with brick or masonry simulating siding panels, or overlapping to expose the lower edges of such panels, as with shingle simulating siding panels. Such siding panels are commonly formed with alternating areas of differently colored adhesively affixed mineral granules simulating such materials, and my novel corner elements may be similarly formed to carry out the effect provided by the siding panels.

With the type of fiberboard corner elements with which my invention is concerned, the gradual disintegration of the exposed edges of the corner elements has long been a problem, such disintegration being due to the action of the weather on the edges of the usual commercial fiberboard or similar composition, even though asphalt coating was applied to the element including the outer exposed edges of such elements.

Accordingly, it is an object of my invention to provide a fiberboard corner element that will not be subject to such disintegration, but will present an attractive and weather-resistant outer exposed edge surface at all times.

A further object of my invention is to provide a corner element having a hardened vertical edge with greatly increased strength, thus reducing the possibility of physical damage to the corner element both during shipment and after installation.

For the purpose of simplification and economy, the corner element of my invention may be formed with a base which is composed of fiberboard and is so constructed that the element maintains its pre-formed angular configuration adapting it for application to the corner of a building, and yet possesses a certain amount of flexibility permitting the unit to conform more readily with building irregularities usually found. The term "fiberboard" is understood to include various types of composition boards as commonly used in the art, such board commonly being treated to waterproof and strengthen it, for example by treating its surfaces with a sealing composition or by otherwise incorporating a waterproofing and strengthening agent into the board during its manufacture.

For the purpose of further explaining a preferred embodiment of my invention, reference is made to the following drawings, in which,

Fig. 1 is an isometric view of the novel building corner element of my invention as applied to a building corner juncture;

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the corner element of Fig. 1 taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view of a modified form of the corner element of my invention.

Referring to Fig. 1, the corner element of my invention, generally designated as **2**, comprises a sheet of fiberboard bent substantially along a median line forming a pair of fixedly angularly disposed panel portions **4** having extended outer edges **6**, herein referred to as vertical edges. The top and bottom edges **12** and **14**, respectively, are rabbeted, the top edge **12** having a rabbet **13** on the outer surface thereof and the bottom edge having a rabbet **15** on the inner surface thereof, said rabbets being of a depth about half the thickness of the fiberboard sheet so that a series of corner elements **2** may be interfitted in vertical relationship overlapping the end portions of siding panels **16** at a building corner juncture.

According to my invention, as best shown in Fig. 2, I have provided grooves **20** extending along outer edges **6** between the side surfaces of said corner element panel portions **4**, said grooves being of substantial depth, say about ⅛" to ¼", and spaced from the side surfaces of said panel portions, preferably by a distance small enough to permit complete saturation of the resulting webs **21** adjoining said grooves **20** by a sealing composition, such as light asphalt or resin. The webs **21** and the base of grooves **20** are first saturated with said sealing composition and the grooves **20** are then filled with a coating composition **22**, such as, for example, heavy asphalt or resin, the exposed surface of said coating composition being substantially flush with the surface of the outer exposed edge **6**, such edge being formed of the coated outer edges of webs **21**. The novel edge construction of my invention provides a far superior weather-resistant edge and one which remains weathertight and attractive as long as the other portions of the corner piece, since such construction substantially prevents the disintegration of the exposed edges of heretofore known corner elements as both saturation with the sealing composition and incorporation of the coating composition provides a continuous asphalt protected portion for a substantial depth along the vertical edges of the element **2**. The additional thickness of coating in the grooves **20** provides, in effect, a reservoir of protective material at that part of the corner element most subject to damage of all types.

Either before, after, or at the same time the groove **20** is filled with coating composition **22**, the entire corner element is coated on its weather sides in the usual manner with a material **24** such as asphalt or resin, and the exposed weather surfaces of said element **2** including outer exposed edges **6** are covered with an adherent surfacing of finely divided mineral matter **28** which may be of various colors and configurations to provide the appearance of bricks, or the like, similar to that of the siding panels **16**, such being well known to the art.

In a modified embodiment of my invention, as shown in Fig. 3, I have provided a number of grooves **20** in the exposed edge **6** of a corner element **2** overlapping siding panel **16**. Such construction is particularly useful with relatively thick elements **2** and provides a somewhat more weatherproof corner element than that of the construction shown in Figs. 1 and 2 when used with such elements, as the depth of penetration of the sealing composition is generally limited to about 1/16" to ⅛" to maintain, as far as possible, the insulating qualities of the unsaturated fiberboard. Thus, it is preferable, at least with fiberboard of the type which is saturated after manufacture, to have the webs **21** no more than about ¼" in thickness in order to realize complete penetration thereof.

Though the corner elements of my invention have been described in terms of a corner element for use with siding panels, corner elements embodying my invention may obviously be used at greater or lesser angles than

90°, and as such would be useful in roof construction as well. Similarly my invention may be found useful with siding or other panels having exposed edges. The grooves **20** are preferably continuous for ease in manufacture, but I contemplate that suitable interrupted grooves such as perforations filled with a coating composition might be used, and by the term "groove" I intend to include such modifications. Other modifications not herein described within the spirit of my invention and the scope of the appended claims will occur to those skilled in the art.

I claim:

1. A building element having a normally exposed outer edge comprising a sheet of fiberboard having an extended outer edge, a groove extending along said edge between the side surfaces of said fiberboard sheet, said groove forming webs on either side thereof, said webs being saturated with a sealing composition of asphalt, resin or the like, and coating composition of asphalt, resin or the like in said groove and covering said outer edge for providing a substantially flush weatherproof strengthened outer edge on said building element, said edge being covered with said coating composition, and said groove providing a reservoir of said coating composition.

2. A building corner element adapted to overlap end portions of building panels comprising a sheet of fiberboard bent substantially along a median line forming a pair of fixedly angularly disposed panel portions having extended outer edges, grooves extending along said edges between the side surfaces of said panel portions, said grooves forming webs on either side thereof, said webs being saturated with the sealing composition of asphalt,

resin or the like, and coating composition of asphalt, resin or the like in said grooves and covering said outer edges for providing substantially flush weatherproof strengthened outer edges on said corner element, said edges being covered with said coating composition, and said grooves providing reservoirs of said coating composition.

3. A building corner element adapted to overlap end portions of building panels comprising a sheet of fiberboard bent substantially along a median line forming a pair of fixedly angularly disposed panel portions having extended outer edges, grooves extending along said edges between the side surfaces of said panel portions, said grooves forming webs on either side thereof, said webs substantially saturated with a sealing composition of asphalt, resin or the like adjoining said grooves, and coating composition of asphalt, resin or the like in said grooves and covering said outer edges for providing substantially flush weatherproof strengthened outer edges on said corner element, said edges being covered with said coating composition, and said grooves providing reservoirs of said coating composition.

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