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(12) **United States Patent**
Colson et al.

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(54) **CLADDING SYSTEM AND PANEL FOR USE IN SUCH SYSTEM**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(21) Appl. No.: **09/783,238**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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A cladding system for walls or ceilings of a building structure consisting of a panel or panels that are sectioned so as to provide a variety of aesthetics. The sections in the panel may be joined along articulated lines of joinder so that an entire panel comprised of a plurality of sections can be expanded or retracted to either cover or selectively expose the wall or ceiling across which the system is mounted. The sections in a panel may be cellular and may thereby form a honeycomb-type panel, and the materials from which the panels are made may vary between being rigid, flexible, hard, soft, flat, reflective, and the like. Panels can be supported with side rails extending along each side of the panel while not requiring cross rails so that, for example, when a panel is used in a ceiling system and retracted from its expanded condition beneath a ceiling structure, generous access is provided to the ceiling structure for repair or other work on utilities such as plumbing, electrical, and the like that are found embedded in the ceiling. Intermediate rails, parallel to the side rails, can also be provided, if necessary, to support a panel along intermediate portions thereof or between adjacent panels. The supporting rails for the panels can take on numerous configurations so as to support the panels in varied ways depending to some degree upon the particular panel construction being utilized.

Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 08/752,957, filed on Nov. 20, 1996, now Pat. No. 6,199,337.

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **E04F 13/00**; E04B 9/00

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **52/506.08**; 52/506.07; 52/508; 160/84.05

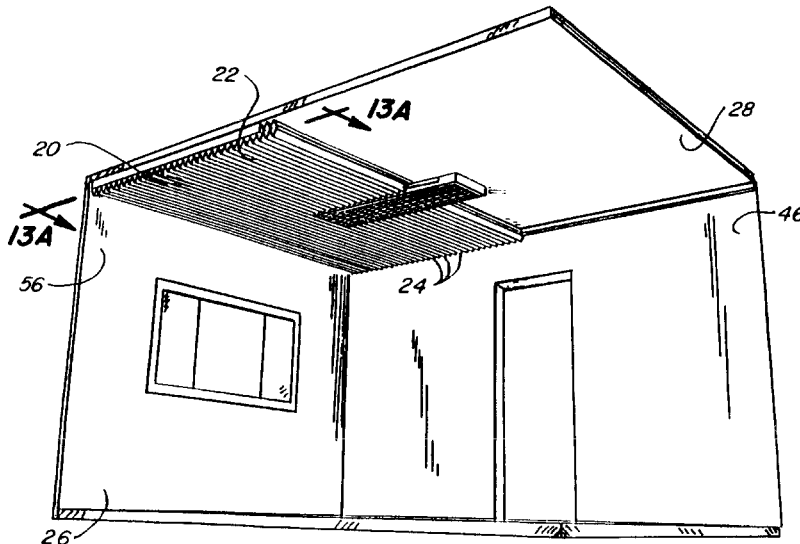
(58) **Field of Search** 52/506.06, 506.07, 52/508, 511, 6, 63, 71, 222, 2.24, 2.22, 202, 203; 160/84.01, 84.03, 84.05, 84.08, 348

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10 Claims, 50 Drawing Sheets



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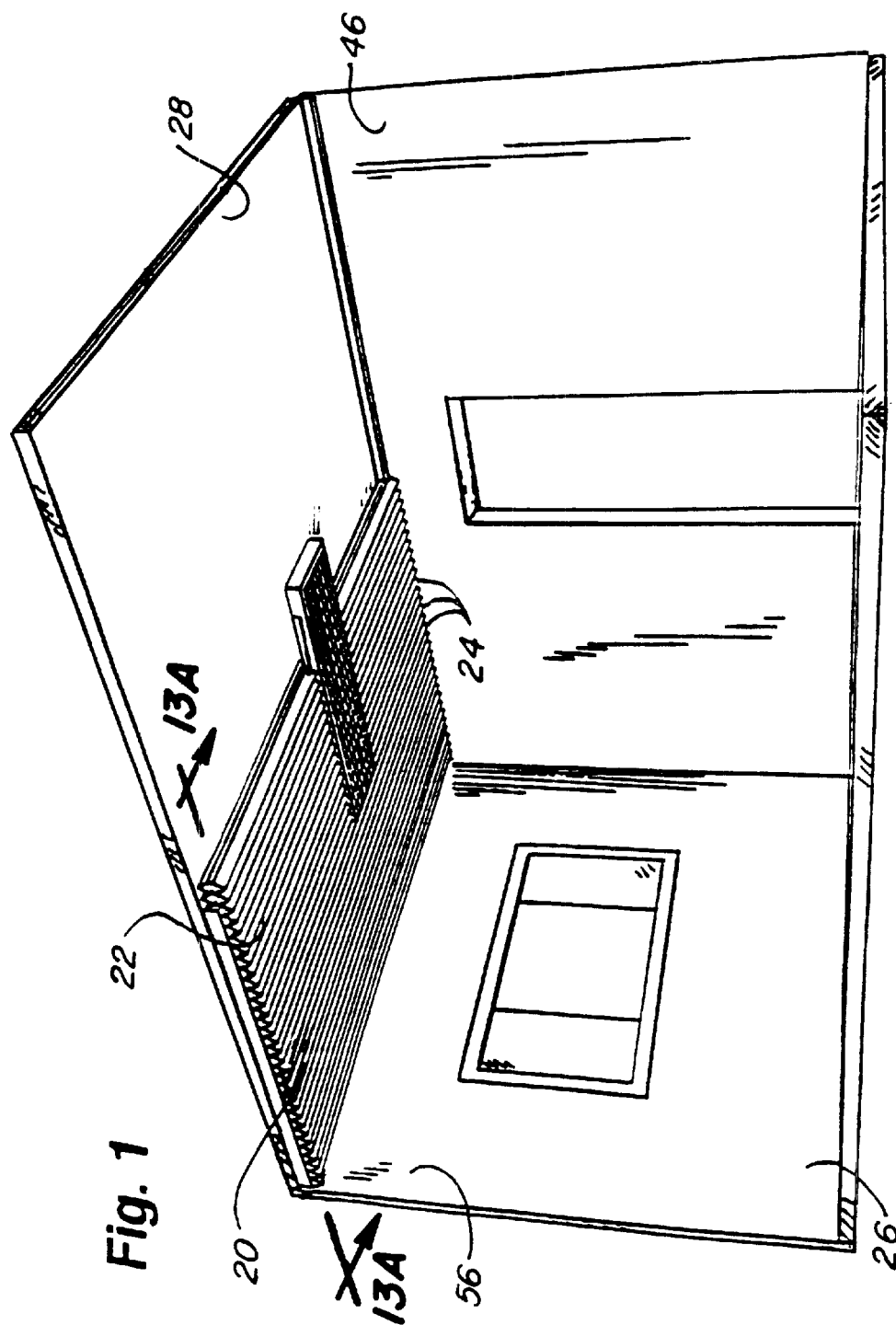
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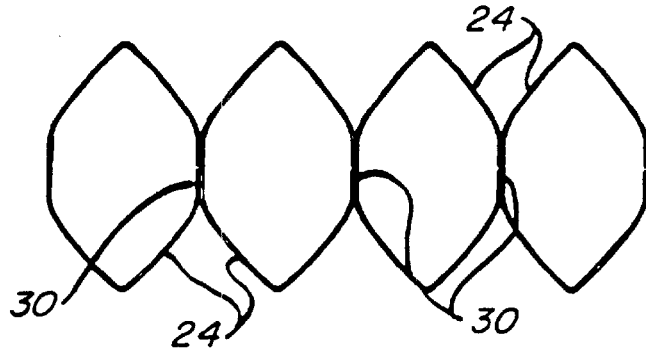


Fig-3

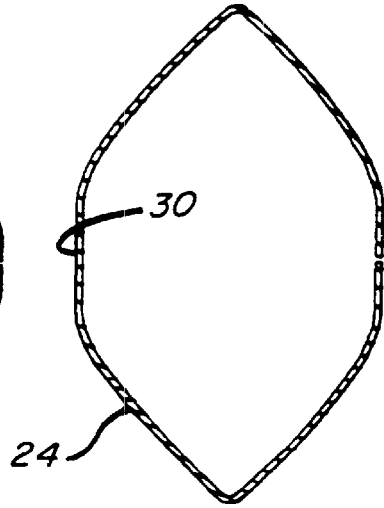


Fig-2

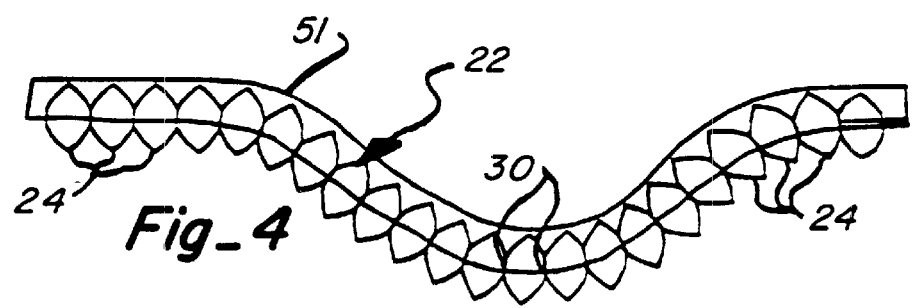


Fig-4

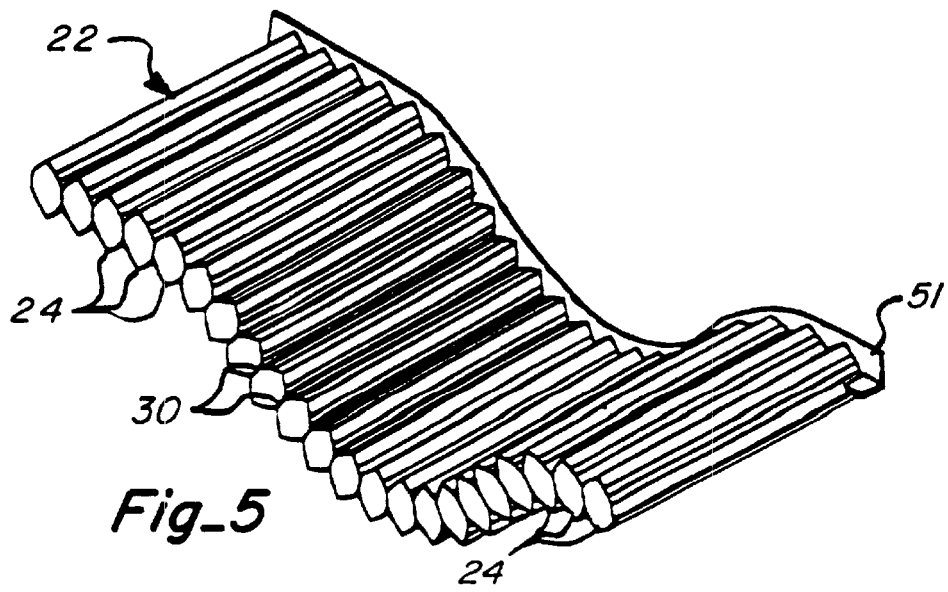
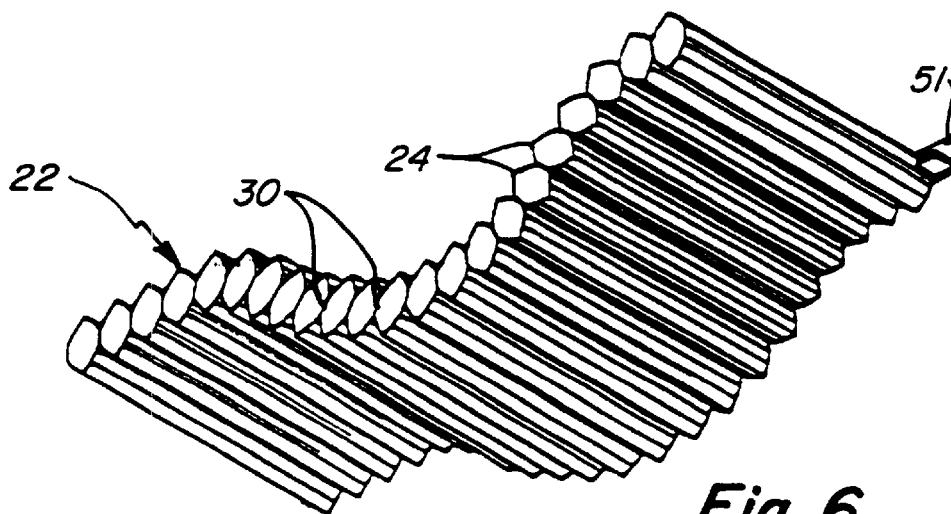
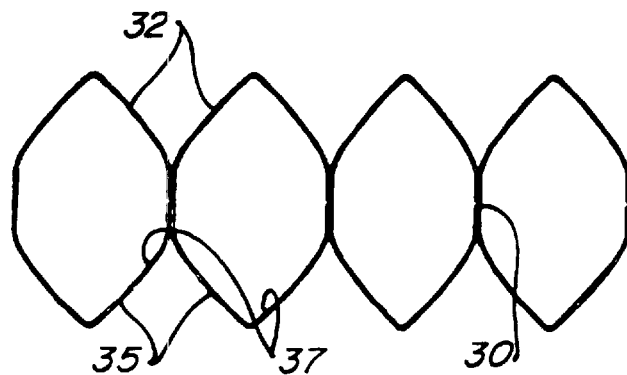


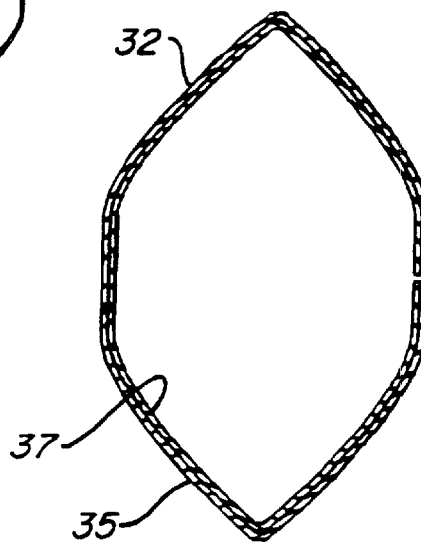
Fig-5



Fig_6



Fig_8



Fig_7

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