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(54) **GARAGES RETROFITTED FOR ALTERNATIVE USES AND RELATED TECHNOLOGY**

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(72) Inventor: **Theodore W. Baker**, Portland, OR (US)

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CPC *E04H 1/1266* (2013.01); *A47K 4/00* (2013.01); *E04H 3/02* (2013.01); *E04B 1/34315* (2013.01); *G06Q 50/12* (2013.01); *E04H 1/1216* (2013.01); *G06Q 10/02* (2013.01)

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 16/018,620, filed on Jun. 26, 2018, now Pat. No. 10,662,662, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 15/140,785, filed on Apr. 28, 2016, now Pat. No. 10,529,038, said application No. 16/018,620 is a continuation-in-part of application No. 15/263,527, filed on Sep. 13, 2016, now Pat. No. 10,011,982, said application No. 16/018,620 is a continuation-in-part of application No. 15/390,731, filed on Dec. 27, 2016, now abandoned, said application No. 16/018,620 is a continuation-in-part of application No. 15/456,523, filed on Mar. 11, 2017, now Pat. No. 10,043,227, said application No. 16/018,620 is a continuation of application No. 15/675,745, filed on Aug. 13, 2017, now Pat. No. 10,036,172.

(60) Provisional application No. 62/154,209, filed on Apr. 29, 2015, provisional application No. 62/222,750, filed on Sep. 23, 2015, provisional application No. 62/273,700, filed on Dec. 31, 2015, provisional ap-

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A real estate unit in accordance with a particular embodiment of the present technology includes an interior region of a retrofitted garage, a reusable bathroom operably associated with the interior region, and a reusable fenestrated barrier also operably associated with the interior region. The reusable bathroom can be removably disposed within or outside the interior region. The reusable fenestrated barrier can be stationarily and removably disposed between the interior region and an outdoor area. The retrofitted garage can include a wall between the interior region and the outdoor area. The wall can include an opening having a width within a range from 2 meters to 7 meters. A path permitting a renter of the real estate unit to move between the interior region and the outdoor area can extend through the opening and through the reusable fenestrated barrier.

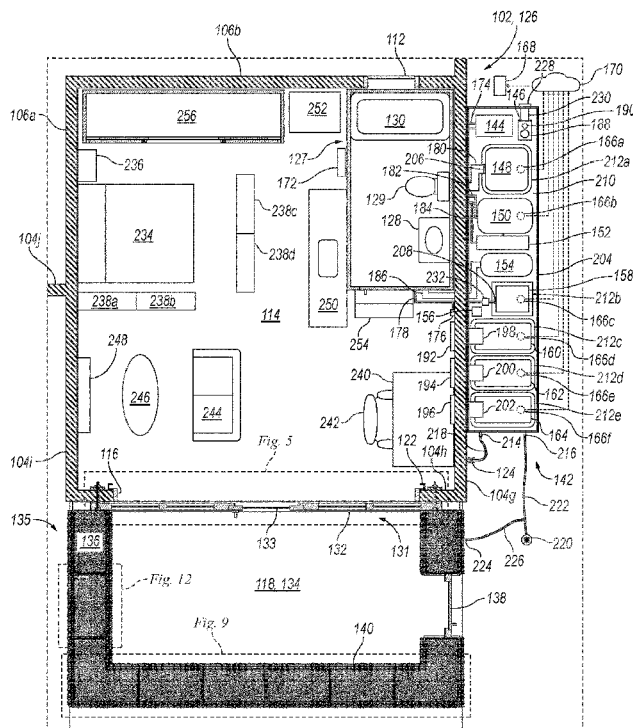




Fig. 1 (prior art)

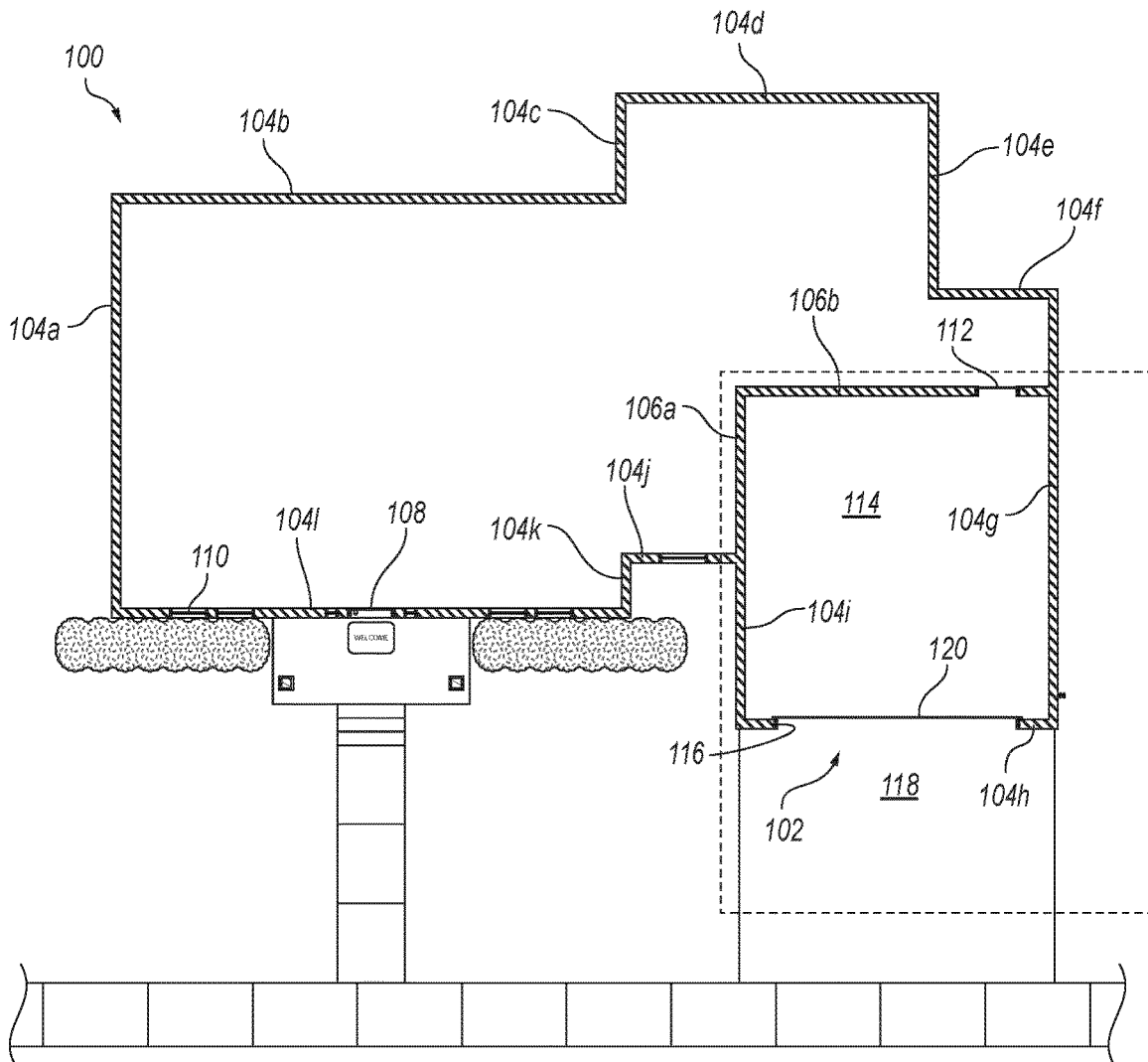


Fig. 2 (prior art)

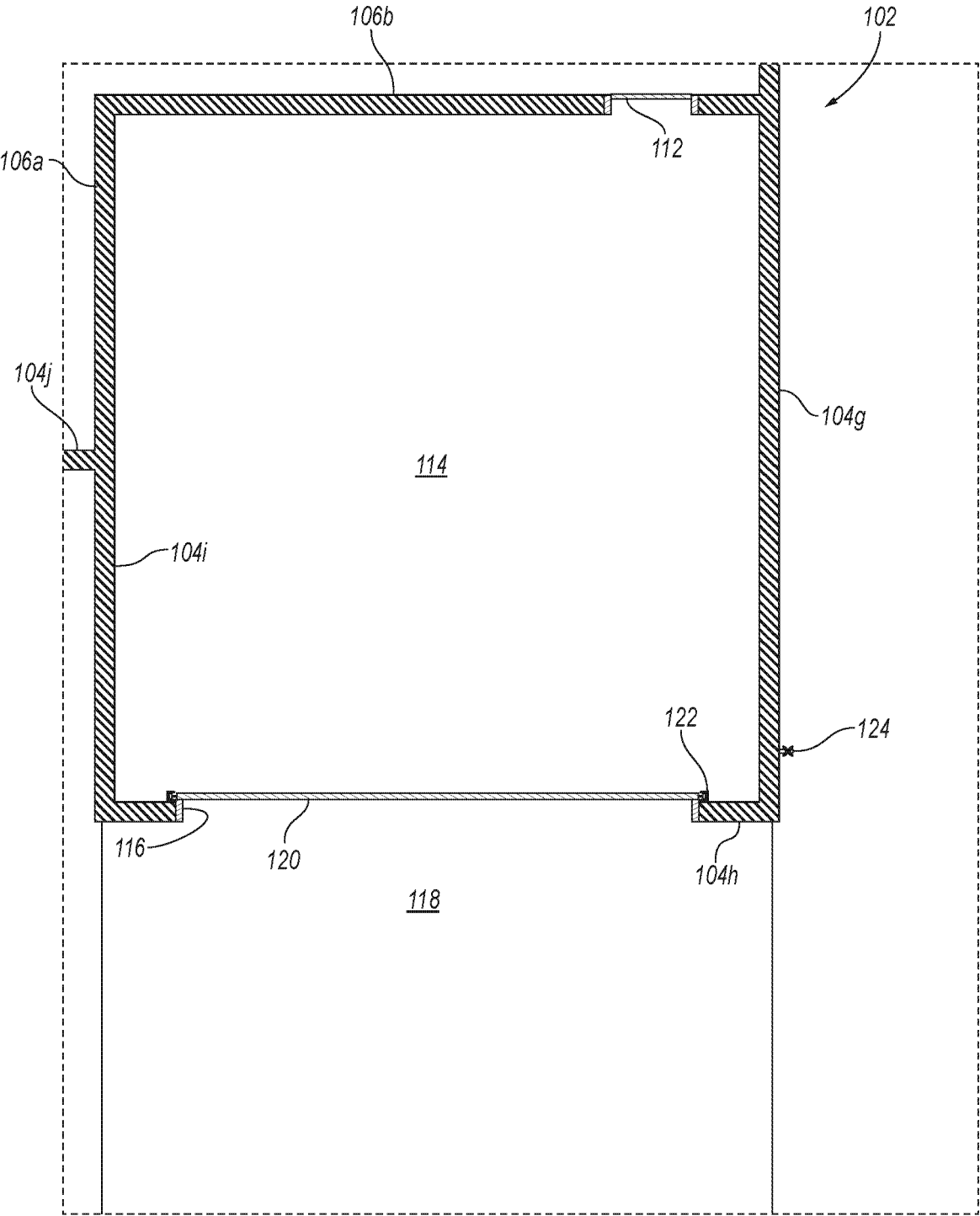


Fig. 3 (prior art)

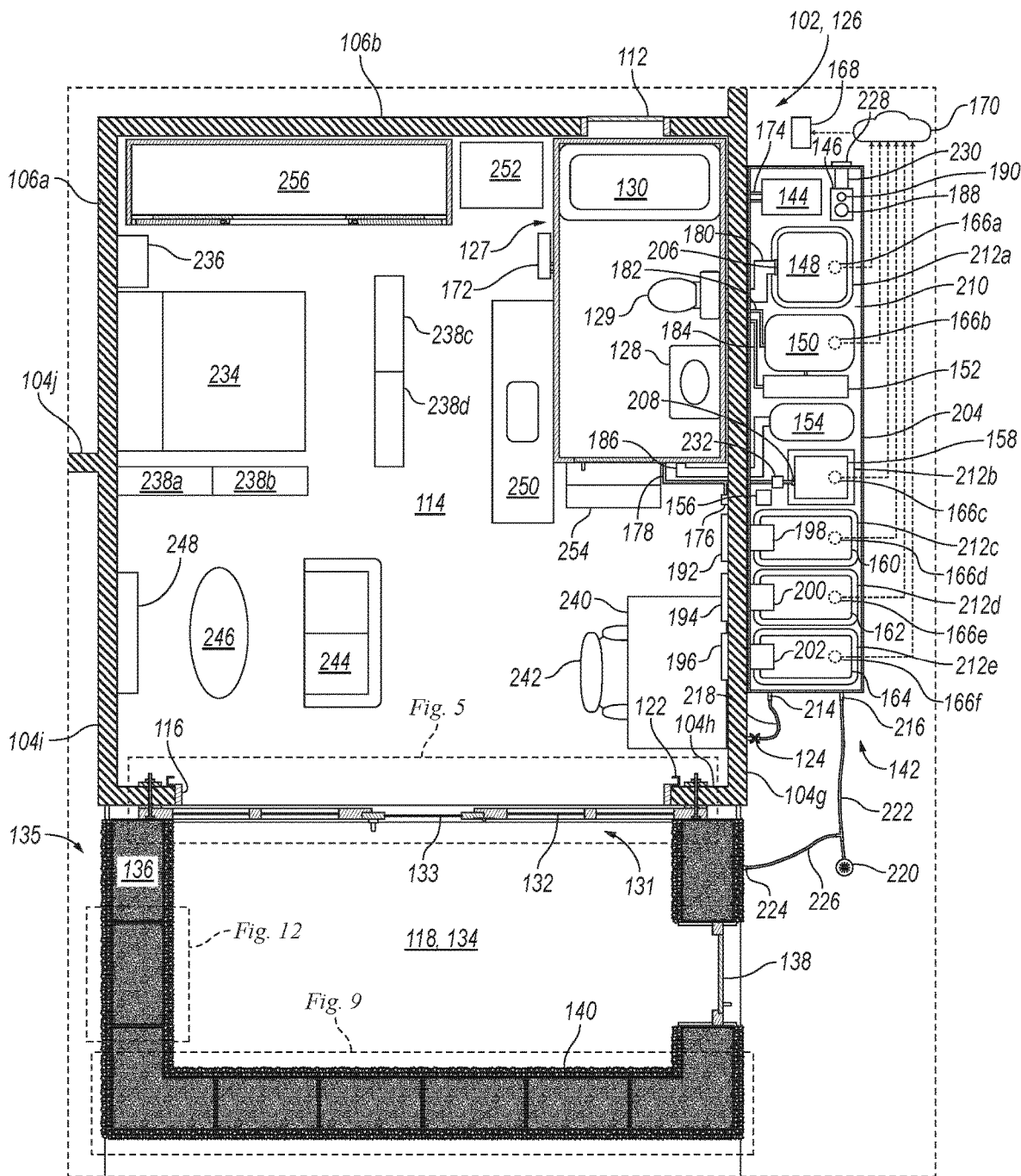


Fig. 4

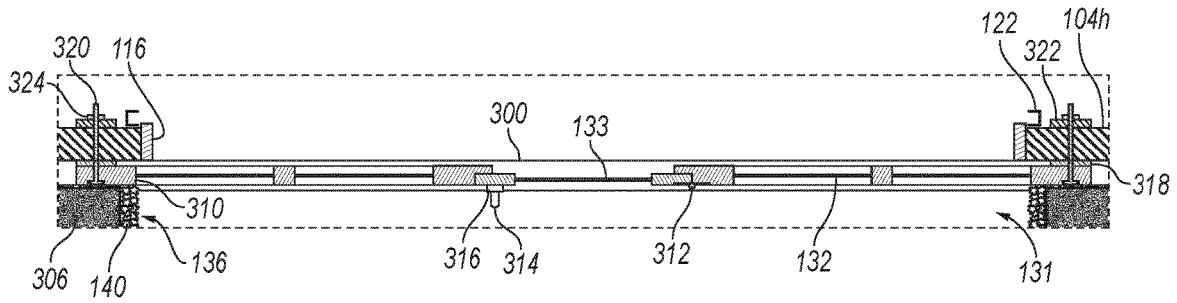


Fig. 5

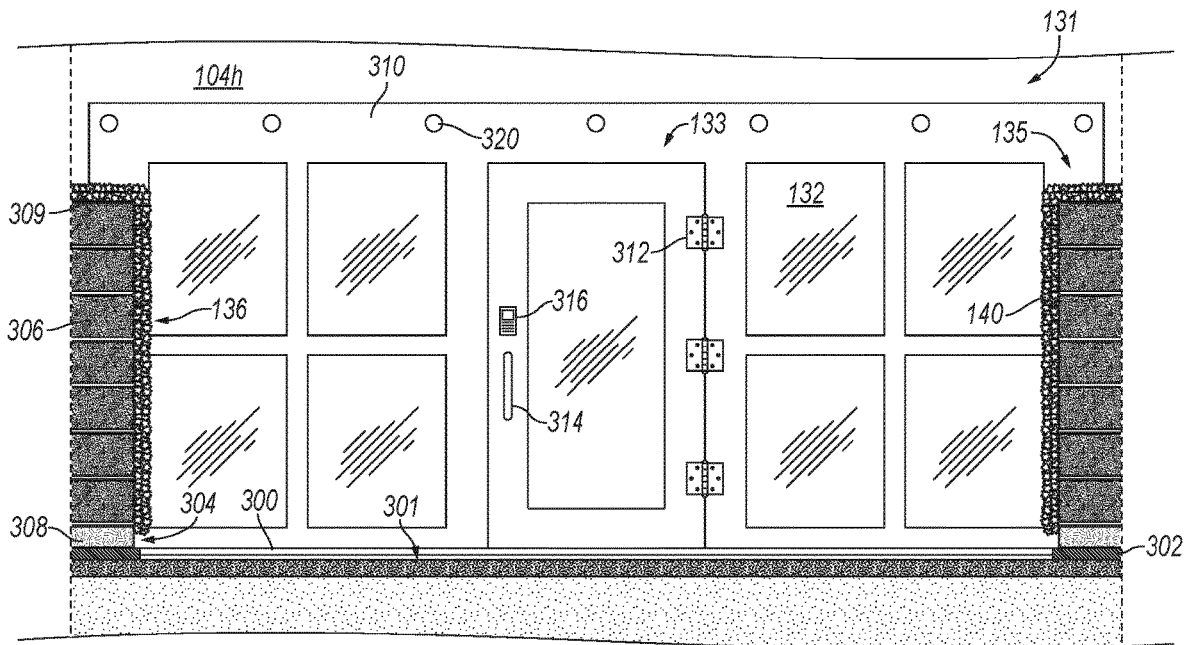


Fig. 6

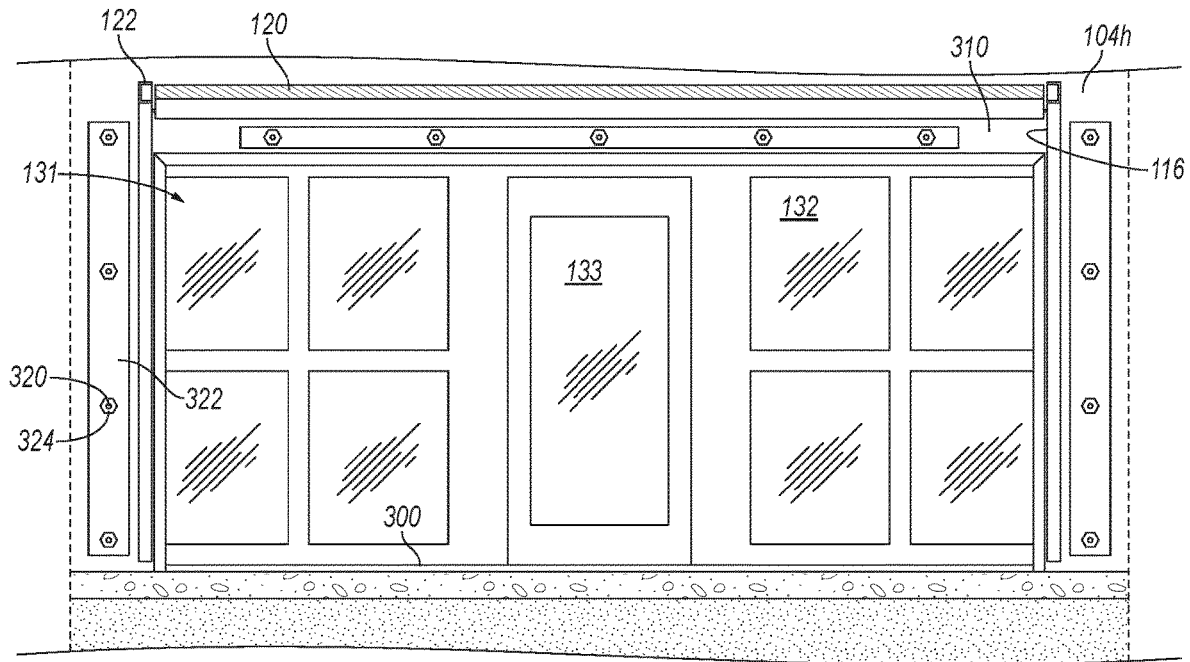


Fig. 7

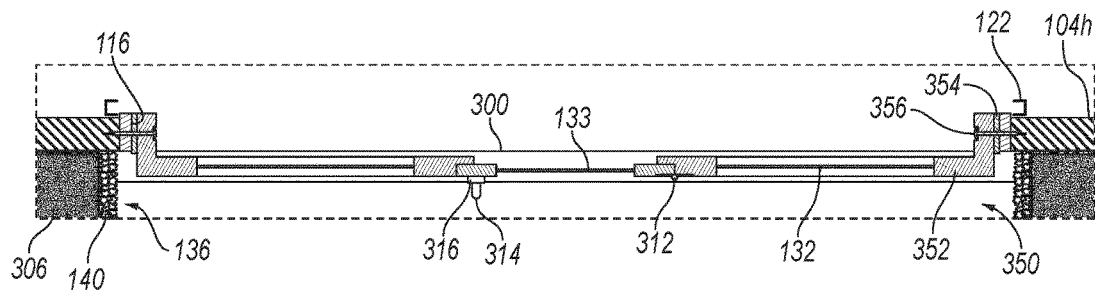


Fig. 8

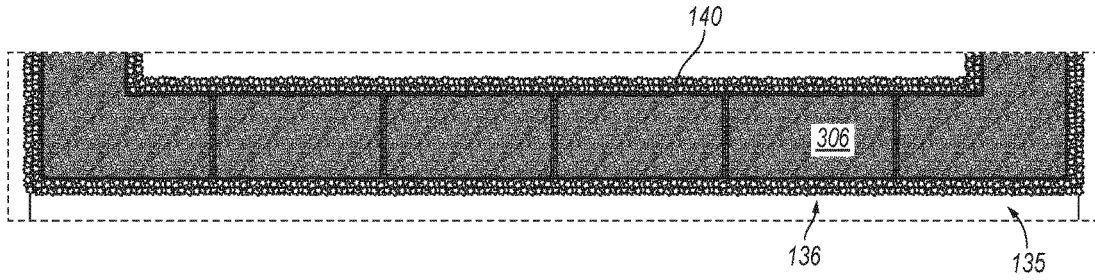


Fig. 9

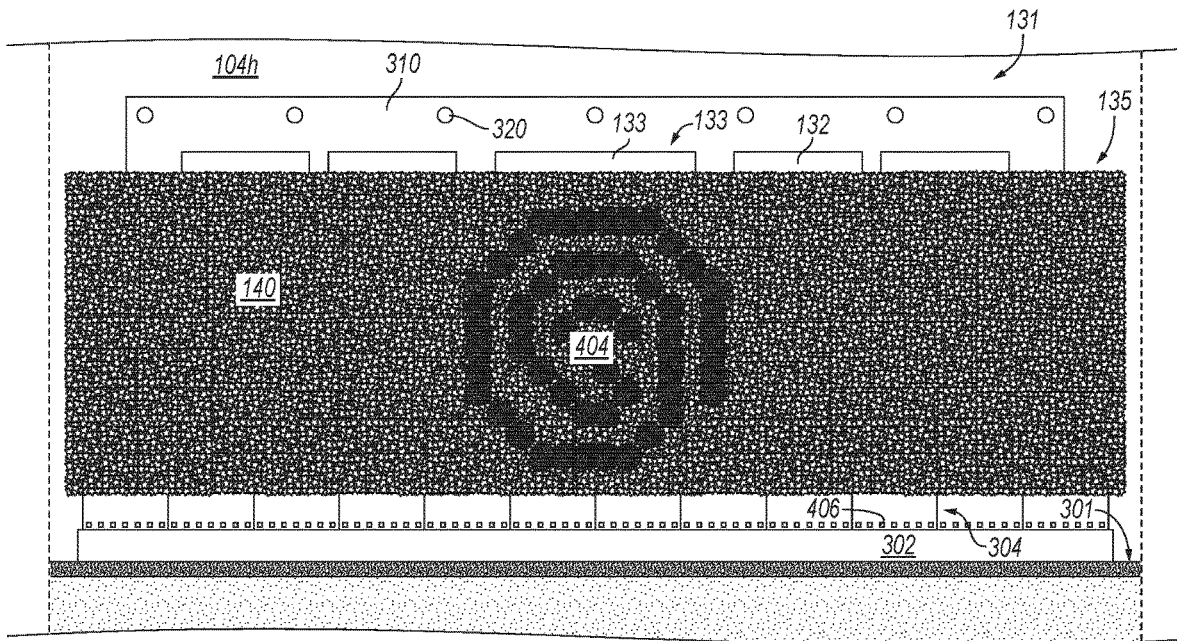


Fig. 10

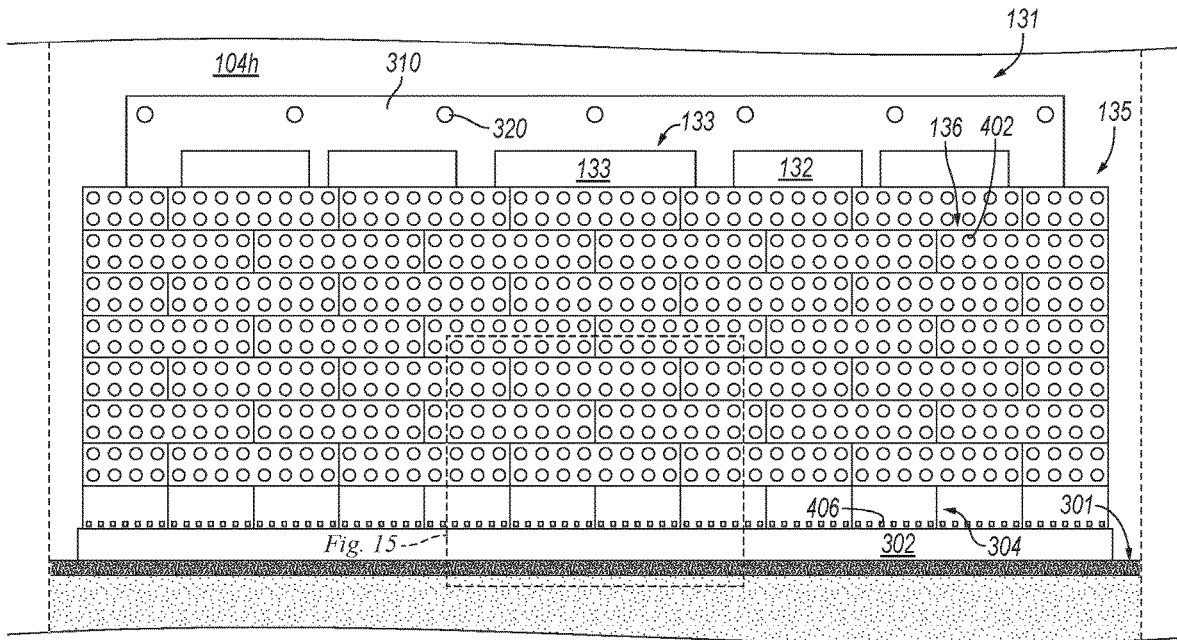


Fig. 11

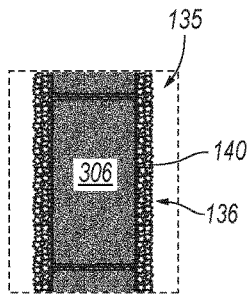


Fig. 12

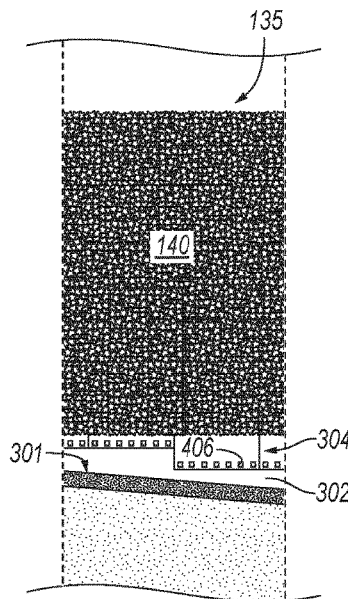


Fig. 13

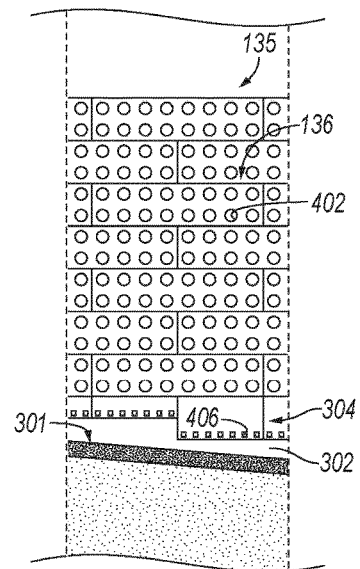


Fig. 14

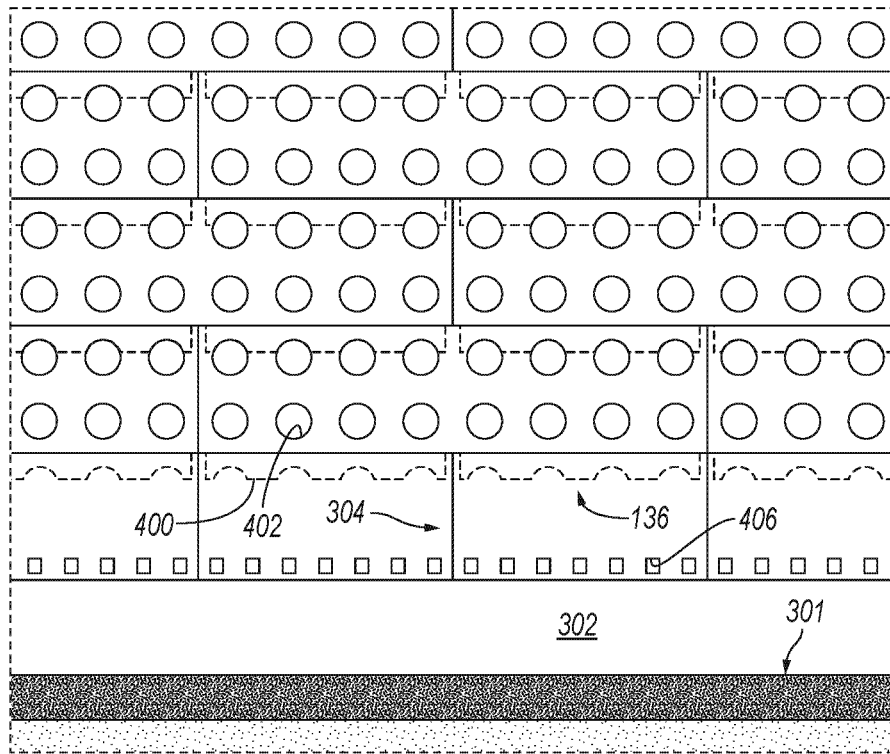


Fig. 15

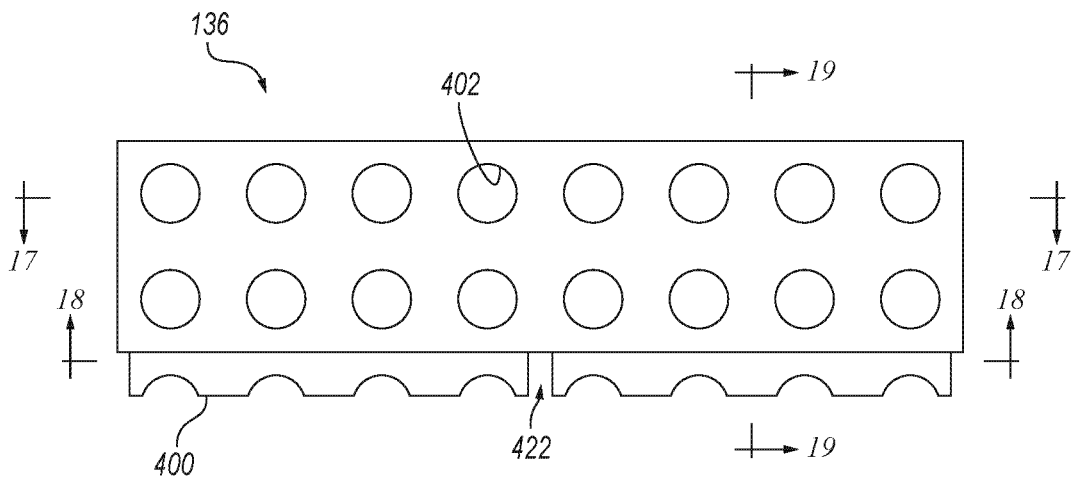


Fig. 16

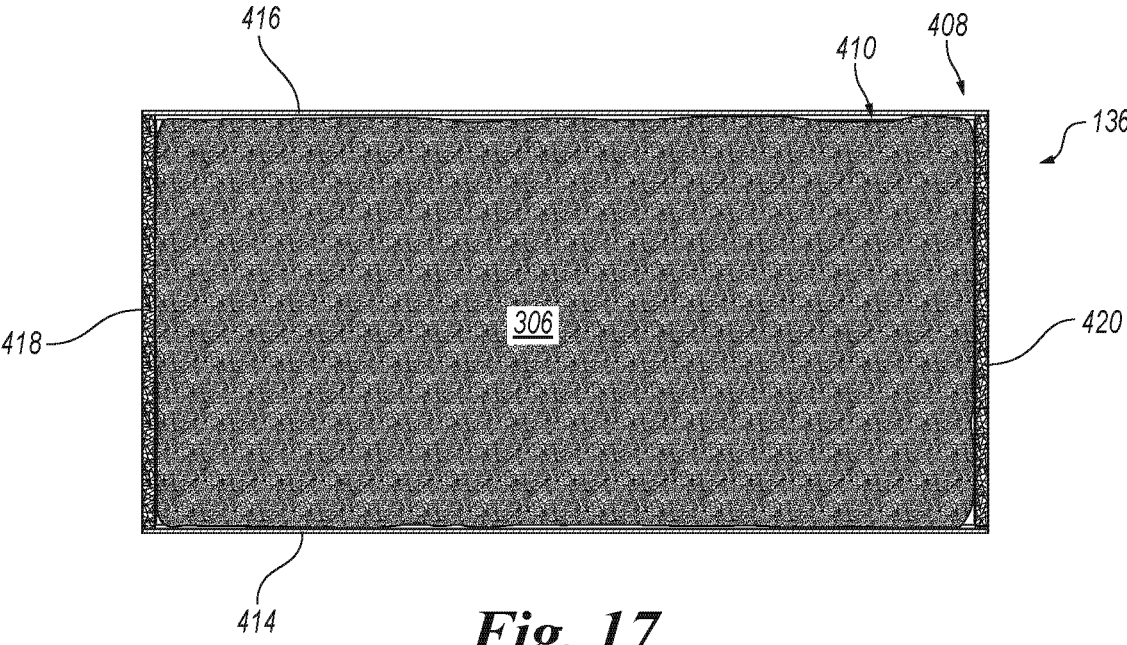


Fig. 17

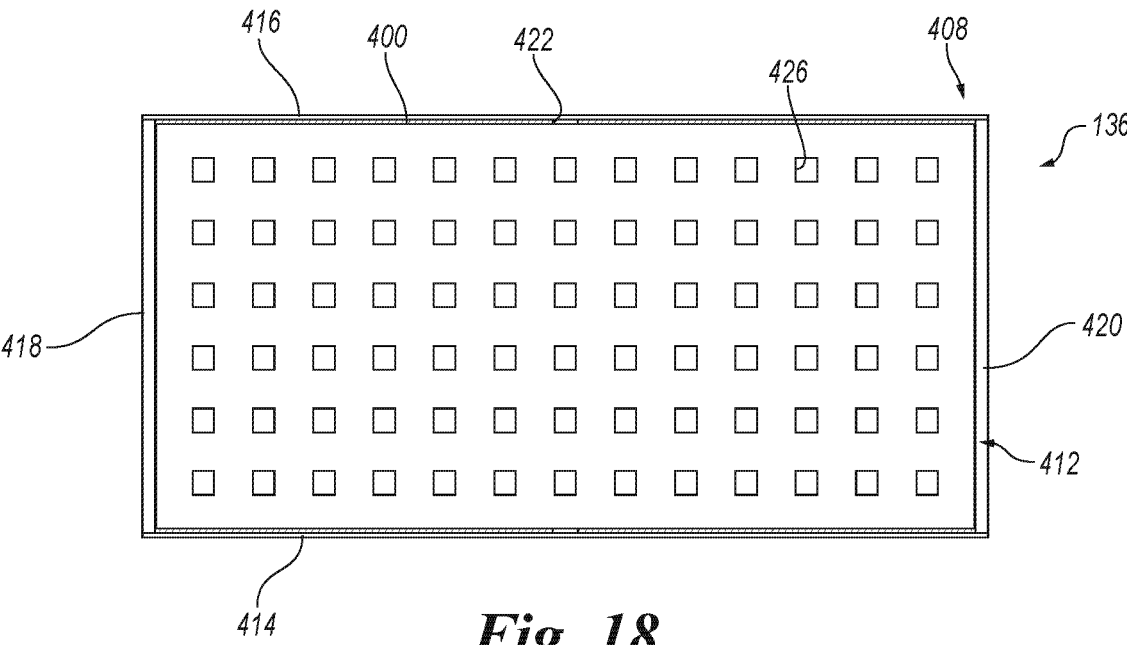


Fig. 18

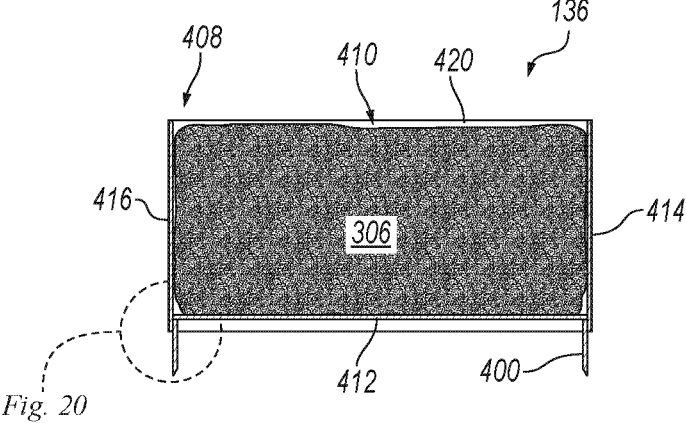


Fig. 19

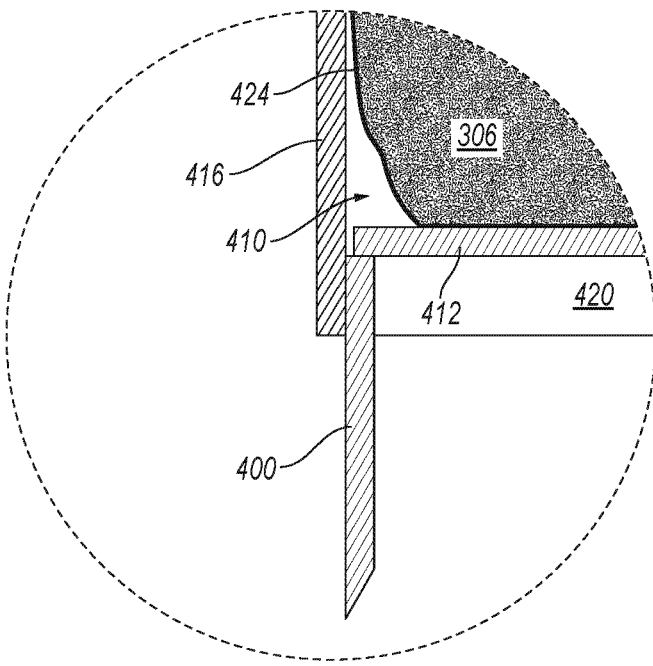


Fig. 20

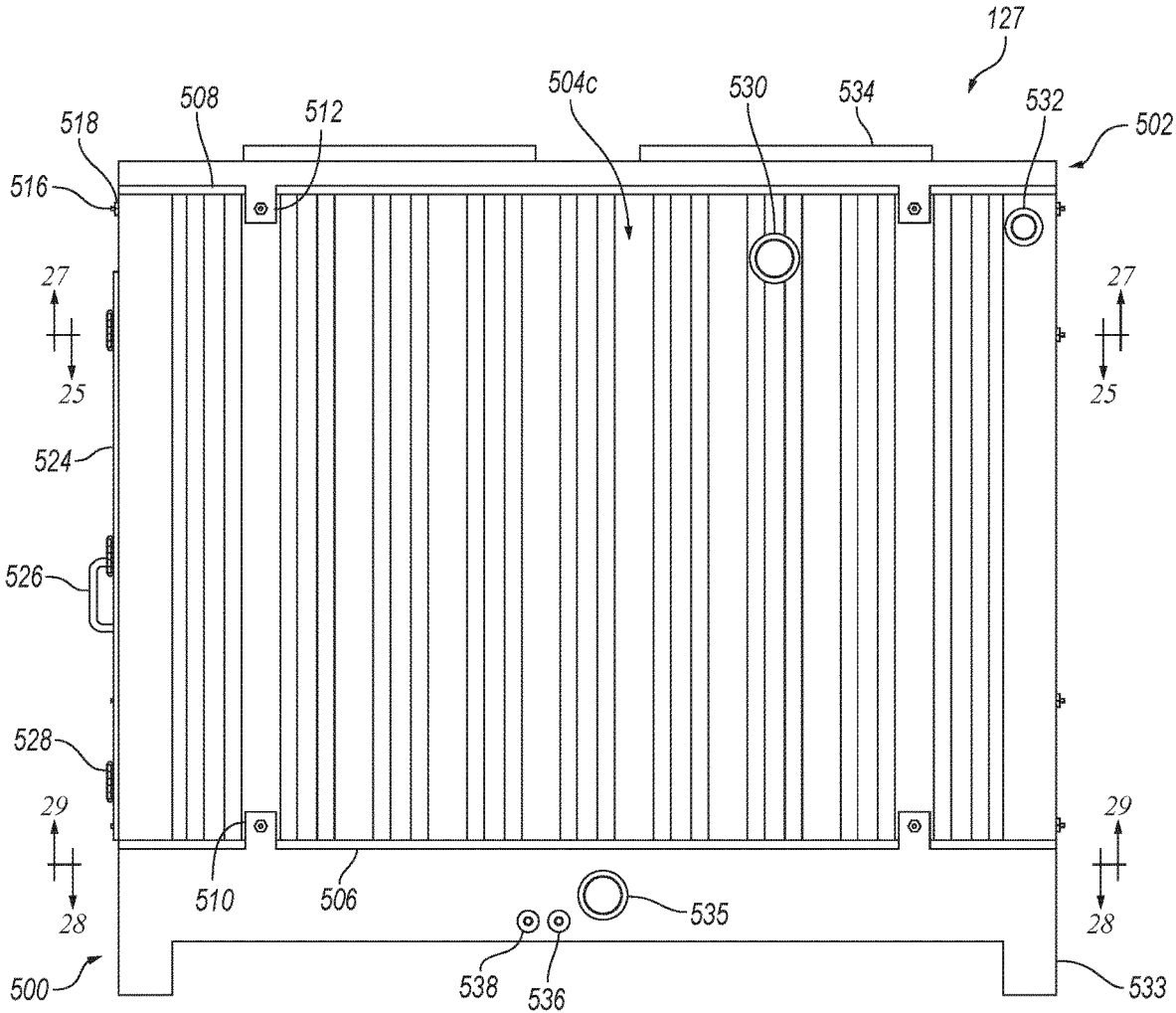


Fig. 21

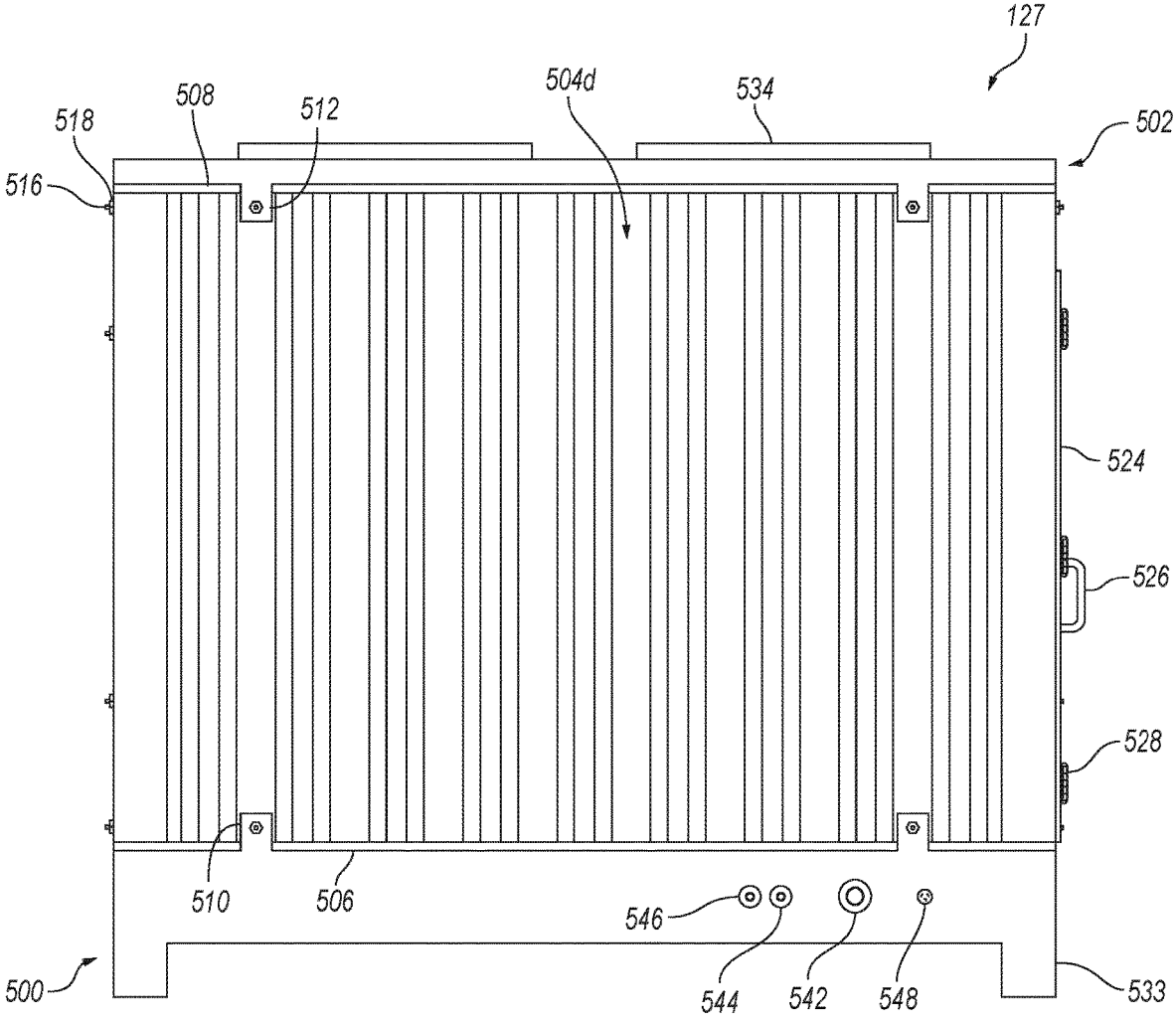


Fig. 22

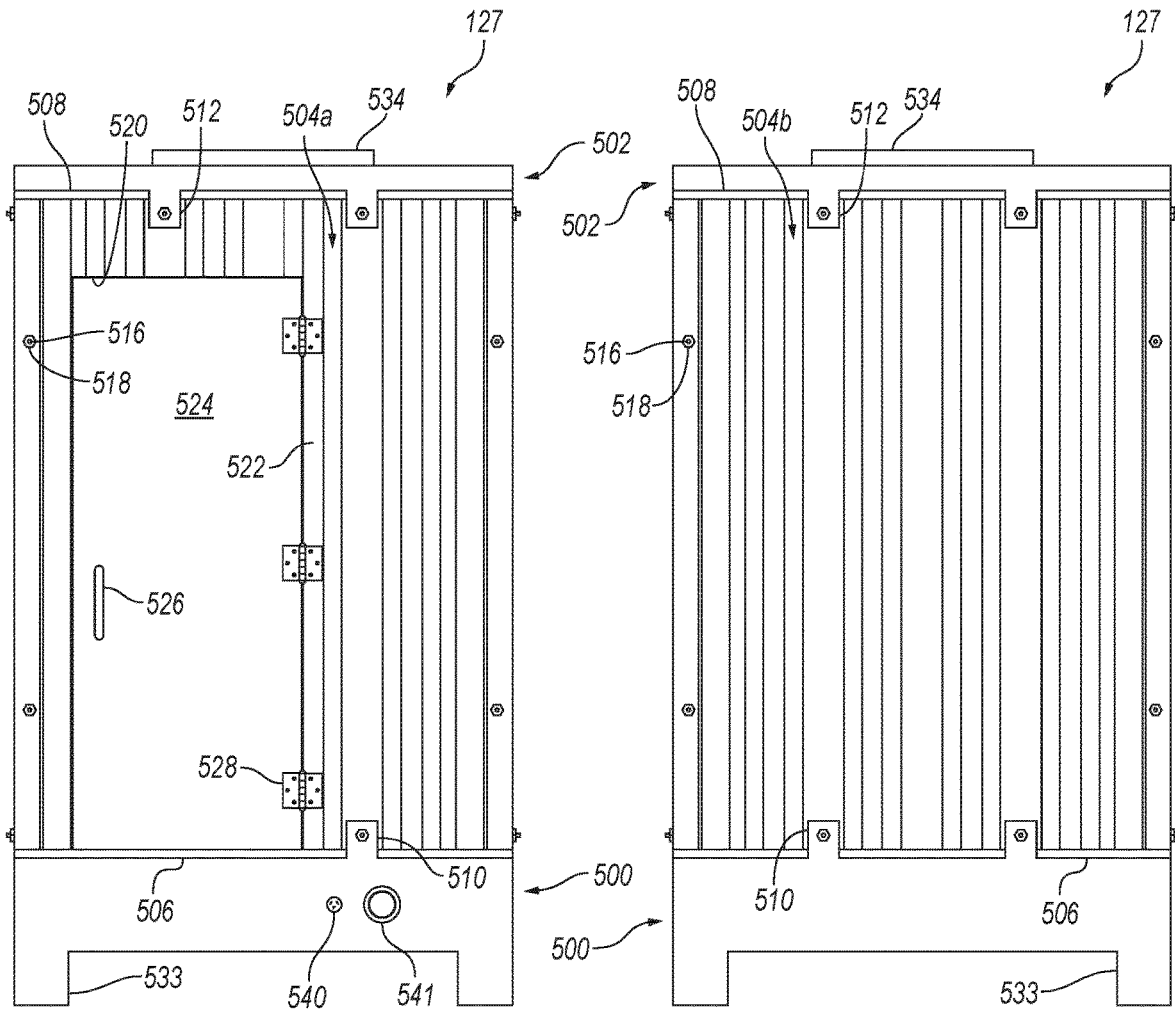


Fig. 23

Fig. 24

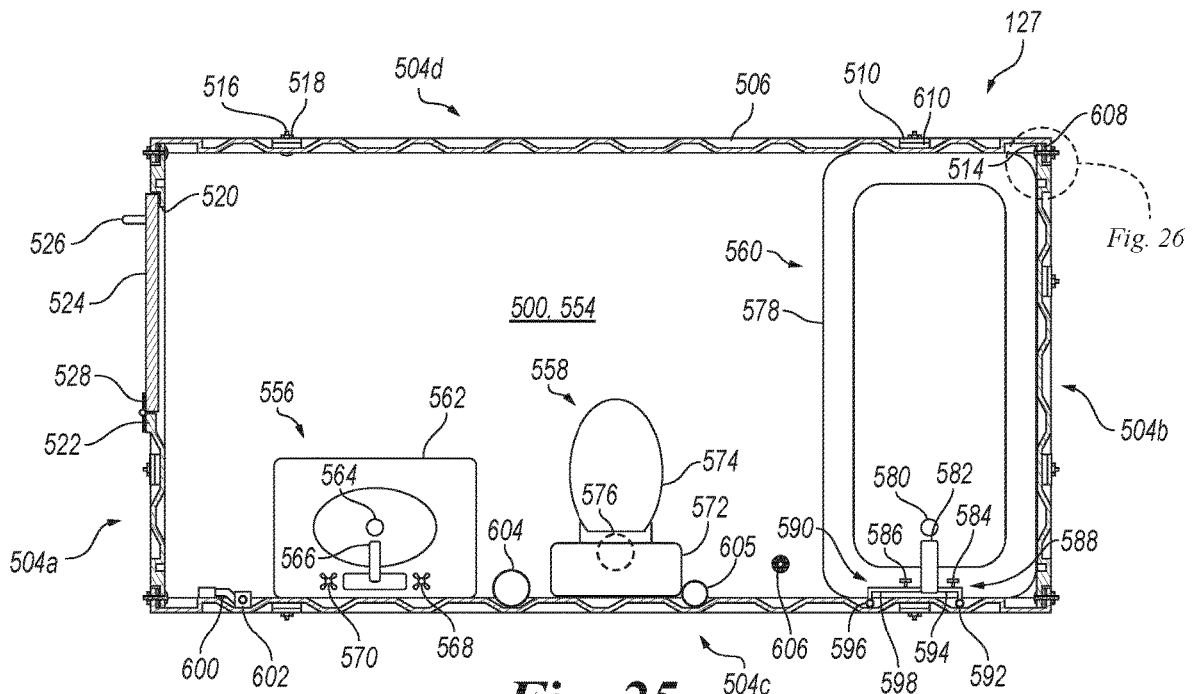


Fig. 25

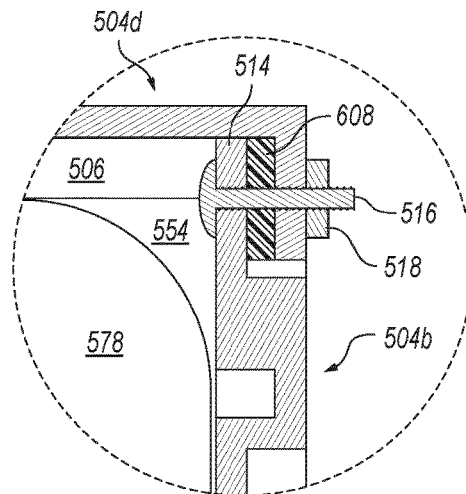


Fig. 26

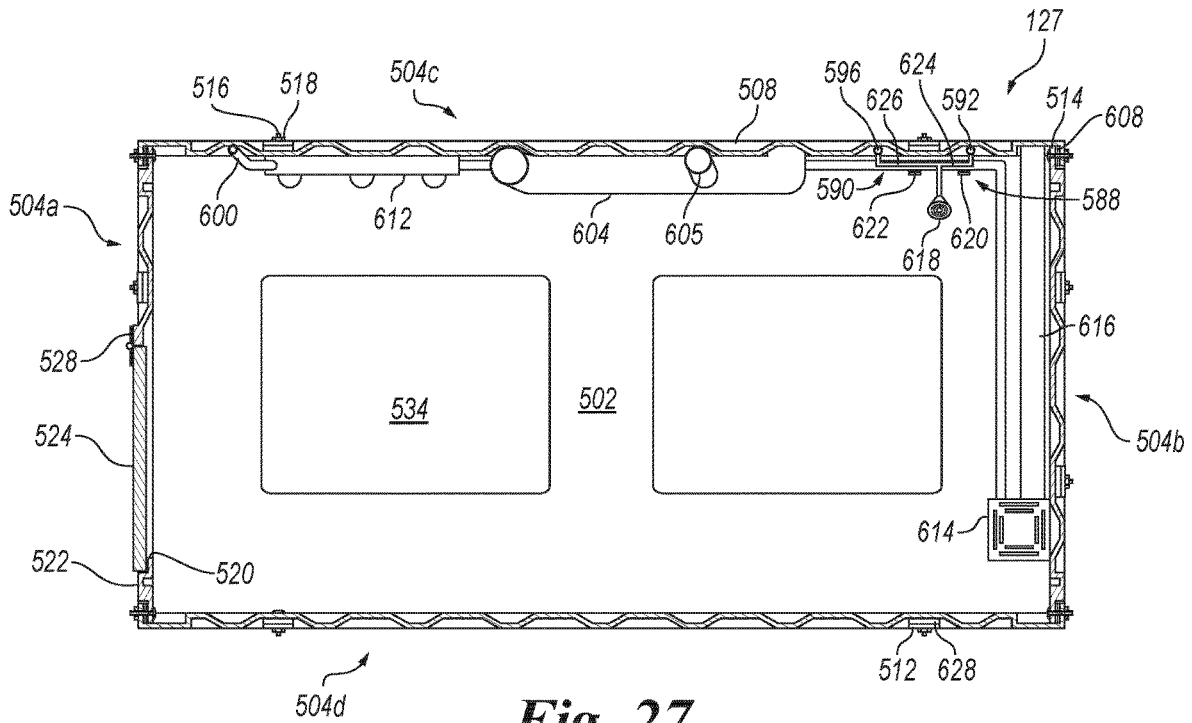


Fig. 27

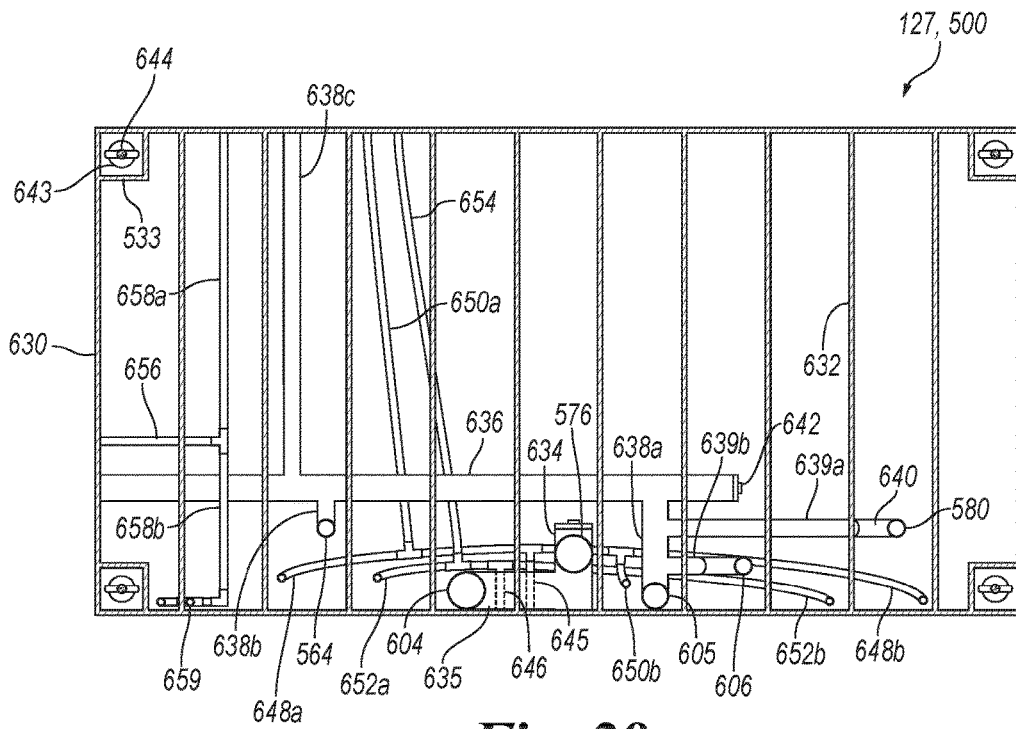


Fig. 28

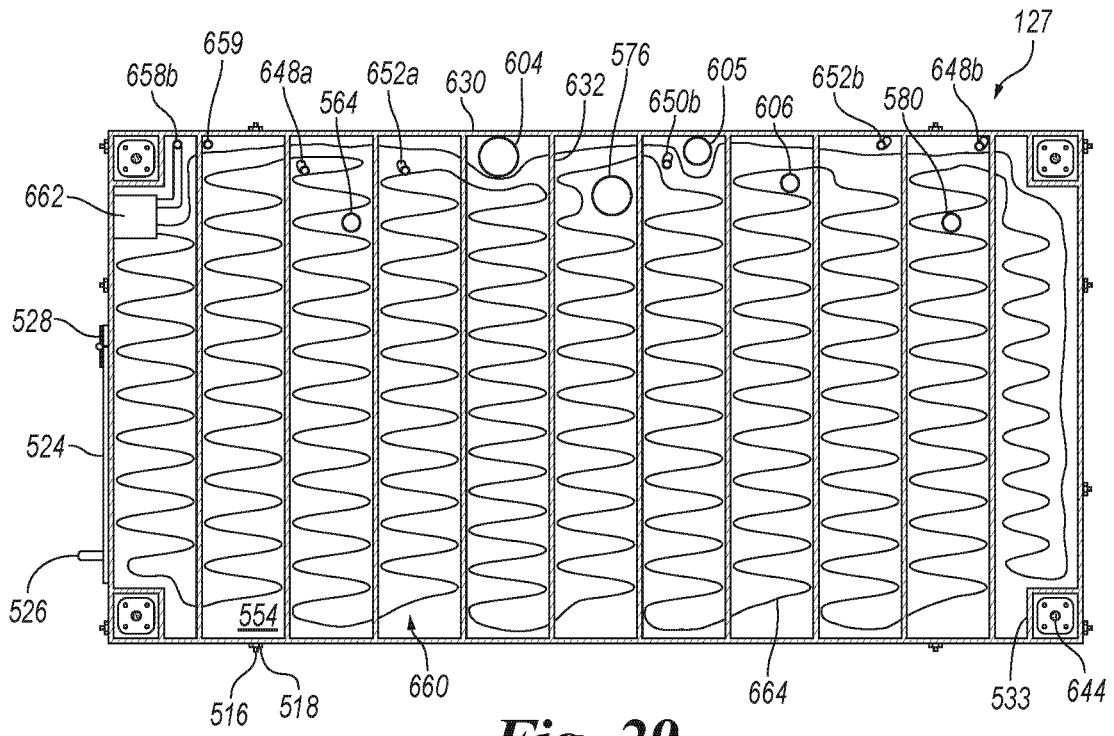


Fig. 29

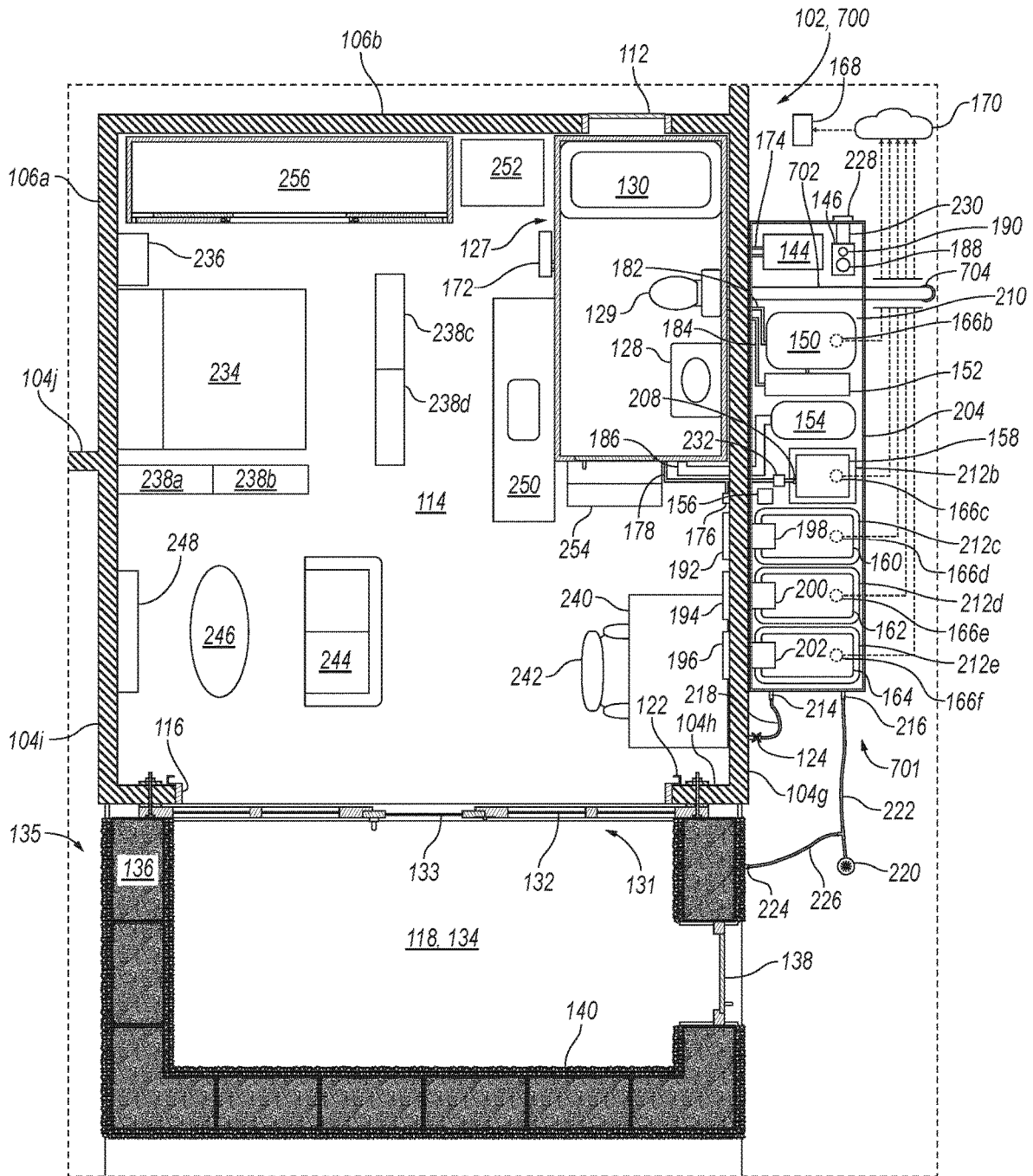


Fig. 30

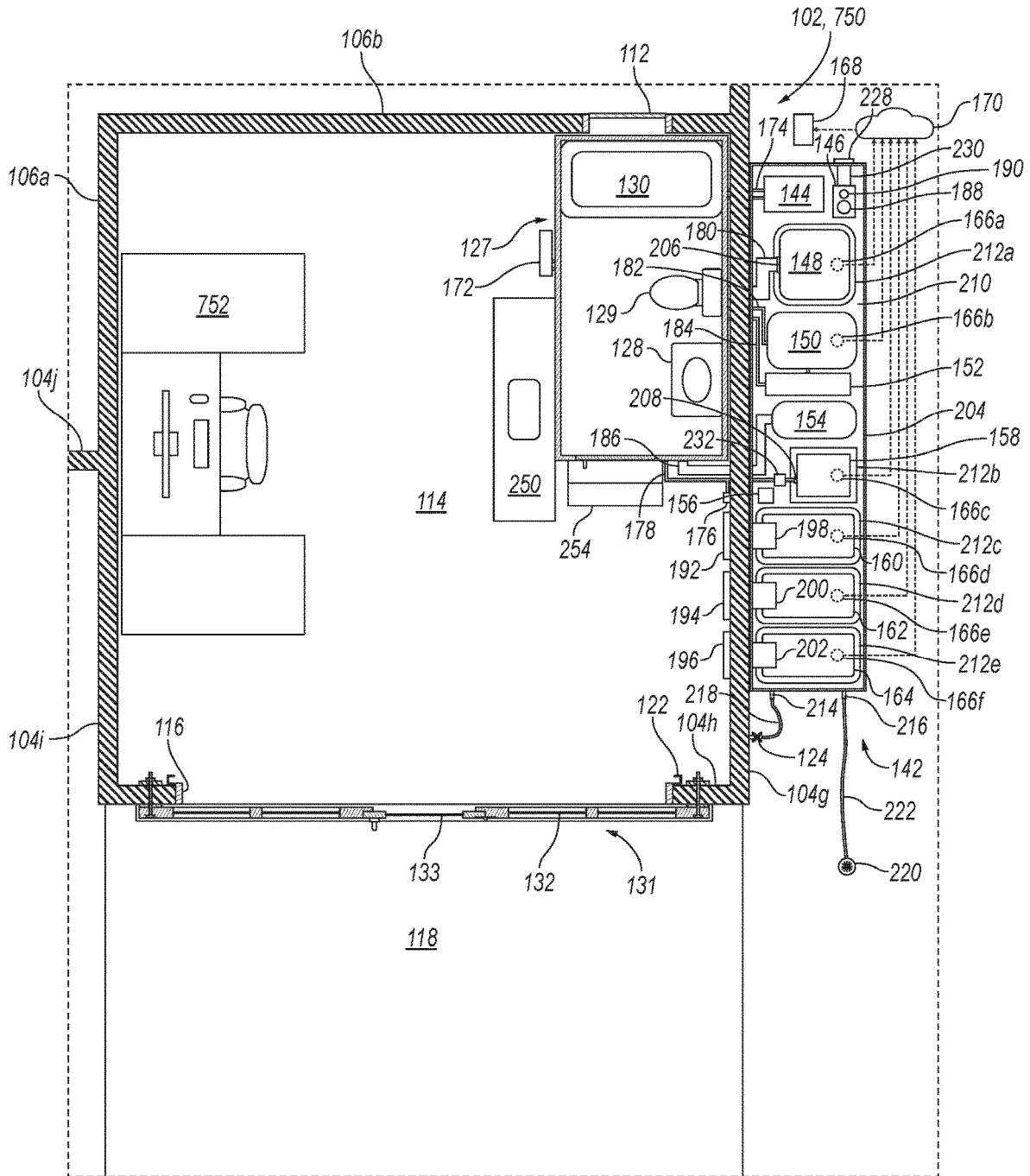


Fig. 31

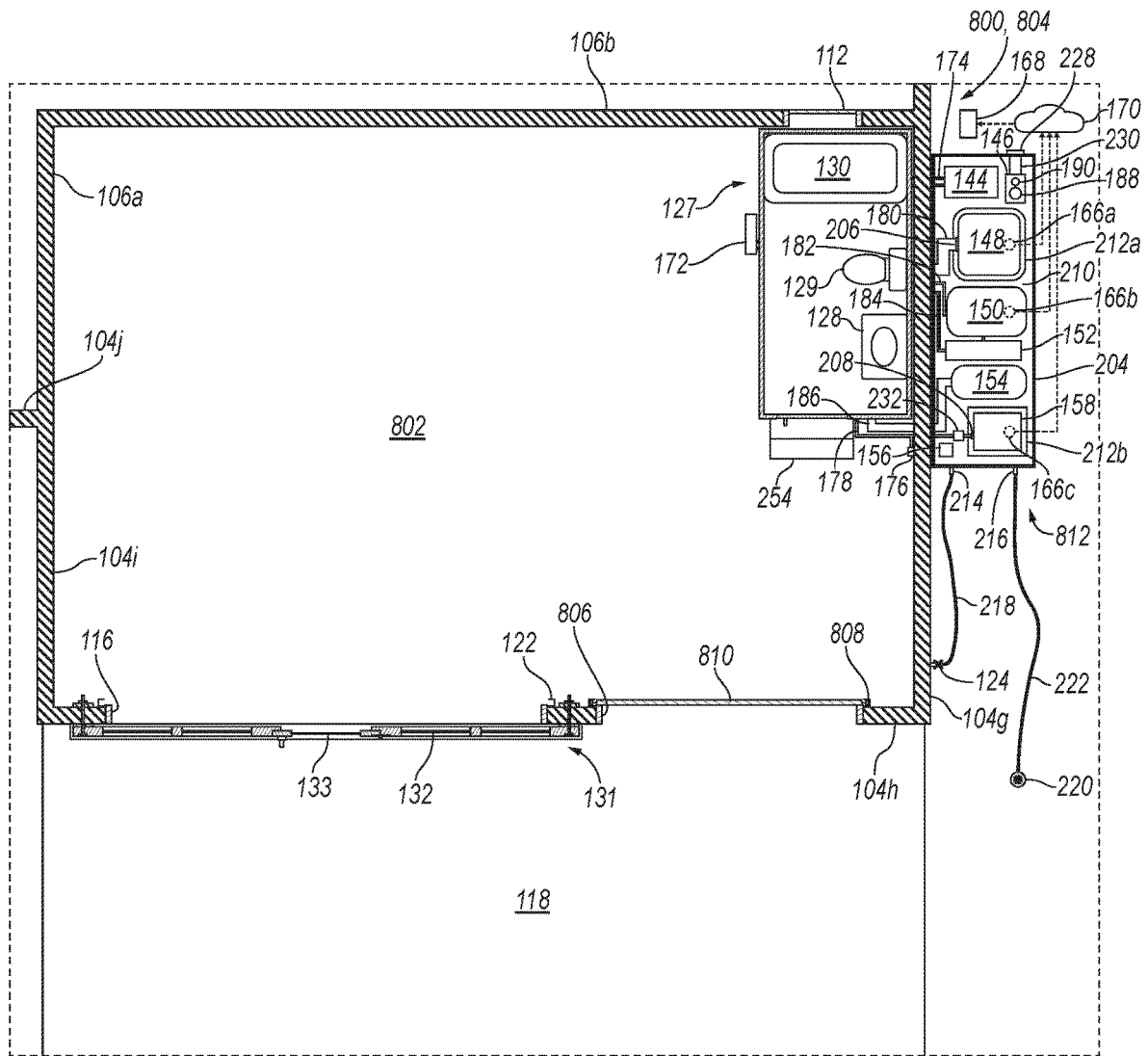


Fig. 32

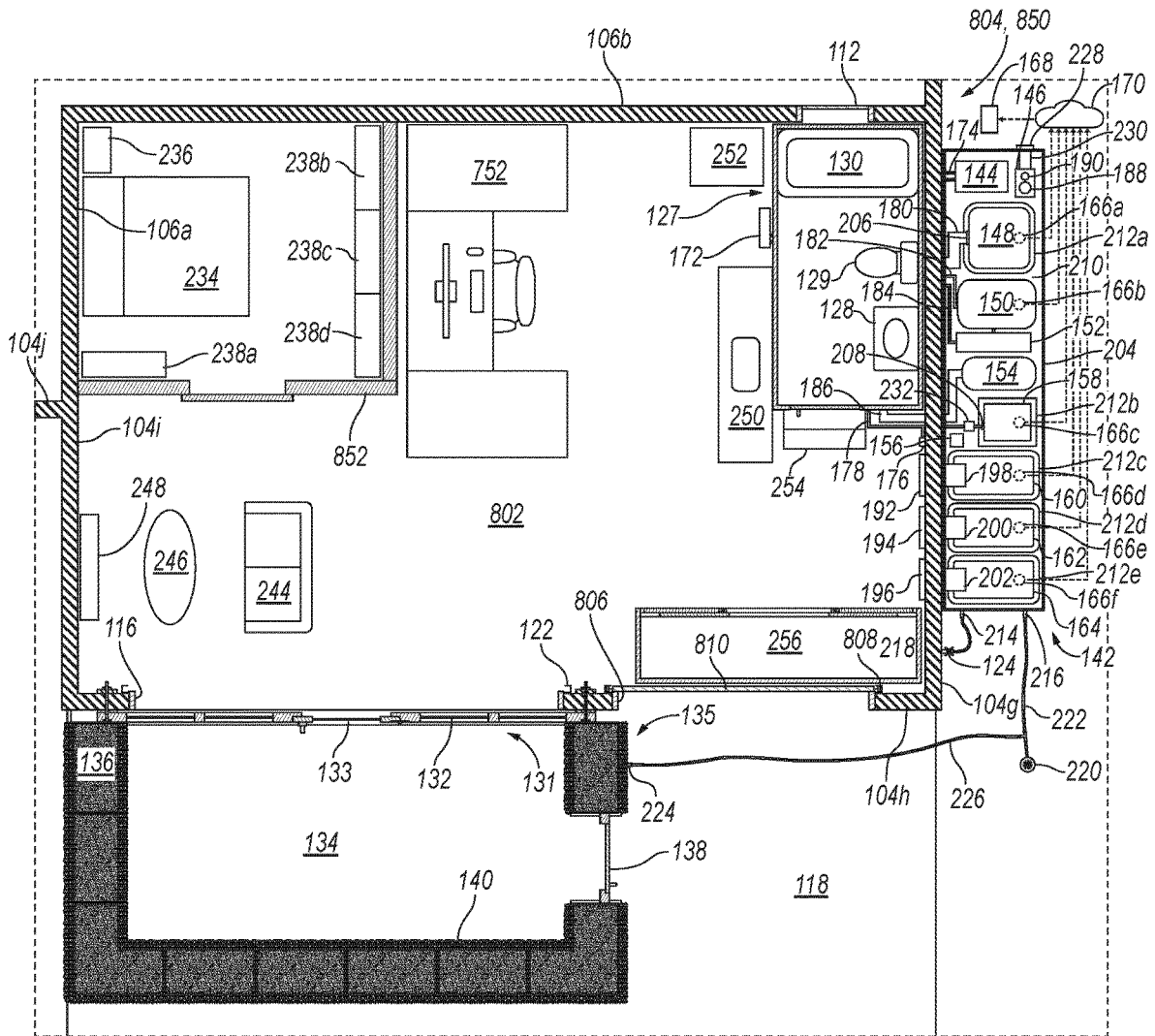


Fig. 33

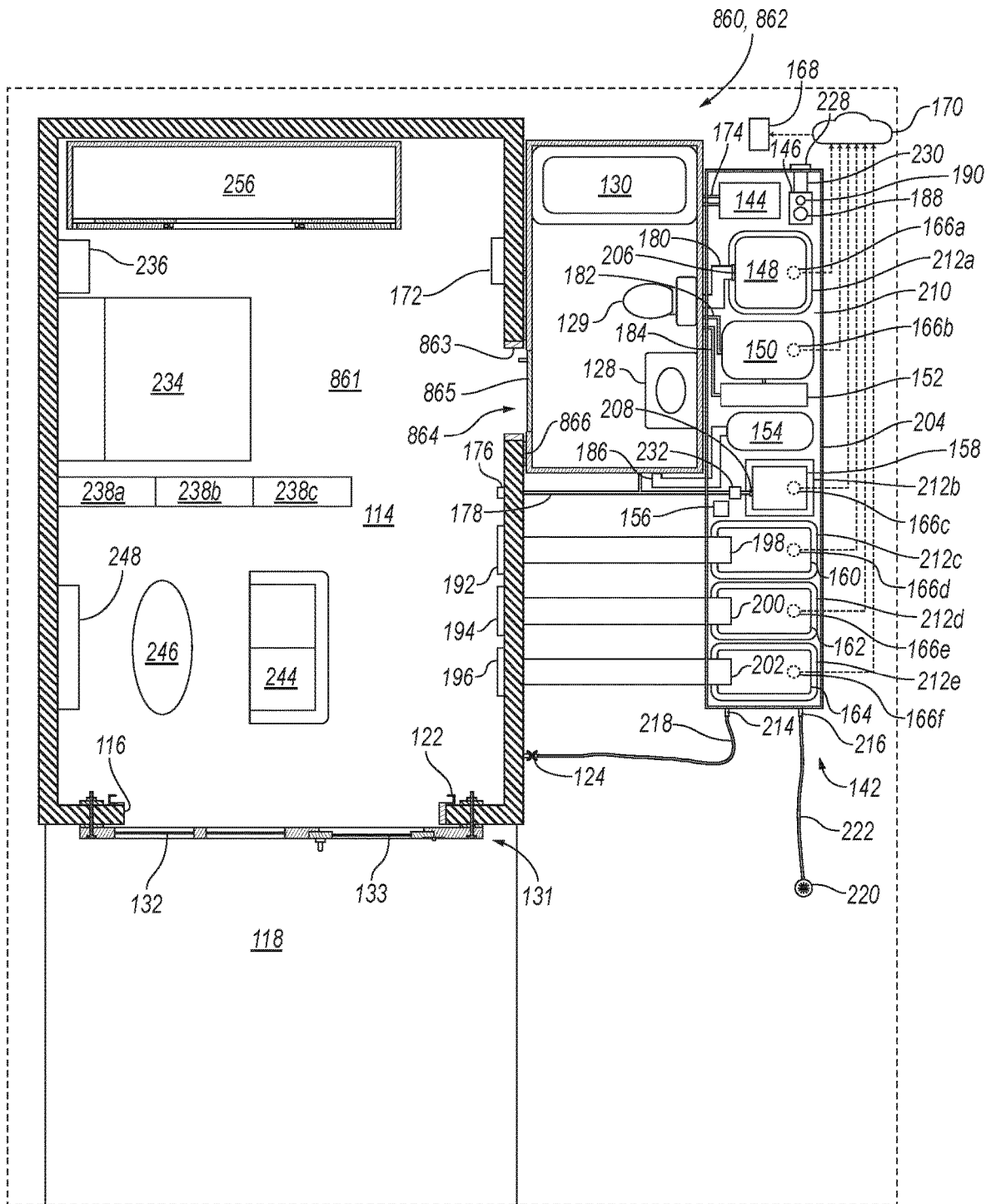


Fig. 34

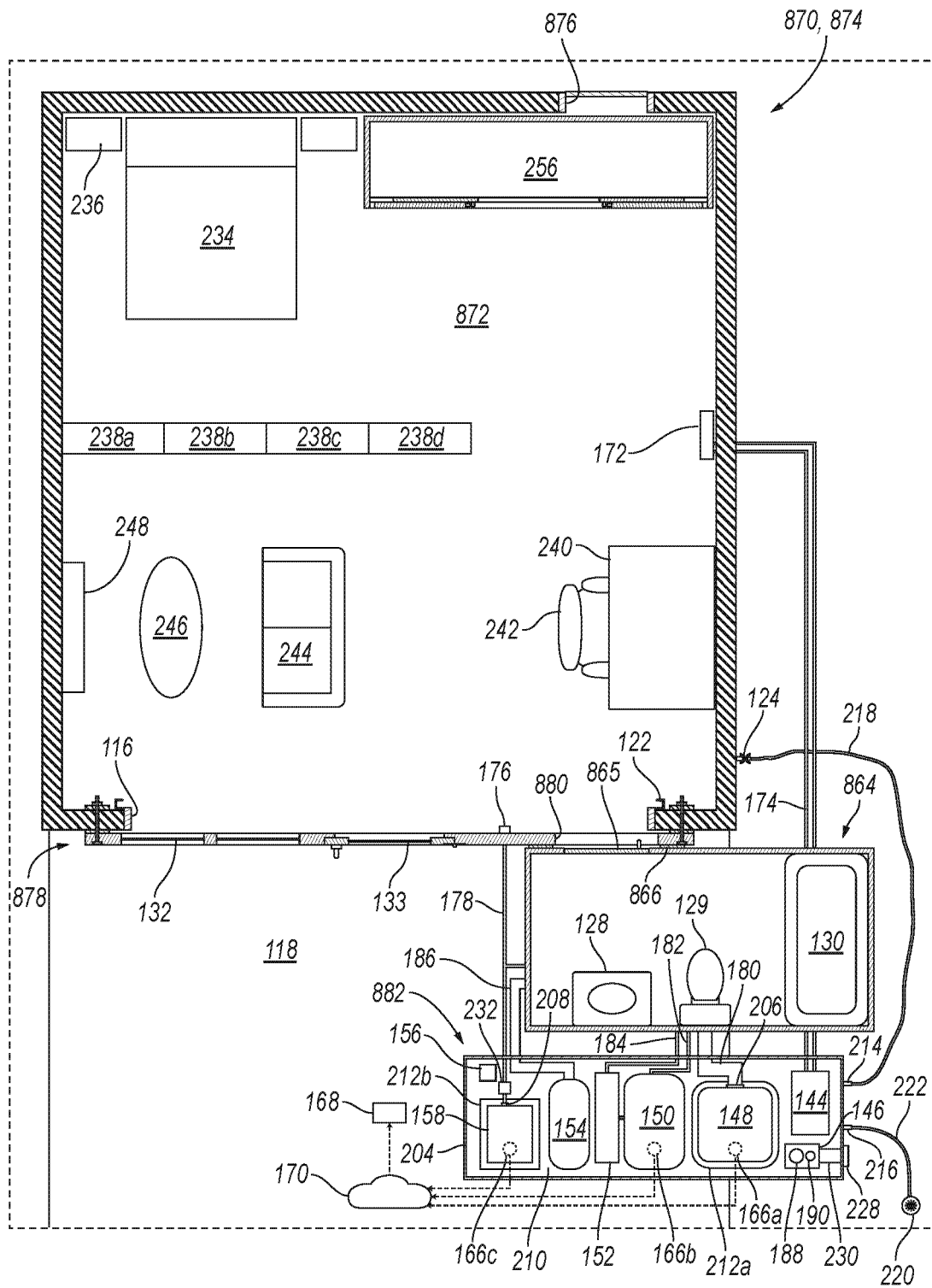


Fig. 35

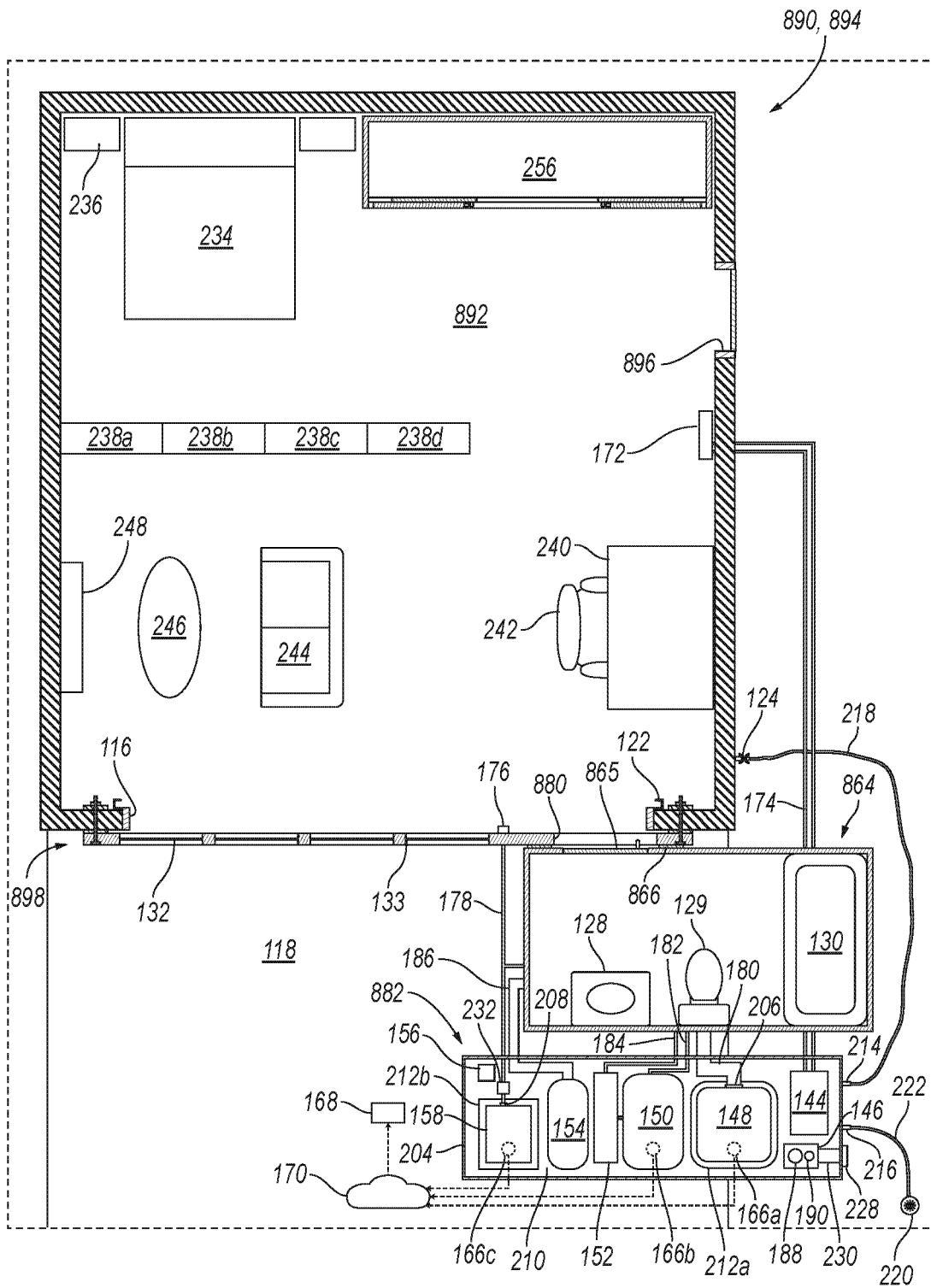


Fig. 36

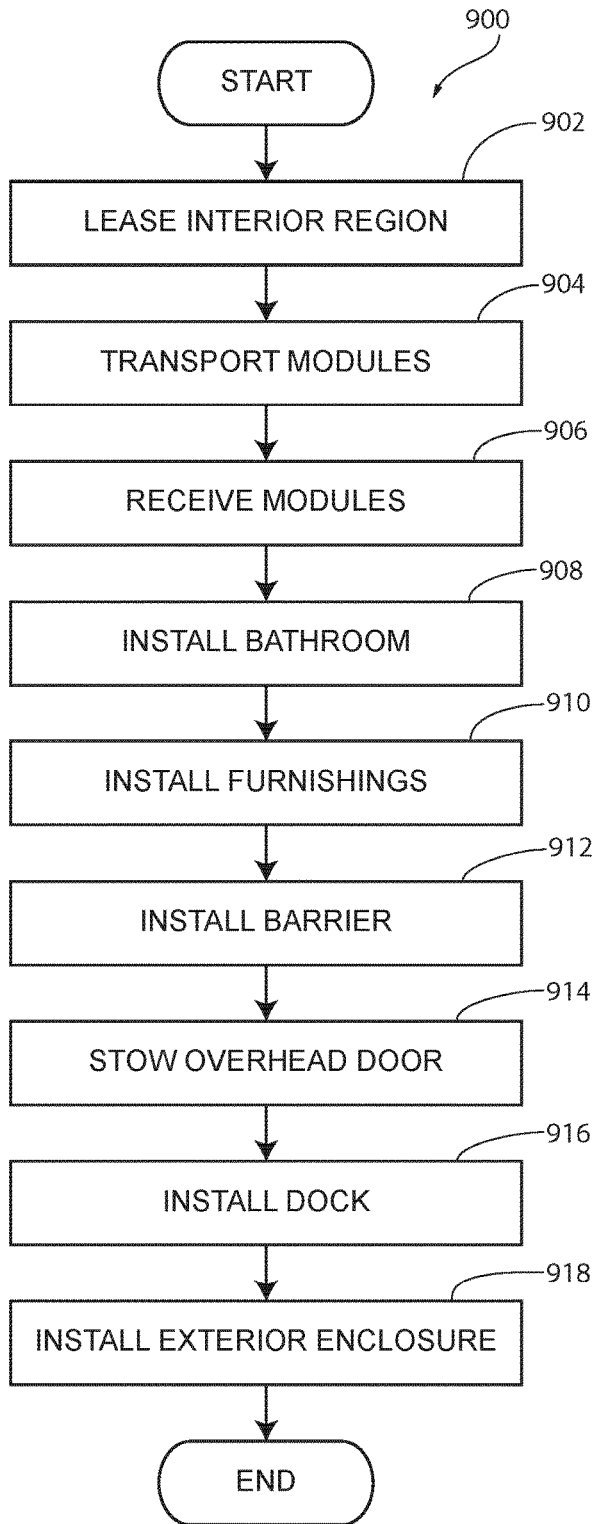


Fig. 37

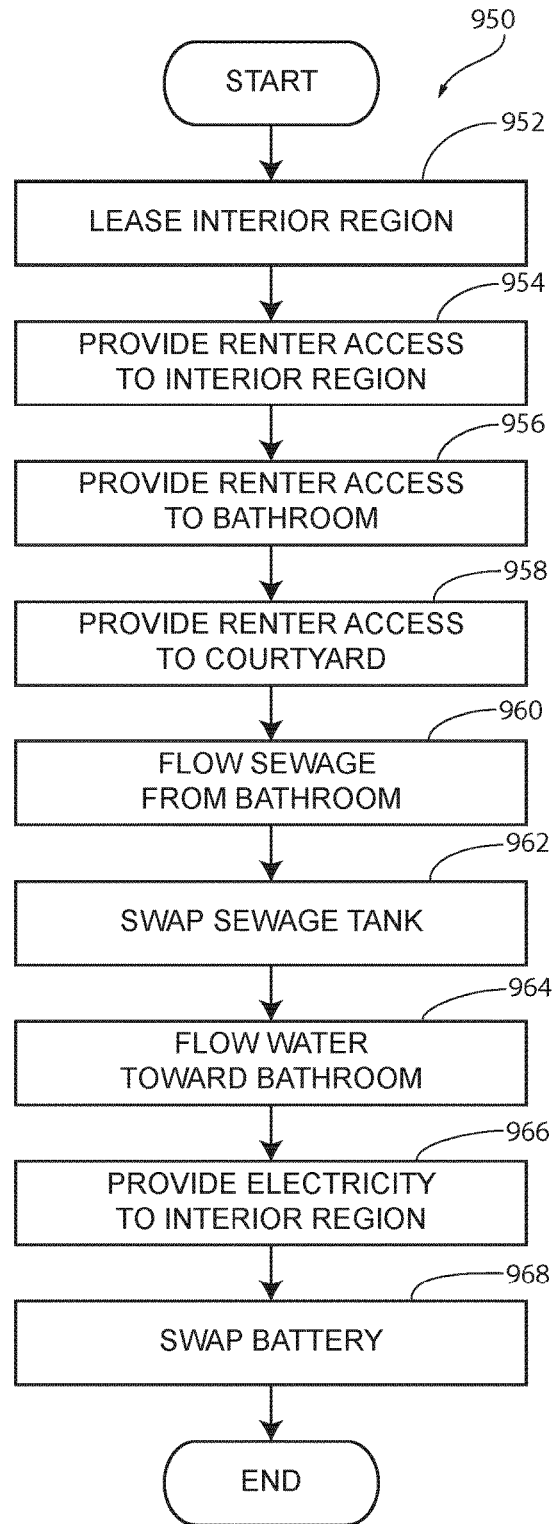


Fig. 38

GARAGES RETROFITTED FOR ALTERNATIVE USES AND RELATED TECHNOLOGY

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION AND LIST OF OTHER APPLICATIONS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

[0001] This is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/018,620, filed Jun. 26, 2018, entitled “Retrofitted Real Estate and Related Technology,” which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0002] The following applications are also incorporated herein by reference in their entireties:

[0003] U.S. Patent Application No. 62/154,209, filed Apr. 29, 2015, entitled “Dynamic Interstitial Hotels and Related Technology,”

[0004] U.S. Patent Application No. 62/222,750, filed Sep. 23, 2015, entitled “School Spaces Retrofitted for Alternative Uses and Related Technology,”

[0005] U.S. Patent Application No. 62/273,700, filed Dec. 31, 2015, entitled “Garages Retrofitted for Alternative Uses and Related Technology,”

[0006] U.S. Patent Application No. 62/310,045, filed Mar. 18, 2016, entitled “Commercial Loading, Storage, Parking, and Vehicle-Servicing Spaces Retrofitted for Alternative Uses and Related Technology,”

[0007] U.S. Patent Application No. 62/375,903, filed Aug. 17, 2016, entitled “Commercial Storefront Spaces Retrofitted for Alternative Uses and Related Technology,”

[0008] U.S. Patent Application No. 62/689,984, filed Jun. 26, 2018, entitled “Modular Walls and Related Technology,”

[0009] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/140,785, filed Apr. 28, 2016, entitled “Dynamic Interstitial Hotels and Related Technology,”

[0010] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/263,527, filed Sep. 13, 2016, entitled “School Spaces Retrofitted for Alternative Uses and Related Technology,”

[0011] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/390,731, filed Dec. 27, 2016, entitled “Garages Retrofitted for Alternative Uses and Related Technology,”

[0012] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/456,523, filed Mar. 11, 2017, entitled “Commercial Loading, Storage, Parking, and Vehicle-Servicing Spaces Retrofitted for Alternative Uses and Related Technology.”

[0013] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 15/675,745, filed Aug. 13, 2017, entitled “Commercial Storefront Spaces Retrofitted for Alternative Uses and Related Technology,” and

[0014] U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/440,914, filed Jun. 13, 2019, entitled “Modular Walls and Related Technology.”

[0015] To the extent the foregoing applications or any other material incorporated herein by reference conflicts with the present disclosure, the present disclosure controls.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0016] This disclosure is related to real estate technology.

BACKGROUND

[0017] Building conventional real estate is capital intensive and slow. Accordingly, short-term changes in demand for real estate do not conventionally lead to rapid changes in

real estate capacity. For example, markets with high demand for real estate often suffer from insufficient real estate capacity for years before new conventional real estate projects are approved and completed. Peer-to-peer real estate networks mitigate this problem to some degree, but have other significant disadvantages, such as high transaction costs, inconsistent quality, and regulatory issues. Independent of these problems, valuable real estate in major urban areas is often unutilized or under utilized. These and other aspects of conventional real estate represent inefficiencies with the potential to be at least partially addressed by innovation.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0018] Many aspects of the present technology can be better understood with reference to the following drawings. The relative dimensions in the drawings may be to scale with respect to some embodiments of the present technology. With respect to other embodiments, the drawings may not be to scale. For clarity of illustration, reference-number labels for analogous components or features may be omitted when the appropriate reference-number labels for such analogous components or features are clear in the context of the specification and all of the drawings considered together. Furthermore, the same reference numbers may be used to identify analogous components or features in multiple described embodiments.

[0019] FIG. 1 is a front profile view of a single-family house including an attached garage.

[0020] FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional top plan view of the single-family house shown in FIG. 1 taken along the line A-A in FIG. 1 with the garage in a first state.

[0021] FIG. 3 is an enlarged view of a portion of FIG. 2.

[0022] FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional top plan view corresponding to the portion of FIG. 2 shown in FIG. 3 and showing a real estate unit in accordance with an embodiment of the present technology including an interior region of the garage of the single-family house shown in FIG. 1 with the garage in a second state.

[0023] FIG. 5 is an enlarged view of a first portion of FIG. 4 showing a barrier of the real estate unit.

[0024] FIGS. 6 and 7 are, respectively, a cross-sectional exterior side profile view and a cross-sectional interior side profile view of a portion of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 corresponding to the first portion of FIG. 4 shown in FIG. 5.

[0025] FIG. 8 is a top plan view corresponding to the first portion of FIG. 4 shown in FIG. 5 and showing a barrier of a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology.

[0026] FIG. 9 is an enlarged view of a second portion of FIG. 4 showing an exterior enclosure of the real estate unit.

[0027] FIGS. 10 and 11 are cross-sectional exterior side profile views of a portion of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 corresponding to the second portion of FIG. 4 shown in FIG. 9 with vegetation of the exterior enclosure shown and not shown, respectively.

[0028] FIG. 12 is an enlarged view of a third portion of FIG. 4.

[0029] FIGS. 13 and 14 are cross-sectional exterior side profile views of a portion of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 corresponding to the third portion of FIG. 4 shown in FIG. 12 with vegetation of the exterior enclosure shown and not shown, respectively.

[0030] FIG. 15 is an enlarged view of a portion of FIG. 11.

[0031] FIG. 16 is side profile view of a wall component of the exterior enclosure of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4.

[0032] FIG. 17 is a cross-sectional top plan view of the wall component of the exterior enclosure of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 taken along the line 17-17 in FIG. 16.

[0033] FIG. 18 is a cross-sectional bottom plan view of the wall component of the exterior enclosure of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 taken along the line 18-18 in FIG. 16.

[0034] FIG. 19 is a cross-sectional end plan view of the wall component of the exterior enclosure of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 taken along the line 19-19 in FIG. 16.

[0035] FIG. 20 is an enlarged view of a portion of FIG. 19.

[0036] FIGS. 21, 22, 23 and 24 are, respectively, a first side profile view, an opposite second side profile view, a first end profile view, and an opposite second end profile view of a bathroom of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4.

[0037] FIG. 25 is a cross-sectional top plan view of the bathroom of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 taken along the line 25-25 in FIG. 21.

[0038] FIG. 26 is an enlarged view of a portion of FIG. 25.

[0039] FIG. 27 is a cross-sectional bottom plan view of the bathroom of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 taken along the line 27-27 in FIG. 21.

[0040] FIG. 28 is a cross-sectional top plan view of the bathroom of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 taken along the line 28-28 in FIG. 21.

[0041] FIG. 29 is a cross-sectional bottom plan view of the bathroom of the real estate unit shown in FIG. 4 taken along the line 29-29 in FIG. 21.

[0042] FIG. 30 is a cross-sectional top plan view corresponding to the portion of FIG. 2 shown in FIG. 3 and showing a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including the interior region of the garage of the single-family house shown in FIG. 1 with the garage in the second state.

[0043] FIG. 31 is a cross-sectional top plan view corresponding to the portion of FIG. 2 shown in FIG. 3 and showing a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including the interior region of the garage of the single-family house shown in FIG. 1 with the garage in the second state.

[0044] FIG. 32 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including an interior region of a three-car garage in the second state.

[0045] FIG. 33 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including the interior region of the three-car garage in the second state.

[0046] FIG. 34 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including an interior region of a detached one-car garage in the second state.

[0047] FIG. 35 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including an interior region of a detached two-car garage in the second state.

[0048] FIG. 36 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including an interior region of a detached two-car garage in the second state.

[0049] FIG. 37 is a block diagram illustrating a method for retrofitting a garage to form at least a portion of a real estate unit in accordance with an embodiment of the present technology.

[0050] FIG. 38 is a block diagram illustrating a method for operating a real estate unit in accordance with an embodiment of the present technology.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0051] Disclosed herein are examples of real estate units including interior regions of retrofitted garages (alternatively known as carports) and related technology. In a particular embodiment of the present technology, a real estate unit includes an interior region of a retrofitted garage, a reusable bathroom removably disposed within the interior region, and a reusable fenestrated barrier stationarily and removably disposed between the interior region and an outdoor area. The bathroom, barrier, and/or other suitable components of the real estate unit can be configured for low-cost deployment, removal, and redeployment. Use of these components can allow revenue from operating the real estate unit to exceed costs associated within transitioning the garage from its purpose-built use (e.g., storing one or more parked cars) to an alternative use (e.g., lodging, residential, office, and/or assembly use) even if the real estate unit is only operated for a short period of time. Thus, an operator of a network of real estate units may be able to lease a garage short-term (e.g., monthly) from an owner of the garage and retrofit the garage for provision of rentable space to third parties with little or no risk of incurring significant economic loss. Even if the owner terminates the lease after a short period of time or if demand for the newly created real estate unit is lower than expected, most of the capital associated with retrofitting the garage can be recoverable. Furthermore, capital embodied in the components can be readily relocatable in response to long-term and short-term (e.g., seasonal) changes in demand.

[0052] Among various types of real estate, garages are particularly well suited to be at least substantially reversibly retrofitted to accommodate alternative uses. For example, garages tend to be well sized for use as individual lodging, residential, office, and/or assembly units. Garages also tend to be remarkably consistent and, therefore, potentially compatible with a standard set of reusable retrofitting components. As another example, garages tend to be unfurnished or sparsely finished in their purpose-built use, which can facilitate retrofitting. As yet another example, garages typically have large openings at ground level. These openings can be well suited for retrofitting to become sources of natural light and/or points of direct exterior access. As yet another example, garages typically have at least one exterior wall well suited for accommodating retrofitted utility connections between indoor and outdoor components. Garages compatible with embodiments of the present technology can have other desirable attributes in addition to or instead of the foregoing attributes. Furthermore, embodiments of the present technology can be implemented in other types of real estate, such as other garage-like types of real estate. Examples of other garage-like types of real estate include storage spaces (e.g., drive-up mini-storage units) and loading spaces (e.g., loading docks).

[0053] Specific details of several embodiments of the present technology are disclosed herein with reference to FIGS. 1-38. It should be noted, in general, that other

embodiments in addition to those disclosed herein are within the scope of the present technology. For example, embodiments of the present technology can have different configurations, components, and/or operations than those disclosed herein. Moreover, a person of ordinary skill in the art will understand that embodiments of the present technology can have configurations, components, and/or operations in addition to those disclosed herein and that these and other embodiments can be without configurations, components, and/or operations disclosed herein without deviating from the present technology.

[0054] FIG. 1 is a front profile view of a house 100 including a garage 102. FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional top plan view of the house 100 taken along the line A-A in FIG. 1 with the garage 102 in a first state. The first state can be a garage-use, original, unretrofitted, pre-retrofit, or similar state. With reference to FIGS. 1 and 2 together, the house 100 can include permanent exterior walls 104 (individually identified as exterior walls 104a-104i), permanent interior walls 106 (individually identified as interior walls 106a, 106b), a front doorway 108, windows 110, and an interior doorway 112. The exterior walls 104g-104i and interior walls 106a, 106b can define an interior region 114 of the garage 102. The interior doorway 112 can extend between the interior region 114 and an adjacent interior region of the house 100. For simplicity of illustration, interior walls and doorways (other than those associated with the garage 102), windows at the sides and back of the house 100, and interior furnishings of the house 100 are not shown. The exterior wall 104h can have an opening 116 between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118. The outdoor area 118 can be a driveway and/or parking area. Furthermore, the opening 116 can be sized to permit passage of a car between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118. For example, the opening 116 can have a width within a range from 2 meters to 7 meters (e.g., from 4 meters to 6 meters). The house 100 can further include an overhead door 120 movably disposed at the opening 116.

[0055] FIG. 3 is an enlarged view of a portion of FIG. 2. As shown in FIG. 3, the garage 102 can include a door track 122 at the opening 116. The overhead door 120 can be operably connected to the door track 122. The garage 102 can further include a hose bibb 124 at an exterior side of the exterior wall 104g. Although the house 100 in the illustrated embodiment is a single-family house and the garage 102 is an attached garage, it should be understood that, in other embodiments, another type of primary building (e.g., a multi-family residential building) can be substituted for the house 100 and/or a detached garage can be substituted for the garage 102. Furthermore, although the garage 102 in the illustrated embodiment is a two-car garage, in other embodiments, a counterpart of the garage 102 can be a one-car garage, a three-car garage, or a garage of another suitable type.

[0056] FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional top plan view corresponding to the portion of FIG. 2 shown in FIG. 3 and showing a real estate unit 126 in accordance with an embodiment of the present technology. The real estate unit 126 can include the interior region 114 in a second state, which can be an alternative-use, non-original, retrofitted, post-retrofit, or similar state. In at least some embodiments, the garage 102 is retrofitted (e.g., at least substantially reversibly retrofitted) to accommodate a non-garage alternative use (e.g., a lodging, residential, office, and/or assem-

bly use) at the interior region 114. The real estate unit 126 can further include the outdoor area 118, which can be retrofitted (e.g., at least substantially reversibly retrofitted) for courtyard use and/or another suitable use ancillary to the alternative use of the interior region 114. The retrofitting of the interior region 114 can occur well after (e.g., at least 20 years after) the garage 102 was originally constructed.

[0057] The real estate unit 126 can include retrofits (e.g., at least substantially reversible retrofits) to the garage 102 that change the garage 102 from being well suited for garage use to being well suited for the alternative use. In at least some cases, reversal of all or a portion of these retrofits returns the garage 102 from being well suited for the alternative use to again being well suited for the garage use. Examples of reversible retrofits include removing, installing, and relocating furniture and fixtures with little or no associated demolition of the exterior walls 104g-104i and interior walls 106a, 106b or other permanent fabric of the garage 102. The garage 102 can be substantially reversibly retrofitted to accommodate the real estate unit 126. For example, a total cost of reversible retrofits to the garage 102 (e.g., a present value of at least substantially reversibly installed reusable components) for a given transformation from being well suited for garage use to being well suited for an alternative use can be greater (e.g., at least 50% greater or at least 100% greater) than a total cost of permanent retrofits to the garage 102 (e.g. modifications to the permanent fabric of the garage 102) for the given transformation. Capital associated with the alternative use can be readily re-deployable after the alternative use. In some cases, the alternative use and the real estate unit 126 are active for one year or less (e.g., six months or less) between successive transformations. In other cases, the alternative use and the real estate unit 126 can have longer durations or even be permanent.

[0058] As shown in FIG. 4, the real estate unit 126 can include a bathroom 127 disposed (e.g., removably disposed) within the interior region 114. The bathroom 127 can include a sink 128, a toilet 129, and a bath 130. In some embodiments, the bathroom 127 is reusable and removably disposed within the interior region 114. For example, unlike a conventional bathroom that can only be installed by heavy construction and removed by heavy demolition, the bathroom 127 can be configured to be installed with little or no need for heavy construction and removed with little or no need for heavy demolition.

[0059] Furthermore, the bathroom 127 can be configured to be conveniently transported and reused after its removal. In the illustrated embodiment, the bathroom 127 is an assembly of reusable bathroom modules configured for rapid deployment into and removal from the interior region 114 in an at least partially disassembled state. For example, the bathroom 127 can be made up mostly or entirely of reusable modular components. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the bathroom 127 can be portable and configured for rapid deployment into and removal from the interior region 114 without significant disassembly. This deployment and removal can occur by forklift, by dolly, by operation of wheels integrated into the counterpart of the bathroom 127, or in another suitable manner. In still other embodiments, a counterpart of the bathroom 127 can have other suitable forms. As shown in FIG. 4, the bathroom 127 can be positioned within the interior region 114 such that it blocks access to the interior doorway 112. This can be useful, for

example, to form a robust separation between the interior region 114 and other portions of the house 100.

[0060] The real estate unit 126 can further include a barrier 131 disposed between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118. For example, a path permitting a renter of the real estate unit 126 to move between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118 can extend through the opening 116 and through the barrier 131. Furthermore, the barrier 131 can be stationarily disposed between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118. For example, unlike the overhead door 120, which is typically configured to move on a regular basis during normal operation of the garage 102 in the first state, the barrier 131 can be configured to remain at least substantially stationary during normal operation of the real estate unit 126. The barrier 131 can be fenestrated and can include windows 132 that allow natural light to enter the interior region 114 from the outdoor area 118. The barrier 131 can further include a door 133. In at least some embodiments, the barrier 131 is foldable to facilitate its transport and storage when not in use. For example, the barrier 131 can be foldable along vertical seams (not shown) between neighboring windows 132 and/or between the door 133 and windows 132 neighboring the door 133.

[0061] The barrier 131 can be reusable and removably disposed between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118. For example, the barrier 131 can be configured to be installed with little or no need for heavy construction and removed with little or no need for heavy demolition. Furthermore, the barrier 131 can be configured to be conveniently transported and reused after its removal. In the illustrated embodiment, the barrier 131 is rigid, portable and configured for rapid deployment into and removal from operable association with the interior region 114 without significant disassembly. This deployment and removal can occur by forklift, by dolly, by operation of wheels (not shown) integrated into the barrier 131, or in another suitable manner. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the barrier 131 can be an assembly of reusable barrier modules configured for rapid deployment into and removal from between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118 in an at least partially disassembled state. For example, a counterpart of the barrier 131 can be made up mostly or entirely of reusable modular components.

[0062] With reference again to FIG. 4, the real estate unit 126 can include a courtyard 134 at the outdoor area 118. For example, the real estate unit 126 can include an exterior enclosure 135 including wall components 136 and a gate 138 disposed at a perimeter portion of the courtyard 134. The wall components 136, the gate 138, and/or other suitable components of the exterior enclosure 135 can be reusable and removably disposed at the perimeter portion of the courtyard 134. For example, the exterior enclosure 135 can be made up mostly or entirely of reusable modular components. As discussed in further detail below, the wall components 136 can be stacked and/or interlocking within the exterior enclosure 135. Furthermore, the wall components 136 can be planters that support vegetation 140. For example, the wall components 136 can internally support a root system (not shown) of the vegetation 140. Thus, the exterior enclosure 135 can include living walls.

[0063] In the illustrated embodiment, the real estate unit 126 is configured to be mostly off-grid (i.e., independent of service connections to local utilities). This configuration can be useful, for example, to avoid costs and complications

associated with utility hookups, to reduce the environmental impact of the real estate unit 126, to facilitate efficient management of the real estate unit 126, to reduce costs associated with maintaining the real estate unit 126 during periods of nonuse or low use, and/or for other reasons. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the real estate unit 126 can be mostly or entirely on-grid (i.e., dependent on service connections to local utilities).

[0064] With reference again to FIG. 4, the real estate unit 126 can include a dock 142 removably disposed outside the interior region 114. The dock 142 can be above-ground (as illustrated) or below-ground (e.g., disposed within a pit). At the dock 142, the real estate unit 126 can include a heat pump 144, an exhaust filter 146, a blackwater tank 148, a water reservoir 150, a water heater 152, a greywater filter 154, a wireless router 156, a battery 158, a trash bin 160, a recycling bin 162, and a laundry bin 164. The water reservoir 150 can be operably connected to the hose bibb 124 and can be configured to increase a capacity of the hose bibb 124 to supply water to the bathroom 127, such as by attenuating spikes in demand for water from the bathroom 127. In the illustrated embodiment, the real estate unit 126 is configured to separately manage removal and disposal of blackwater (e.g., wastewater from the toilet 129) and greywater (e.g., wastewater from the sink 128 and the bath 130). In other embodiments, a counterpart of the real estate unit 126 can be configured to collectively manage removal and disposal of blackwater and greywater. Accordingly, the blackwater tank 148 can be more generally referred to as a sewage tank indicating that it can be configured to receive primarily blackwater, primarily greywater, or both blackwater and greywater.

[0065] With reference again to FIG. 4, the exhaust filter 146, the blackwater tank 148, the battery 158, the trash bin 160, the recycling bin 162, and the laundry bin 164 can be removably connected to the dock 142 or otherwise removably disposed within or outside the interior region 114. In the illustrated embodiment, the real estate unit 126 is configured to operate on-grid with respect to a water supply (i.e. because the water reservoir 150 is operably connected (for replenishment) to a water service for the house 100 via the hose bibb 124) and configured to be off-grid with respect to an electrical supply and disposal of blackwater from the toilet 129. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the real estate unit 126 can be off-grid with respect to water supply (e.g., because the water reservoir 150 is configured to be independently refilled or swapped), on-grid with respect to electrical supply (e.g., because the battery 158 is operably connected (e.g., for recharging) to an electrical service for the house 100), and/or on-grid with respect to sewage disposal (e.g. because the blackwater tank 148 is operably connected (e.g., for draining) to a municipal sewage line for the house 100).

[0066] With reference again to FIG. 4, the real estate unit 126 can be configured to receive occasional servicing. This servicing can include collecting backwater, trash, recyclables, and laundry (e.g., for cleaning and return) from the blackwater tank 148, the trash bin 160, the recycling bin 162, and the laundry bin 164, respectively. The servicing can also include recharging the battery 158. In at least some cases, the blackwater tank 148 is configured to be swapped for removal of blackwater from the real estate unit 126. Similarly, the battery 158 can be configured to be swapped for replenishment of an electrical supply to the real estate

unit 126. This can reduce or eliminate the need for recharging the battery 158. A less-fully replacement for the blackwater tank 148, a more-fully-charged replacement for the battery 158, and/or other suitable replacements for components of the real estate unit 126 can be delivered to the real estate unit 126 by truck or in another suitable manner. The replaced components can be collected in the same or a different manner and transported to a central location where the components can be efficiently processed (e.g., emptied, cleaned, recharged, etc.) for reuse. This delivery and collection can occur on a regular schedule (e.g., daily, every-other-day, etc.), as needed, and/or on demand.

[0067] The dock 142 can include sensors 166 (individually identified as sensors 166a-166f) operably connected to the blackwater tank 148, the water reservoir 150, the battery 158, the trash bin 160, the recycling bin 162, and the laundry bin 164, respectively. The sensors 166 can be wirelessly connected to a remote server 168 via the router 156 and a network 170 (e.g., the Internet). The server 168 can include software that automatically processes data from the sensors 166 to determine when servicing of the real estate unit 126 is required. For example, data from the sensor 166a may indicate that the blackwater tank 148 is at 75% of capacity and needs to be drained or swapped promptly. As another example, data from the sensor 166b may indicate that the water reservoir 150 is being depleted faster than it can be replenished via the hose bibb 124 and, therefore, needs to be independently replenished promptly. As yet another example, data from the sensor 166c may indicate that the battery 158 is at 25% of capacity and needs to be recharged or swapped promptly. Over time, aggregate data from the sensors 166 can be analyzed to establish default servicing intervals for the real estate unit 126. In addition or alternatively, data from the sensors 166 can be used to calculate utility usage for the real estate unit 126 for purposes of environmental reporting and/or billing a renter of the real estate unit 126. Each of the individual sensors 166a-166f can be of a suitable type for monitoring the corresponding component of the real estate unit 126. For example, the sensors 166a, 166b, 166d-166f, individually, can be weight sensors, level sensors, or other types of sensors configured to measure fullness of the blackwater tank 148, the water reservoir 150, the trash bin 160, the recycling bin 162, and the laundry bin 164, respectively. As another example, the sensor 166c can be a charge meter or another type of sensor configured to measure a charge of the battery 158.

[0068] The real estate unit 126 can include suitable utility lines and other connections that extend from components of the real estate unit 126 within the interior region 114 to components of the real estate unit 126 or other structures outside of the interior region 114. For example, the real estate unit 126 can include a heater/cooler 172 within the interior region 114, and refrigerant lines 174 extending between the heater/cooler 172 and the heat pump 144. The real estate unit 126 can further include an electrical outlet 176 serving the interior region 114, and an electrical line 178 extending between the electrical outlet 176 and the battery 158. The battery 158, therefore, can be configured to power an appliance (not shown) within the interior region 114 via the electrical outlet 176 and the electrical line 178. As additional examples of suitable utility lines, the real estate unit 126 can include a blackwater drain line 180 extending between the bathroom 127 and the blackwater tank 148, a cold water supply line 182 extending between the bathroom

127 and the water reservoir 150, a hot water supply line 184 extending between the bathroom 127 and the water heater 152, a greywater drain line 186 extending between the bathroom 127 and the greywater filter 154, a plumbing ventilation line 188 extending between the bathroom 127 and the exhaust filter 146, and an exhaust line 190 also extending between the bathroom 127 and the exhaust filter 146. The blackwater drain line 180 and the greywater drain line 186 can be sloped to convey liquid waste from the bathroom 127 toward the blackwater tank 148 and the greywater filter 154, respectively, at least partially by gravity. To facilitate this sloping and/or for other reasons, the bathroom 127 can have a floor level at least 0.5 meter (e.g., at least 1 meter) higher than an underlying floor level of the interior region 114. In the illustrated embodiment, the blackwater drain line 180 and the greywater drain line 186 are separate. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the real estate unit 126 can include combined blackwater and greywater lines. Accordingly, the blackwater drain line 180 and the greywater drain line 186 can be more generally referred to as a plumbing drain lines indicating that they can be configured to convey primarily blackwater, primarily greywater, or both blackwater and greywater.

[0069] The real estate unit 126 can further include a trash hatch 192, a recycling hatch 194, and a laundry hatch 196 within the interior region 114. The real estate unit 126 can also include a trash chute 198 extending between the trash hatch 192 and the trash bin 160, a recycling chute 200 extending between the recycling hatch 194 and the recycling bin 162, and a laundry chute 202 extending between the laundry hatch 196 and the laundry bin 164. The refrigerant lines 174, electrical line 178, blackwater drain line 180, cold water supply line 182, hot water supply line 184, greywater drain line 186, plumbing ventilation line 188, exhaust line 190, trash chute 198, recycling chute 200, and laundry chute 202 can extend through the exterior wall 104g. For example, some or all of these lines and chutes can extend through retrofitted openings in the exterior wall 104g. In at least some embodiments, these openings are readily patchable to facilitate returning the interior region 114 to garage use if the real estate unit 126 is decommissioned. The lines and chutes can be removably disposed inside and/or outside the interior region 114. For example, the lines and chutes can be temporary and configured for reuse or disposal upon decommissioning of the real estate unit 126. In at least some embodiments, the blackwater drain line 180 and the greywater drain line 186 extend above-floor and then above-ground from the bathroom 127 toward the blackwater tank 148 and the greywater filter 154, respectively.

[0070] The dock 142 can include additional lines, connections, and other suitable components ancillary to the components of the real estate unit 126 at the dock 142. For example, the dock 142 can include a housing 204 that provides security and protection from weather to components of the real estate unit 126 at the dock 142. The housing 204 can include a lid (not shown) configured to be open when the real estate unit 126 is being serviced and closed and locked when the real estate unit 126 is not being serviced. In at least some embodiments, the lid includes solar panels (also not shown) operably connected to the battery 158. The dock 142 can further include couplings along some or all of the lines and chutes described above. These couplings can separate portions of the lines and chutes within the housing 204 from portions of the lines and chutes

outside the housing 204. Thus, by operation of these couplings, the dock 142 can be transportable as a unit with little or no need to modify internal portions of the dock 142 in the field. For example, the dock 142 can be pre-manufactured with the internal components shown in FIG. 4, installed at the location shown in FIG. 4, and then connected up to portions of the associated lines and chutes outside of the housing 204.

[0071] The dock 142 can further include couplings that facilitate convenient removal and replacement (e.g., swapping) of the blackwater tank 148, the battery 158, the trash bin 160, the recycling bin 162, and the laundry bin 164. For example, the dock 142 can include a blackwater drain quick-connect coupling 206 through which the blackwater tank 148 is fluidically connected to the blackwater drain line 180 and the bathroom 127. In at least some embodiments, the drain quick-connect coupling 206 includes a check valve. Similarly, the dock 142 can include an electrical quick-connect coupling 208 through which the battery 158 is electrically connected to the electrical line 178 and the electrical outlet 176. The dock 142 can also include a floor 210 having pads 212 (individually identified as pads 212a-212e) that facilitate convenient registration of the blackwater tank 148, the battery 158, the trash bin 160, the recycling bin 162, and the laundry bin 164 with the blackwater drain quick-connect coupling 206, the electrical quick-connect coupling 208, the trash chute 198, the recycling chute 200, and the laundry chute 202, respectively. For example, the pads 212a-212e can be insets in the floor 210 that snugly receive corresponding lower portions of the blackwater tank 148, the battery 158, the trash bin 160, the recycling bin 162, and the laundry bin 164, respectively.

[0072] As shown in FIG. 4, the dock 142 can include a potable water inlet 214 and a greywater outlet 216. The real estate unit 126 can include a first hose 218 extending between the hose bibb 124 and the potable water inlet 214. The real estate unit 126 can further include sprinkler 220 and a second hose 222 extending between the greywater outlet 216 and the sprinkler 220. The exterior enclosure 135 can include a greywater inlet 224 fluidically connected to a branch 226 of the second hose 222. Filtered greywater can be distributed to support grass or other vegetation (not shown) via the sprinkler 220, and distributed to support the vegetation 140 via an internal distribution system (e.g., a network of hoses; not shown) of the exterior enclosure 135. The dock 142 can include internal plumbing (e.g., under the floor 210; not shown) fluidically connecting the water reservoir 150 and the potable water inlet 214, and fluidically connecting the greywater filter 154 and the greywater outlet 216. In at least some embodiments, this internal plumbing includes a pump (not shown). The dock 142 can further include an exhaust output fan 228 and an internal duct 230 extending between the exhaust output fan 228 and the exhaust filter 146. The dock 142 can also include an inverter 232 operably connected to the electrical line 178.

[0073] The real estate unit 126 can be furnished or otherwise outfitted with suitable furnishings, fixtures, accessories, etc. to accommodate its non-garage alternative use. In the illustrated embodiment, the real estate unit 126 is a lodging and/or residential unit with suitable furnishings, fixtures, accessories, etc. within the interior region 114 to accommodate lodging and/or residential use of the interior region 114. These furnishings, fixtures, accessories, etc. can include a bed 234, a side table 236, shelving units 238 (individually

identified as shelving units 238a-238d), a writing table 240, a chair 242, a sofa 244, a coffee table 246, a television 248, a kitchenette 250, a refrigerator 252, and a set of step stairs 254. The kitchenette 250 and the set of step stairs 254 can be operably associated with the bathroom 127. The real estate unit 126 can further include a closet 256 disposed (e.g., removably disposed) within the interior region 114. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the real estate unit 126 can include other suitable furnishings, fixtures, accessories, etc. As described in further detail below, real estate units in accordance with other embodiments of the present technology can be rentable office units, rentable assembly units, and/or have other suitable primary uses in addition to or instead of lodging and/or residential uses. Furthermore, rentable real estate units in accordance with embodiments of the present technology can be directly rentable, rentable via a membership system (e.g., in a member-based network of real estate units), rentable under short-term use arrangements (e.g., lodging arrangements), and/or rentable in another suitable manner.

[0074] FIG. 5 is an enlarged view of a first portion of FIG. 4 showing the barrier 131. FIGS. 6 and 7 are, respectively, a cross-sectional exterior side profile view and a cross-sectional interior side profile view of a portion of the real estate unit 126 corresponding to the first portion of FIG. 4 shown in FIG. 5. With reference to FIGS. 4-7 together, the barrier 131 can include a first mass of self-leveling material 300 (e.g., a first disposable mass of hardened self-leveling grout) underlying the barrier 131. The first mass of self-leveling material 300 can be molded and, in at least some cases, is integrally formed along most or all of an overall footprint of the barrier 131. During formation of the first mass of self-leveling material 300, the constituent self-leveling material can be of sufficiently low viscosity to level itself by gravity. Thus, the first mass of self-leveling material 300 can automatically conform to slopes, dips, and/or other irregularities in a ground surface at which the barrier 131 is installed.

[0075] In at least some embodiments, the outdoor area 118 has a paved surface 301 that is not level. The exterior enclosure 135 can include a second mass of self-leveling material 302 (e.g., a second disposable mass of hardened self-leveling grout) underlying the wall components 136. Similar to the first mass of self-leveling material 300, the second mass of self-leveling material 302 can be molded and, in at least some cases, is integrally formed along most or all of an overall footprint of the exterior enclosure 135. During formation of the second mass of self-leveling material 302, the constituent self-leveling material can be of sufficiently low viscosity to level itself by gravity. Thus, the second mass of self-leveling material 302 can automatically conform to slopes, dips, and/or other irregularities in the paved surface 301. When at least partially cured, the second mass of self-leveling material 302 can provide the exterior enclosure 135 with a reliably level surface that facilitates vertical stacking of the wall components 136.

[0076] As shown in FIG. 6, the exterior enclosure 135 can include base blocks 304 between the second mass of self-leveling material 302 and the lowermost row of the wall components 136. The wall components 136 can be hollow and can contain planting medium 306. The base blocks 304 can also be hollow and can include antimicrobial medium 308. The exterior enclosure 135 can further include a soaker hose 309 that receives filtered greywater from the branch

226 of the second hose 222. In the illustrated embodiment, the soaker hose 309 is loosely disposed in a serpentine manner at an upper portion of an uppermost row of the wall components 136 within the exterior enclosure 135. The soaker hose 309 can distribute filtered greywater throughout the planting medium 306 at the uppermost row of the wall components 136. Once the planting medium 306 at the uppermost row of the wall components 136 is saturated, the filtered greywater can move by gravity and/or capillary action to the planting medium 306 at a second-to-uppermost row of the wall components 136 within the exterior enclosure 135. This process can continue until the filtered greywater reaches the antimicrobial medium 308. The antimicrobial medium 308 can be a synthetic sponge or other suitable substrate that reduces or eliminates pools of the excess filtered greywater from developing within the base blocks 304. Excess filtered greywater within the antimicrobial medium 308 can drain from the base blocks 304 onto the paved surface 301 and along the paved surface 301 to a storm drain (not shown). In other embodiments, the filtered greywater can be distributed through the exterior enclosure 135 in another suitable manner. For example, a counterpart of the exterior enclosure 135 can include separate soaker hoses at respective rows of wall components 136. These soaker hoses can be connected to the branch 226 of the second hose 222 via a manifold. In still other embodiments, a counterpart of the exterior enclosure 135 can have an irrigation system that uses freshwater instead of filtered greywater, or no irrigation system at all.

[0077] With reference again to FIGS. 4-7 together, the barrier 131 can include a frame 310, hinges 312 operably connecting the door 133 and the frame 310 to one another, and a handle 314 that facilitates operation of the door 133 from outside the interior region 114. The barrier 131 can further include a smart lock 316 configured to allow a renter of the real estate unit 126 to unlock the door 133 by operation of a mobile device (e.g. a mobile phone), by entering a passcode, by providing a biometric identification (e.g., a fingerprint), or in another suitable manner. The barrier 131 can be removably fastened to the exterior wall 104h. In the illustrated embodiment, the barrier 131 is removably bolted to the exterior wall 104h. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the barrier 131 can be removably screwed to the exterior wall 104h, removably clamped to the exterior wall 104h, and/or removably fastened to the exterior wall 104h in another suitable manner in addition to or instead of being removably bolted to the exterior wall 104h. In still other embodiments, a counterpart of the barrier 131 can be permanently installed at the exterior wall 104h.

[0078] With reference again to FIGS. 4-7, the barrier 131 can include a gasket 318 disposed between the frame 310 and the exterior wall 104h. The gasket 318 can be compressible such that it conforms to irregularities in the exterior wall 104h and thereby enhances a weather resistance of a connection between the barrier 131 and the exterior wall 104h. The barrier 131 can further include bolts 320 that extend through the frame 310, through the gasket 318, and through the exterior wall 104h. At an inside surface of the exterior wall 104h, the barrier 131 can include furring strips 322 through which the bolts 320 also extend, and nuts 324 operably connected to the bolts 320 and bearing on the furring strips 322. In the illustrated embodiment, the barrier 131 is an overlay that covers the opening 116 at an exterior side of the exterior wall 104h. In other embodiments, the

barrier 131 can have another suitable form and/or position relative to the opening 116. For example, rather than being disposed at the exterior side of the exterior wall 104h, a counterpart of the barrier 113 can be disposed at an interior side of the exterior wall 104h.

[0079] As shown in FIG. 7, in the illustrated embodiment, the overhead door 120 is stowed within the interior region 114 in an open state. For example, the door track 122 can remain in place after the garage 102 is retrofitted for an alternative use. A motor (not shown) operably connected to the overhead door 120 can be temporarily disabled so that the overhead door 120 remains out-of-service during operation of the real estate unit 126. Leaving the overhead door 120 and the door track 122 in place after the garage 102 is retrofitted for an alternative use can be useful, for example, to reduce an investment necessary to return the interior region 114 to garage use, as needed. In other embodiments, the overhead door 120 can be removed from the interior region 114 when the garage 102 is retrofitted for an alternative use. In still other embodiments, a counterpart of the overhead door 120 can be retrofitted with windows and/or a doorway. In these embodiments, the counterpart of the overhead door 120 can take the place of the barrier 131.

[0080] FIG. 8 is a top plan view corresponding to the first portion of FIG. 4 shown in FIG. 5 and showing a barrier 350 of a real estate unit in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology. In contrast to the barrier 131 shown in FIGS. 4-7, the barrier 350 is an inset rather than an overlay. For example, the barrier 350 can be disposed within the opening 116 rather than at an exterior or interior side of the exterior wall 104h. As shown in FIG. 8, the barrier 350 can include a frame 352 that is narrower than the opening 116. The barrier 350 can further include a gasket 354 disposed between the frame 352 and sidewalls of the opening 116. The barrier 350 can also include screws 356 extending laterally into portions of the exterior wall 104h on opposite sides of the opening 116. The gasket 354 can be layered to compensate for a difference between a width of the frame 352 and a width of the opening 116, such as when the barrier 350 is a standard size and the opening 116 is a non-standard size. Although not adaptable to as wide a range of opening widths as the barrier 131 described above, the barrier 350 may be preferred over the barrier 131 in some cases for aesthetic or other reasons.

[0081] FIG. 9 is an enlarged view of a second portion of FIG. 4 showing the exterior enclosure 135. FIGS. 10 and 11 are cross-sectional exterior side profile views of a portion of the real estate unit 126 corresponding to the second portion of FIG. 4 shown in FIG. 9 with the vegetation 140 shown and not shown, respectively. FIG. 12 is an enlarged view of a third portion of FIG. 4. FIGS. 13 and 14 are cross-sectional exterior side profile views of a portion of the real estate unit 126 corresponding to the third portion of FIG. 4 shown in FIG. 12 with the vegetation 140 shown and not shown, respectively. FIG. 15 is an enlarged view of a portion of FIG. 11. With reference to FIGS. 4-7 and 9-15 together, the exterior enclosure 135 can include staggered rows of the wall components 136. For example, the wall components 136 at corners of the exterior enclosure 135 distant from the exterior wall 104h can alternate row-to-row between larger and smaller L-shapes. Similarly, the wall components 136 at portions of the exterior enclosure 135 closest to the exterior wall 104h can alternate row-to-row between larger and

smaller rectangular shapes. Elsewhere within the exterior enclosure 135, the wall components 136 can have the larger rectangular shape.

[0082] The overall exterior enclosure 135 can be self-supporting and/or free-standing. As shown in FIG. 15, the wall components 136 can be stacked within the exterior enclosure 135. Furthermore, the wall components 136 can be interlocking within the exterior enclosure 135. For example, the individual wall components 136 can include downwardly extending flanges 400 that are received within successively lower wall components 136. The base blocks 304 can be configured to receive the flanges 400 of the wall components 136 within a lowest row of wall components 136 within the exterior enclosure 135. As discussed above, the wall components 136 can be planters. In at least some embodiments, the wall components 136 include apertures 402 through which the vegetation 140 grows outwardly from roots (not shown) within the wall components 136. The apertures 402 can be large enough to allow passage of bulbs, cuttings, seedlings, etc. (not just seeds) into the planting medium 306 after the exterior enclosure 135 is assembled. For example, the individual apertures 402 can have a width greater than 2 centimeters, such as a width within a range from 2 to 8 centimeters. As discussed above, the exterior enclosure 135 can be configured to facilitate distribution of filtered greywater throughout the planting medium 306. The base blocks 304 can include holes 406 through which excess filtered greywater exits the exterior enclosure 135.

[0083] As shown in FIG. 10, the apertures 402 can be differentially planted to form a brand identifier 404 (e.g., a trade and/or service mark) or other suitable design at an exterior side (e.g., street-facing side) of the exterior enclosure 135. Differential planting can include selectively planting the apertures 402 with multiple types of plants and/or selectively planting and not planting the apertures 402 with a single type of plant. For example, the non-planted apertures 402 can be capped. Forming a brand identifier 404 by differential planting can be useful to balance aesthetic considerations in a neighborhood setting with the need for clear communication of a brand associated with the real estate unit 126 to consumers. The apertures 402 can collectively form an array that facilitates forming the brand identifier 404 in a consistent manner when the real estate unit 126 is one of many real estate units for which the brand identifier 404 is applicable. For example, a given aperture 402 can be planted with a predetermined plant depending on its position within the array according to a reproducible plan. A template (not shown) can be temporarily placed over the exterior side of the exterior enclosure 135 and registered to the array to facilitate rapid execution of the plan with little or no need for customized execution of the plan in the field. Furthermore, using relatively large and/or more mature plantings can allow the vegetation 140 to be formed more efficiently and/or with less lead time than would be the case using seeds.

[0084] FIG. 16 is side profile view of a given one of the wall components 136. FIG. 17 is a cross-sectional top plan view of the given wall component 136 taken along the line 17-17 in FIG. 16. FIG. 18 is a cross-sectional bottom plan view of the given wall component 136 taken along the line 18-18 in FIG. 16. FIG. 19 is a cross-sectional end plan view of the given wall component 136 taken along the line 19-19 in FIG. 16. FIG. 20 is an enlarged view of a portion of FIG. 19. The given wall component 136 is of the large rectangular

type. In at least some embodiments, other (e.g., most or all) of the wall components 136 of the large rectangular type within the exterior enclosure 135 at least substantially match the given wall component 136. Furthermore, wall component 136 of other types (e.g., small rectangular, large L-shaped, small L-shaped, etc.) can have the same or similar features as the features of the given wall component 136. With reference to FIGS. 16-20 together, the given wall component 136 can include a rigid shell 408, a package 410 removably disposed within the shell 408, and a rigid plate 412 also removably disposed within the shell 408. The package 410 can contain the planting medium 306 in a tidy form. The plate 412 can support the package 410.

[0085] In at least some embodiments, the shell 408 is collapsible from an expanded state to a compact (e.g., at least partially flattened) state. For example, at corners where the first and second side panels 414, 416 and the first and second end panels 418, 420 meet, the given wall component 136 can include hinges (not shown), such as flexure bearings or piano hinges, that allow each corner to fold in a direction that causes the first and second side panels 414, 416 and the first and second end panels 418, 420 to at least partially flatten. This feature can facilitate efficient storage and transport of the shell 408 before and/or after its deployment at the real estate unit 126. In at least some embodiments, the plate 412 helps to hold the shell 408 in the expanded state. As shown in FIG. 20, a lowermost portion of the first side panel 414 can overlap an uppermost portion of one of the flanges 400. The plate 412 can rest on upper edges of the flanges 400.

[0086] The shell 408 can include a first side panel 414 and an opposite second side panel 416 parallel to and spaced apart from the first side panel 414. Similarly, the given wall component 136 can include a first end panel 418 and an opposite second end panel 420 parallel to and spaced apart from the first end panel 418. The first and second side panels 414, 416 and the first and second end panels 418, 420 can define an interior region of the given wall component 136 shaped, for example, as a rectangular solid. The apertures 402 can extend through the shell 408 at the first and second side panels 414, 416. Alternatively, the apertures 402 can extend through the shell 408 at only the first side panel 414 or at only the second side panel 416 if the vegetation 140 is only desired at one or the other of the interior and exterior sides of the exterior enclosure 135.

[0087] The given wall component 136 can include two of the flanges 400 at the first side panel 414 and another two of the flanges 400 at the second side panel 416. As shown in FIG. 19, the flanges 400 can be parallel to and inset relative to the corresponding first and second side panels 414, 416. Between the flanges 400 at the first side panel 414 and between the flanges 400 at the second side panel 416, the given wall component 136 can include respective slots 422. When the given wall component 136 is assembled with other wall components 136 of the large rectangular type within the exterior enclosure 135, one of the flanges 400 at the first side panel 414 and an opposing one of the flanges 400 at the second side panel 416 can be received within the interior region of a first neighboring lower wall component 136. Similarly, the other of the flanges 400 at the first side panel 414 and the other of the flanges 400 at the second side panel 416 can be received within the interior region of a second neighboring lower wall component 136 adjacent to the first neighboring lower wall component 136. The second end

panel **420** of the first neighboring lower wall component **136** and the first end panel **418** of the second neighboring lower wall component **136** can be directly adjacent to one another and received within the slots **422** of the given wall component **136**. This interaction between the wall components **136** can facilitate convenient assembly of the exterior enclosure **135** with neighboring rows of the wall components **136** evenly staggered.

[0088] In the illustrated embodiment, the first and second side panels **414**, **416** are thinner than the first and second end panels **418**, **420** and made of a different material. For example, the first and second side panels **414**, **416** can be metal (e.g., iron) and the first and second end panels **418**, **420** can be cementitious (e.g., fiber-reinforced cement). The metal composition of the first and second side panels **414**, **416** can be useful, for example, for aesthetics, to facilitate magnetic coupling of fixtures and accessories to the exterior enclosure **135**, and/or for other reasons. The cementitious composition of the first and second end panels **418**, **420** can be useful, for example, to reduce noise transmission through the exterior enclosure **135**, for cost savings, and/or for other reasons. In other embodiments, the first and second side panels **414**, **416** and the first and second end panels **418**, **420** can have other suitable compositions. The package **410** can be reusable and/or compostable. Furthermore, the package **410** can be configured to remain at least substantially intact for convenient reuse and/or composting upon disassembly of the exterior enclosure **135**. In at least some embodiments, the package **410** includes a biodegradable skin **424** that contains the planting medium **306**. When the exterior enclosure **135** is assembled, the skin **424** can be punctured via the apertures **402**. Suitable materials for the skin **424** include burlap and cotton, among others. As shown in FIG. **18**, the plate **412** can include perforations **426** through which water can flow by gravity from one wall component **136** to a neighboring lower wall component **136** (or base block **304**).

[0089] FIGS. **21**, **22**, **23** and **24** are, respectively, a first side profile view, an opposite second side profile view, a first end profile view, and an opposite second end profile view of the bathroom **127**. With reference to FIGS. **21-24** together, the bathroom **127** can include a rectangular floor module **500**, a rectangular ceiling module **502** vertically spaced apart from the floor module **500**, and a plurality of wall modules **504** (individually identified as wall modules **504a-504d**) removably connected to the floor and ceiling modules **500**, **502** at respective perimeter portions of the floor and ceiling modules **500**, **502**. The bathroom **127** can further include a lower gasket **506** disposed between the perimeter portion of the floor module **500** and the wall modules **504**, and an upper gasket **508** disposed between the perimeter portion of the ceiling module **502** and the wall modules **504**. The floor module **500** can include upwardly extending tabs **510** through which the floor module **500** is secured to the wall modules **504**. Similarly, the ceiling module **502** can include downwardly extending tabs **512** through which the ceiling module **502** is secured to the wall modules **504**. The wall modules **504c**, **504d** can include vertical flanges **514** at which the wall modules **504c**, **504d** are secured to the wall modules **504a**, **504b**. The bathroom **127** can include bolts **516** and associated nuts **518** at the upwardly extending tabs **510**, the downwardly extending tabs **512**, and the vertical flanges **514**.

[0090] At the wall module **504a** (FIG. **23**), the bathroom **127** can include a doorway opening **520**, a frame **522**

extending around the doorway opening **520**, and a door **524** disposed within the doorway opening **520** and hingedly connected to the frame **522**. The bathroom **127** can further include a handle **526** and hinges **528** operably associated with the door **524**. At the wall module **504c** (FIG. **21**), the bathroom **127** can include a plumbing ventilation hookup **530** and an exhaust hookup **532**. The plumbing ventilation hookup **530** and the exhaust hookup **532** can be configured for convenient connection to and disconnection from the plumbing ventilation line **188** and the exhaust line **190** (FIG. **4**), respectively, such as via quick release couplings (not shown). The wall modules **504c**, **504d** can extend between the wall modules **504a**, **504b** at opposite sides of the bathroom **127**. As discussed above, the bathroom **127** can be configured to be elevated above a floor surface of the interior region **114**. For this purpose and/or another suitable purpose, the floor module **500** can include feet **533**. In at least some embodiments, a gap between the feet **533** is large enough to allow the bathroom **127**, when fully assembled, to be conveniently moved by forklift. At the ceiling module **502**, the bathroom **127** can include skylights **534** that allow ambient light within the interior region **114** to enter an interior of the bathroom **127**.

[0091] At a side of the floor module **500** below the wall module **504c**, the bathroom **127** can include a blackwater drain hookup **535**, a main cold water supply hookup **536**, and a main hot water supply hookup **538**. At an end of the floor module **500** below the wall module **504a**, the bathroom **127** can include a main electrical hookup **540** and a main greywater drain hookup **541**. The blackwater drain hookup **535**, the main cold water supply hookup **536**, the main hot water supply hookup **538**, the main electrical hookup **540**, and the main greywater drain hookup **541** can be configured for convenient connection to and disconnection from the blackwater drain line **180**, the cold water supply line **182**, the hot water supply line **184**, the electrical line **178**, and the greywater drain line **186**, respectively, such as via quick release couplings (not shown). At a side of the floor module **500** below the wall module **504d**, the bathroom **127** can include an auxiliary greywater drain hookup **542**, an auxiliary cold water supply hookup **544**, an auxiliary hot water supply hookup **546**, and an auxiliary electrical hookup **548**. The auxiliary greywater drain hookup **542**, the auxiliary cold water supply hookup **544**, the auxiliary hot water supply hookup **546**, and the auxiliary electrical hookup **548** can be configured for convenient connection to and disconnection from corresponding lines (not shown) of the kitchenette **250**, such as via quick release couplings (not shown).

[0092] FIG. **25** is a cross-sectional top plan view of the bathroom **127** taken along the line **25-25** in FIG. **21**. As shown in FIG. **25**, the floor module **500** can include a deck **554**, and the bathroom **127** can include a sink **556**, a toilet **558**, and a bathtub/shower **560** disposed (e.g., removably disposed) on the deck **554**. The sink **556** can include a basin **562**, a sink drain **564**, a sink faucet **566**, a sink hot water knob **568**, and a sink cold water knob **570** operably connected to one another. The toilet **558** can include a tank **572**, a bowl **574**, and a toilet drain **576** operably connected to one another. The bathtub/shower **560** can include a tub **578**, a bathtub/shower drain **580**, a tub faucet **582**, a tub cold water knob **584**, a tub hot water knob **586**, a cold water conduit **588**, and a hot water conduit **590** operably connected to one another. The cold water conduit **588** can include a riser **592** and a first branch **594** extending between the riser **592** and

the tub faucet **582**. The tub cold water knob **584** can be disposed along the first branch **594** and operable to control a flow of cold water from the cold water conduit **588** to the tub faucet **582**. Similarly, the hot water conduit **590** can include a riser **596** and a first branch **598** extending between the riser **596** and the tub faucet **582**. The tub hot water knob **586** can be disposed along the first branch **598** and operable to control a flow of hot water from the hot water conduit **590** to the tub faucet **582**.

[0093] The bathroom **127** can include an electrical conduit **600**, and a junction box **602** operably connected to the electrical conduit **600**. The bathroom **127** can further include a first plumbing ventilation conduit **604** disposed between the sink **556** and the toilet **558**, and a second plumbing ventilation conduit **605** disposed between the sink **556** and the bathtub/shower **560**. The first and second plumbing ventilation conduits **604**, **605** can be configured to ventilate blackwater and greywater plumbing, respectively. The bathroom **127** can still further include a floor drain **606** disposed between the toilet **558** and the bathtub/shower **560**. FIG. **26** is an enlarged view of a portion of FIG. **25**. With reference to FIGS. **25** and **26** together, the bathroom **127** can include vertical gaskets **608** disposed between the respective vertical flanges **514** and corresponding portions of the wall modules **504a**, **504b**. Similarly, the bathroom **127** can include lower tab gaskets **610** disposed between the respective upwardly extending tabs **510** and corresponding portions of the wall modules **504**.

[0094] FIG. **27** is a cross-sectional bottom plan view of the bathroom **127** taken along the line **27-27** in FIG. **21**. As shown in FIG. **27**, the bathroom **127** can include a light fixture **612** attached to the wall module **504c** above the sink **556**. The bathroom **127** can further include an exhaust intake fan **614** attached to the ceiling module **502**. The electrical conduit **600** can extend from the junction box **602** (FIG. **25**) to the light fixture **612**, and from the light fixture **612** to the exhaust intake fan **614**. The first and second plumbing ventilation conduits **604**, **605** can merge and extend along an inner corner between the ceiling module **502** and the wall module **504c** to the plumbing ventilation hookup **530** (FIG. **21**). The bathroom **127** can include an exhaust conduit **616** extending from the exhaust intake fan **614** along an inner corner between the ceiling module **502** and the wall module **504b** to the exhaust hookup **532** (FIG. **21**). Above one end of the tub **578** (FIG. **25**), the bathtub/shower **560** (FIG. **25**) can include a showerhead **618**, a shower cold water knob **620** operably connected to the cold water conduit **588**, and a shower hot water knob **622** operably connected to the hot water conduit **590**. The cold water conduit **588** can include a second branch **624** extending between the riser **592** and the showerhead **618**. The shower cold water knob **620** can be disposed along the second branch **624** and operable to control a flow of cold water from the cold water conduit **588** to the showerhead **618**. Similarly, the hot water conduit **590** can include a second branch **626** extending between the riser **596** and the showerhead **618**. The shower hot water knob **622** can be disposed along the second branch **626** and operable to control a flow of hot water from the hot water conduit **590** to the showerhead **618**. The bathroom **127** can include upper tab gaskets **628** disposed between the respective downwardly extending tabs **512** and corresponding portions of the wall modules **504**.

[0095] FIG. **28** is a cross-sectional top plan view of the bathroom **127** taken along the line **28-28** in FIG. **21**. With

reference to FIGS. **4** and **21-28** together, the floor module **500** can include a skirt **630** and a series of parallel spaced-apart joists **632** within the skirt **630**. The bathroom **127** can include a blackwater drain conduit **634** operably connected to the blackwater drain hookup **535** and the toilet drain **576**. Thus, the toilet **558** can be operably connected to the blackwater tank **148** via the blackwater drain conduit **634** and the blackwater drain line **180**. The blackwater drain conduit **634** can include a branch **635** operably connected to the first plumbing ventilation conduit **604**. The bathroom **127** can further include a greywater drain conduit **636** operably connected to the main greywater drain hookup **541**. The greywater drain conduit **636** can include branches **638** (individually identified as branches **638a-638c**) operably connected to the second plumbing ventilation conduit **605**, the sink drain **564**, and the auxiliary greywater drain hookup **542**, respectively. The greywater drain conduit **636** can further include sub-branches **639** (individually identified as sub-branches **639a**, **639b**) operably connected to the bathtub/shower drain **580** and the floor drain **606**, respectively. Thus, the bathtub/shower drain **580** can be operably connected to the greywater filter **154** via the greywater drain conduit **636** and the greywater drain line **186**. The sub-branches **639c**, **639b** of the greywater drain conduit **636** can include respective traps **640**. Furthermore, the blackwater drain conduit **634** and the greywater drain conduit **636** can include respective caps **642**, such as to facilitate clean-out.

[0096] The bathroom **127** can include wheels **643** (e.g., swivel casters) integrated into the floor module **500**. In the illustrated embodiment, the wheels **643** are embedded within the feet **533** and accessible via inwardly facing openings (not shown) of the feet **533**. The individual wheels **643** can be movable between a retracted state and an extended state. For example, the bathroom **127** can include posts **644** having threads (not shown) that engage corresponding threads (not shown) of the wheels **643** such that the wheels **643** can be rotatably moved between the retracted and extended states. Moving the wheels **643** from the retracted state to the extended state can lift the bathroom **127** off a corresponding floor surface, thereby allowing the bathroom **127** to be conveniently moved along the floor surface.

[0097] The bathroom **127** can further include a main cold water conduit **645** and a main hot water conduit **646** operably connected to the main cold water supply hookup **536** and the main hot water supply hookup **538**, respectively. The main cold water conduit **645** can include branches **648** (individually identified as branches **648a**, **648b**) operably connected to the sink **556** and the bathtub/shower **560** (via the riser **592**), respectively. The main cold water conduit **645** can further include sub-branches **650** (individually identified as sub-branches **650a**, **650b**) operably connected to the auxiliary cold water supply hookup **544** and the toilet **558**, respectively. The main hot water conduit **646** can include branches **652** (individually identified as branches **652a**, **652b**) operably connected to the sink **556** and the bathtub/shower **560** (via the riser **596**), respectively. The main hot water conduit **646** can further include a sub-branch **654** operably connected to the auxiliary hot water supply hookup **546**. The bathroom **127** can still further include a main electrical conduit **656** operably connected to the main electrical hookup **540**. The main electrical conduit **656** can include branches **658** (individually identified as branches **658a**, **658b**) operably connected to the auxiliary electrical

hookup 548 and a floor heating system (introduced below). The main electrical conduit 656 can further include a sub-branch 659 operably connected to the electrical conduit 600.

[0098] FIG. 29 is a cross-sectional bottom plan view of the bathroom 127 taken along the line 29-29 in FIG. 21. As shown in FIG. 29, the bathroom 127 can include a floor heating system 660 operably associated with the deck 554. The floor heating system 660 can include a control box 662 operably connected to the branch 658b of the main electrical conduit 656, and a heating cable 664 operably connected to the control box 662. The heating cable 664 can have a serpentine configuration and be directly connected to an underside of the deck 554 between the joists 632. With reference to FIGS. 21-29 together, the floor drain 606, the blackwater drain conduit 634 (e.g., including its branch 635), the greywater drain conduit 636 (e.g., including its branches 638 and sub-branches 639), the main cold water conduit 645 (e.g., including its branches 648 and sub-branches 650), the main hot water conduit 646 (e.g., including its branches 652 and sub-branch 654), the main electrical conduit 656 (e.g., including its branches 658 and sub-branch 659), the floor heating system 660, and/or other suitable components of the bathroom 127 can be pre-installed components of the floor module 500. Similarly, the supply plumbing for the bathtub/shower 560 (e.g., including the tub faucet 582, the cold water conduit 588, the hot water conduit 590, and the showerhead 618), the light fixture 612, and/or other suitable components of the bathroom 127 can be pre-installed components of the wall module 504c. These and/or other aspects of the bathroom 127 can facilitate rapid deployment, removal, and redeployment of the bathroom 127.

[0099] FIG. 30 is a cross-sectional top plan view corresponding to the portion of FIG. 2 shown in FIG. 3 and showing a real estate unit 700 in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including the interior region 114 in the second state. The real estate unit 700 can include a dock 701 that does not include the blackwater tank 148 (FIG. 4) and the blackwater drain line 180 (FIG. 4) of the real estate unit 126 (FIG. 4). Instead of these components, the real estate unit 700 can include a blackwater drain line 702 extending between the bathroom 127 and an outdoor sewage hookup 704. The blackwater drain line 702 can extend through the exterior wall 104g from the bathroom 127 toward the sewage hookup 704. Furthermore, the blackwater drain line 702 can extend above-floor and then above-ground from the bathroom 127 toward the sewage hookup 704.

[0100] The sewage hookup 702 can be a retrofitted access point to a municipal, septic, or other permanent sewage system serving the house 100 (FIG. 1). In at least some cases, the blackwater drain line 180 connects to the sewage hookup 702 via a quick-connect coupling (not shown). In the illustrated embodiment, the real estate unit 700 (like the real estate unit 126 (FIG. 4)) is configured to recycle greywater. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the real estate unit 700 can be configured to dispose of greywater with blackwater via the sewage hookup 702. For example, a counterpart of the bathroom 127 can be alternatively configured so that a counterpart of the greywater drain conduit 636 (FIG. 28) is combined with a counterpart of the blackwater drain conduit 634 (FIG. 28). In these and other embodiments, the

exterior enclosure 135 can be configured to receive water from the hose bibb 124 and/or configured to receive water in another suitable manner.

[0101] In another embodiment, a counterpart of the real estate unit 126 (FIG. 4) is operably associated with components that reduce or eliminate the need for frequent servicing and/or connections to permanent utilities serving the house 100 (FIG. 1). For example, the counterpart of the real estate unit 126 (FIG. 4) can be operably associated with a high-capacity sewage detention reservoir (not shown) disposed (e.g., removably disposed) outside the interior region 114, a high-capacity cold water reservoir (not shown) disposed (e.g., removably disposed) outside the interior region 114, and/or a high-capacity generator (not shown) disposed (e.g., removably disposed) outside the interior region 114. The high-capacity sewage detention reservoir can be configured for occasional evacuation into a mobile tanker (e.g., a septic system pump truck). Similarly, the high-capacity cold water reservoir can be configured for occasional replenishment from a mobile tanker (e.g., a water supply truck). In these embodiments, with reference to FIG. 4, a counterpart of the dock 142 can be without the blackwater tank 148, the water reservoir 150, the greywater filter 154, and/or the battery 158.

[0102] In the embodiments illustrated in FIGS. 4 and 30, the real estate units 126, 700 are configured at least primarily as lodging and/or residential units. In other embodiments, a counterpart of the real estate units 126, 700 can have another suitable primary use. For example, the counterpart of the real estate units 126, 700 can be a rentable office unit, a rentable assembly unit, and/or a rentable unit of another suitable type. For example, FIG. 31 is a cross-sectional top plan view corresponding to the portion of FIG. 2 shown in FIG. 3 and showing a real estate unit 750 in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including the interior region 114 in the second state. The real estate unit 750 can be configured at least primarily as a rentable office unit. The real estate unit 750 can include office furnishings, such as a workstation 752 removably disposed within the interior region 114. Because privacy tends to be less important for office uses than for lodging and residential uses and/or for other reasons, the real estate unit 750 can be without the exterior enclosure 135 (FIG. 4). Alternatively, a counterpart of the real estate unit 750 can include the exterior enclosure 135 (FIG. 4) or a comparable structure.

[0103] FIG. 32 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit 800 in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including an interior region 802 of a three-car garage 804 in the second state. The garage 804 can include a secondary opening 806 between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118. Like the opening 116, the secondary opening 806 can be sized to permit passage of a car between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118. For example, the secondary opening 806 can have a width within a range from 2 meters to 4 meters. The garage 804 can further include a secondary door track 808 at the secondary opening 806 and a secondary overhead door 810 operably connected to the secondary door track 808. In the illustrated embodiment, rather than being stowed in an open state, the secondary overhead door 810 is stowed in a closed state when the garage 804 is in the retrofitted state. In other embodiments, the secondary overhead door 810 can be stowed in an open state or removed and a counterpart of the real estate unit 800 can include a secondary barrier operably

associated with the secondary opening **806**. The secondary barrier can have some or all of the features discussed above for the barrier **131**. In still other embodiments, the secondary overhead door **810** can remain active (i.e., configured for frequent operation) in the real estate unit **800** rather than being stowed. In still other embodiments, a counterpart of the barrier **131** can overlie both the opening **116** and the secondary opening **806**.

[0104] With reference again to FIG. 32, the real estate unit **800** can be configured at least primarily as a rentable assembly unit. For example, the real estate unit **800** can be configured to accommodate parties, classes, etc. Like the real estate unit **750** (FIG. 31), the real estate unit **800** can be without the exterior enclosure **135** (FIG. 4). Alternatively, a counterpart of the real estate unit **800** can include the exterior enclosure **135** (FIG. 4) or a comparable structure. The real estate unit **800** can include a dock **812** that does not include the trash bin **160** (FIG. 4), the recycling bin **162** (FIG. 4), and the laundry bin **164** (FIG. 4) of the real estate unit **126** (FIG. 4), but is otherwise the same as or similar to the dock **142** (FIG. 4).

[0105] FIG. 33 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit **850** in accordance with yet another embodiment of the present technology including the interior region **802** in the second state. The real estate unit **850** can be configured at least primarily as a combined lodging and rentable office unit. For example, the real estate unit **850** can include both a workstation **752** and a bed **234**. In the illustrated embodiment, the real estate unit **850** further includes partitions **852** that close off the bed **234** during work hours. The partitions **852** can be reusable and removably disposed within the interior region **802** of the garage **804**. In other embodiments, the partitions **852** can be omitted and the portion of the interior region **802** including the bed **234** can be open to other portions of the interior region **802**. In still other embodiments, the bed **802** can be replaced with a sofa bed, a wall bed, or another type of convertible bed that readily transitions between a compact and/or hidden state when not in use and an expanded and/or exposed state when in use.

[0106] FIG. 34 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit **860** in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including an interior region **861** of a detached one-car garage **862** in the second state. The garage **862** can include a side doorway **863** with a removed door. The real estate unit **860** can include a reusable bathroom **864** disposed (e.g., removably disposed) outside the interior region **861**. The bathroom **864** can be similar to the bathroom **127** (FIGS. 21-29) and can include a door **865** aligned with the side doorway **863**. Similar to the barrier **131** (FIG. 5), the bathroom **864** can include a gasket **866** disposed between a wall of the bathroom **864** and an exterior wall of the garage **862**. The gasket **866** can be compressible such that it conforms to irregularities in the corresponding exterior wall of the garage **862** and thereby enhances a weather resistance of a connection between the bathroom **864** and the exterior wall of the garage **862**. The bathroom **864** can further include bolts or clamps (not shown) that secure the connection between the bathroom **864** and the exterior wall of the garage **862**.

[0107] FIG. 35 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit **870** in accordance with another embodiment of the present technology including an interior region **872** of a detached two-car garage **874** in the second state. The garage

874 can include a rear doorway **876** that is not in service. For example the rear doorway **876** can be blocked by the closet **256** of the real estate unit **870**. As with the real estate unit **860** (FIG. 34), the bathroom **864** of the real estate unit **870** can be disposed (e.g., removably disposed) outside the interior region **872**. The real estate unit **870** can include a barrier **878** disposed (e.g., removably disposed) between the interior region **872** and the outdoor area **118** adjacent to the garage **874**. The barrier **878** can be configured to permit ingress to and egress from the interior region **872**. The barrier **878** can also be configured to permit access to the bathroom **864** of the real estate unit **870** from the interior region **872**. For example, the barrier **878** can include an opening **880** aligned with the door **865** of the bathroom **864**. The real estate unit **870** can also include a dock **882** similar to the dock **812** described above with reference to FIG. 32.

[0108] FIG. 36 is a cross-sectional top plan view of a real estate unit **890** in accordance with yet another embodiment of the present technology including an interior region **892** of a detached two-car garage **894** in the second state. The garage **894** can include a side doorway **896** that is in service for providing ingress to and egress from the interior region **892**. Again, the bathroom **864** of the real estate unit **890** can be disposed (e.g., removably disposed) outside the interior region **892**. The real estate unit **890** can include a barrier **898** disposed (e.g., removably disposed) between the interior region **892** and the outdoor area **118** adjacent to the garage **894**. The barrier **898** can be similar to the barrier **878** (FIG. 35) although without a doorway to permit ingress to and egress from the interior region **892**. Rather, as mentioned above, ingress to and egress from the interior region **892** can be via the side doorway **896**.

[0109] FIG. 37 is a block diagram illustrating a method **900** for retrofitting a given garage to form at least a portion of a given real estate unit in accordance with an embodiment of the present technology. For simplicity, the method **900** will be further described primarily in the context of the real estate unit **126** and the garage **102**. It should be understood, however, that the method **900**, when suitable, and/or portions of the method **900**, when suitable, can be practiced with respect to any of the real estate units **126**, **700**, **750**, **800**, **850**, **860**, **870**, **890** and with respect to any of the garages **102**, **804**, **862**, **874**, **894** described above with reference to FIGS. 4-36 as well as with respect to other real estate units and garages in accordance with embodiments of the present technology. With reference to FIGS. 4-29 and 37 together, the method **900** can include leasing the interior region **114** (block **902**) or establishing control of the interior region **114** in another suitable manner. For example, the interior region **114** can be leased from an owner of the garage **102** (e.g., an owner of the house **100**) for provision of lodging, residential space, office space, and/or assembly space, and/or another type of space to third parties.

[0110] In at least some embodiments, the method **900** includes at least substantially reversibly retrofitting the garage **102** to accommodate a non-garage use (e.g., a lodging use, a residential use, an office use, and/or an assembly use) at the interior region **114**. In these and other embodiments, it may be economically feasible to lease the interior region **114** and retrofit the garage **102** with little or no long-term commitment from an owner of the garage **102**. This can be due to the reusability of a significant amount of the capital associated with retrofitting the garage **102** and/or for other reasons. Accordingly, in some embodiments, the

interior region 114 is leased month-to-month. In other embodiments, the interior region 114 can be leased under terms that allow the owner of the garage 102 to terminate the lease with notice of less than one month. In still other embodiments, the interior region 114 can be controlled by an operator of the real estate unit 126 under other lease arrangements, under non-lease contractual arrangements (e.g., franchising), or under fee simple ownership. After direct or indirect control over the interior region 114 is established, the method 900 can include subleasing (or leasing if the garage 102 is owned in fee simple) the interior region 114 to a renter. When the interior region 114 is leased separately from other portions of the house 100, an owner of the house 100 can occupy or otherwise use the other portions of the house 100 while the interior region 114 is leased to third parties. When the interior region 114 is leased together with other portions of the house 100, an operator of the real estate unit 126 can separately lease the interior region 114 as the real estate unit 126 and some or all of the other portions of the house 100 as another real estate unit.

[0111] The method 900 can further include transporting modules (e.g., the bathroom 127, the barrier 131, the wall components 136, and/or the dock 142) to the garage 102 (block 904). Some or all of the modules can be transported in a compact state. For example, the bathroom 127 can be transported in its disassembled state, the barrier 131 can be transported in its folded state, the wall components 136 can be transported in their disassembled states, and/or the shells 408 can be transported in their collapsed states. The method 900 can further include receiving the modules at the garage 102 (block 906). For example, the bathroom 127, the barrier 131, the wall components 136, the dock 142, and/or other suitable components of the real estate unit 126 can be received at the garage 102 in an at least substantially pre-manufactured state.

[0112] After the bathroom 127 is received at the garage 102, the method 900 can include installing the bathroom 127 (block 908), such as by disposing (e.g., removably disposing) the bathroom 127 within or outside the interior region 114. In at least some embodiments, installing the bathroom 127 includes assembling (e.g., at least substantially reversibly assembling) a set of reusable bathroom modules (e.g., the floor module 500, the ceiling module 502, and the wall modules 504) to form an assembly of reusable bathroom modules. For example, the method 900 can include disposing (e.g., removably disposing) the floor module 500 at a suitable location within or outside the interior region 114, and connecting (e.g., removably connecting) the wall modules 504 to the floor module 500 at a perimeter portion of the floor module 500. The bathroom 127 can be disposed within the interior region 114 such that the floor level of the bathroom 127 is at least 0.5 meter higher than the underlying floor level of the interior region 114. The method 900 can further include installing (e.g., removably installing) furnishings within the interior region 114. For example, when the garage 102 is retrofitted for lodging and/or residential use at the interior region 114, the method 900 can include disposing (e.g., removably disposing) lodging and/or residential furnishings within the interior region 114. As another example, when the garage 102 is retrofitted for office use at the interior region 114, the method 900 can include disposing (e.g., removably disposing) office furnishings within the interior region 114.

[0113] The method 900 can also include installing the barrier 131 (block 912). For example, the method 900 can include disposing (e.g., removably and stationarily disposing) the barrier 131 between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118. The barrier 131 can be installed such that a path permitting a renter of the real estate unit 126 to move between the interior region 114 and the outdoor area 118 extends through the opening 116 and through the barrier 131. Installing the barrier 131 can include installing the barrier 131 in an unfolded state. In addition or alternatively, installing the barrier 131 can include at least substantially reversibly assembling a set of barrier modules to form an assembly of barrier modules. In at least some embodiments, installing the barrier 131 includes fastening (e.g., removably fastening) the barrier 131 to the exterior wall 104h. For example, the barrier 131 can be bolted, screwed, and/or clamped to the exterior wall 104h. Installing the barrier 131 can further include forming the first mass of self-leveling material 300, such as integrally along most or all of an overall footprint of the barrier 131. The barrier 131 can then be installed over the first mass of self-leveling material 300. In some embodiments, installing the barrier 131 includes inserting the barrier 131 into the opening 116. In other embodiments, installing the barrier 131 includes overlaying the barrier 131 over the opening 116. For example, installing the barrier 131 can include compressing the gasket 354 between the frame 352 and the exterior wall 104h. In conjunction with installing the barrier 131 or separately, the method 900 can include stowing the overhead door 120 within the interior region 114 in its open state (block 914). In at least some cases, this includes disabling (e.g., reversibly disabling) a control for the overhead door 120.

[0114] As shown in FIG. 37, the method 900 can include installing the dock 142 (block 916). For example, the method 900 can include disposing (e.g., removably disposing) the dock 142 outside the interior region 114. In conjunction with installing the dock 142 or separately, the method 900 can include disposing (e.g., removably disposing) the water reservoir 150, the battery 158, the blackwater tank 148, and/or other suitable modules outside the interior region 114. These modules can be connected (e.g., removably connected) to the dock 142 and/or to other suitable components of the real estate unit 126. For example, the water reservoir 150 and the bathroom 127 can be operably connected via the cold water supply line 182; the toilet 558 and the blackwater tank 148 can be operably connected via the blackwater drain line 180; and the bathtub/shower drain 580 and the greywater filter 154 can be operably connected via the greywater drain line 186. In addition or alternatively, the bathroom 127 and the sewage hookup 704 can be operably connected via the blackwater drain line 702. When the bathroom 127 is operably connected to the blackwater tank 148, establishing this connection can include operating the blackwater drain quick-connect coupling 206 to fluidically connect the bathroom 127 and the blackwater tank 148. Similarly, the electrical quick-connect coupling 208 can be operated to electrically connect the battery 158 and the bathroom 127. In at least some embodiments, the garage 102 is retrofitted for off-grid operation with respect to an electrical supply to the interior region 114 and/or retrofitted for off-grid operation with respect to disposal of blackwater from the toilet 558.

[0115] Operably connecting the bathroom 127 and the blackwater tank 148 can include extending the blackwater

drain line 180 between the bathroom 127 and the blackwater tank 148 such that the blackwater drain line 180 extends above-floor and then above-ground from the bathroom 127 toward the blackwater tank 148. Similarly, operably connecting the bathroom 127 and the sewage hookup 704 can include extending the blackwater drain line 702 between the bathroom 127 and the sewage hookup 704 such that the blackwater drain line 702 extends above-floor and then above-ground from the bathroom 127 toward the sewage hookup 704. In at least some embodiments, installing the dock 142 further includes connecting (e.g., removably connecting) the water reservoir 150 and the hose bibb 124.

[0116] The method 900 can further include installing the exterior enclosure 135 (block 918). In at least some cases, this is part of retrofitting the outdoor area 118 from being a driveway and/or parking area to being the courtyard 134. Installing the exterior enclosure 135 can include forming the second mass of self-leveling material 302, such as integrally along most or all of an overall footprint of the exterior enclosure 135. The wall components 136 can then be disposed (e.g., removably disposed) over the second mass of self-leveling material 302. The second mass of self-leveling material 302 can be formed and the wall components 136 can be disposed at the perimeter portion of the outdoor area 118 to form at least a portion of the exterior enclosure 135. Disposing the wall components 136 can include stacking and/or interlocking the wall components 136. This can be done, for example, while the shells 408 are in an expanded state. Installing the exterior enclosure 135 can further include differentially planting the apertures 402 to form the brand identifier 404. For example, this can be done using a template after all or most of the wall components 136 of the exterior enclosure 135 have been installed.

[0117] FIG. 38 is a block diagram illustrating a method 950 for operating a given real estate unit in accordance with an embodiment of the present technology. As with the method 900, the method 950 will be further described primarily in the context of the real estate unit 126 and the garage 102. It should be understood, however, that the method 950, when suitable, and/or portions of the method 950, when suitable, can be practiced with respect to any of the real estate units 126, 700, 750, 800, 850, 860, 870, 890 and with respect to any of the garages 102, 804, 862, 874, 894 described above with reference to FIGS. 4-33 as well as with respect to other real estate units and garages in accordance with embodiments of the present technology. With reference to FIGS. 4-29 and 38 together, the method 950 can be practiced in connection with providing lodging, rentable residential space, rentable office space, rentable assembly space, and/or another suitable type of space at the interior region 114. The method 950 can include leasing the interior region 114 (block 952) or maintaining control of the interior region 114 in another suitable manner, such as one of the manners described above in connection with establishing control of the interior region 114 in the method 900.

[0118] The method 950 can further include providing renter access to the interior region 114 (block 954), such as through the opening 116 and through the barrier 131. In this way, the method 950 can include providing access to furnishings at the interior region 114 corresponding to the use type. For example, the method 950 can include providing renter access to lodging and/or residential furnishings (e.g., the bed 234) within the interior region 114 when the real estate unit 126 is operated as a lodging and/or residential

unit. As another example, the method 950 can include providing renter access to office furnishings (e.g., the workstation 752) within the interior region 114 when the real estate unit 126 is operated as an office unit. Providing renter access to the interior region 114 can occur by leasing the interior region 114 to the renter, subleasing the interior region 114 to the renter, providing renter access to the interior region 114 through a membership agreement, providing renter access to the interior region 114 through a short-term use arrangement (e.g., a lodging arrangement), and/or providing renter access to the interior region 114 in another suitable manner. The method 950 can further include providing renter access to the bathroom 127 (block 956) and providing renter access to the courtyard 134 (block 958).

[0119] As shown in FIG. 38, the method 950 can include flowing sewage from the bathroom 127 (block 960). For example, the method 950 can include flowing backwater from the toilet 129 toward the blackwater tank 148 via the blackwater drain line 180. As another example, the method 950 can include flowing sewage (e.g., blackwater) from the bathroom 127 toward the sewage hookup 704 via the blackwater drain line 702. As yet another example, the method 950 can include flowing greywater from the bathtub/shower drain 580 toward the greywater filter 154. The method 950 can also include swapping the blackwater tank 148 with a less full counterpart of the blackwater tank 148 to remove sewage from the real estate unit 126 (block 962). This can include operating the blackwater drain quick-connect coupling 206 to disconnect the blackwater tank 148 from fluidic connection with the bathroom 127 and removing the blackwater tank 148 from the dock 142. Swapping the blackwater tank 148 can be at least partially in response to receiving an indication of a fullness of the blackwater tank 148 from the sensor 166a. In at least some embodiments, the method 950 includes operating the real estate unit 126 off-grid with respect to remote disposal of blackwater from the toilet 129.

[0120] The method 950 can further include flowing water toward the bathroom 127 (block 964). For example, the method 950 can include flowing water from the water reservoir 150 toward the bathroom 127 via the cold water supply line 182. Furthermore, the method 950 can include flowing water from the hose bibb 124 toward the water reservoir 150 to replenish the water reservoir 150. The method 950 can also include providing electricity to the interior region 114 (block 966). For example, the method 950 can include powering an appliance within the interior region 114 using the battery 158 via the electrical outlet 176. The method 950 can further include swapping the battery 158 with a less depleted counterpart of the battery 158 to replenish an electrical supply to the real estate unit 126. This can include operating the electrical quick-connect coupling 208 to disconnect the battery 158 from electrical connection with the electrical outlet 176. Swapping the battery 158 can be at least partially in response to receiving an indication of a depleted state of the battery 158 from the sensor 166c. In at least some embodiments, the method 950 includes operating the real estate unit 126 off-grid with respect to an electrical supply to the interior region 114.

[0121] This disclosure is not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the present technology to the precise forms disclosed herein. Although specific embodiments are disclosed herein for illustrative purposes, various equivalent modifications are possible without deviating from the present technology,

as those of ordinary skill in the relevant art will recognize. In some cases, well-known structures and functions have not been shown or described in detail to avoid unnecessarily obscuring the description of the embodiments of the present technology. Although steps of methods may be presented herein in a particular order, in alternative embodiments the steps may have another suitable order. Similarly, certain aspects of the present technology disclosed in the context of particular embodiments can be combined or eliminated in other embodiments. Furthermore, while advantages associated with certain embodiments may be disclosed herein in the context of those embodiments, other embodiments can also exhibit such advantages, and not all embodiments need necessarily exhibit such advantages or other advantages disclosed herein to fall within the scope of the present technology. This disclosure and the associated technology can encompass other embodiments not expressly shown or described herein.

[0122] As a person having ordinary skill in the art will recognize, numerous permutations of the features disclosed herein are within the scope of the present technology. For example, the real estate units **126, 700, 750** can be implemented at the garage **804** instead of the garage **102**. As another example, the real estate units **800, 850** can be implemented at the garage **102** instead of the garage **804**. As yet another example, the bathroom **127** can be tethered for waste disposal and/or water supply to a permanent bathroom (not shown) of the house **100** in a manner similar to the manner disclosed in U.S. Patent Application No. 62/222,750, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. As yet another example, an exterior enclosure **135** can be added to the real estate units **750, 800, 860, 870** and **890**.

[0123] Although features of the present technology are described herein primarily in the context of garages, it should be understood that the same or similar features can be implemented in other suitable contexts. For example, when suitable, a storage space can be substituted for either of the garages **102, 804** in the discussions of the real estate units **126, 700, 750, 800, 850, 860, 870, 890** herein. Potentially suitable storage spaces include, among other examples, drive-up storage units typically used for storage of personal belongings. Retrofitting these and other types of storage spaces for alternative uses in accordance with embodiments of the present technology can include combining multiple individual storage units to form a single real estate unit. As another example, when suitable, a commercial loading space (e.g., a loading dock) can be substituted for either of the garages **102, 804** in the discussions of the real estate units **126, 700, 750, 800, 850, 860, 870, 890** herein. Retrofitting commercial loading spaces for alternative uses in accordance with embodiments of the present technology can include compartmentalizing the loading spaces using reusable wall components. This concept and other concepts relevant to retrofitting commercial loading spaces are discussed in U.S. Patent Application No. 62/154,209, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0124] Certain aspects of the present technology may take the form of computer-executable instructions, including routines executed by a controller or other data processor. In some embodiments, a controller or other data processor is specifically programmed, configured, or constructed to perform one or more of these computer-executable instructions. Furthermore, some aspects of the present technology may take the form of data (e.g., non-transitory data) stored or

distributed on computer-readable media, including magnetic or optically readable or removable computer discs as well as media distributed electronically over networks. Accordingly, data structures and transmissions of data particular to aspects of the present technology are encompassed within the scope of the present technology. The present technology also encompasses methods of both programming computer-readable media to perform particular steps and executing the steps.

[0125] The methods disclosed herein include and encompass, in addition to methods of practicing the present technology (e.g., methods of making and operating physical embodiments of the present technology), methods of instructing others to practice the present technology. For example, a method in accordance with a particular embodiment includes providing renter access to an interior region of a retrofitted garage and providing renter access to a reusable bathroom removably disposed within the interior region. A method in accordance with another embodiment includes instructing such a method.

[0126] Throughout this disclosure, the singular terms “a,” “an,” and “the” include plural referents unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Similarly, unless the word “or” is expressly limited to mean only a single item exclusive from the other items in reference to a list of two or more items, then the use of “or” in such a list is to be interpreted as including (a) any single item in the list, (b) all of the items in the list, or (c) any combination of the items in the list. Additionally, the terms “comprising,” “including,” and the like are used throughout this disclosure to mean including at least the recited feature(s) such that any greater number of the same feature(s) and/or one or more additional types of features are not precluded. Directional terms, such as “upper,” “lower,” “front,” “back,” “vertical,” and “horizontal,” may be used herein to express and clarify the relationship between various structures. It should be understood that such terms do not denote absolute orientation. Furthermore, reference herein to “one embodiment,” “an embodiment,” or similar phrases means that a particular feature, structure, operation, or characteristic described in connection with such phrases can be included in at least one embodiment of the present technology. Thus, such phrases as used herein are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment. Finally, it should be noted that various particular features, structures, operations, and characteristics of the embodiments described herein may be combined in any suitable manner in additional embodiments in accordance with the present technology.

I claim:

1. A method for operating a real estate unit, the method comprising:

providing renter access to an interior region of a retrofitted garage, wherein the retrofitted garage includes a wall between the interior region and an outdoor area, wherein the wall includes an opening having a width within a range from 2 meters to 7 meters, and wherein providing renter access to the interior region includes providing renter access to the interior region through the opening and through a reusable fenestrated barrier stationarily and removably fastened to the wall between the interior region and the outdoor area; and

providing renter access to a reusable bathroom removably disposed within the interior region, wherein the reusable bathroom is portable or an assembly of reusable bathroom modules.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein:

providing renter access to the interior region of the retrofitted garage includes providing renter access to the interior region of the retrofitted garage, which is retrofitted for lodging and/or residential use at the interior region;

the method further comprises providing renter access to lodging and/or residential furnishings within the interior region; and

the lodging and/or residential furnishings include a bed.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein providing renter access to the reusable bathroom includes providing renter access to the reusable bathroom, which has a floor level at least 0.5 meter higher than an underlying floor level of the interior region.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising flowing sewage from the reusable bathroom toward an outdoor sewage hookup via a plumbing drain line of the real estate unit.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein flowing sewage from the reusable bathroom toward the outdoor sewage hookup via the plumbing drain line includes flowing sewage from the reusable bathroom toward the outdoor sewage hookup via the plumbing drain line, which extends above-floor from the reusable bathroom toward the outdoor sewage hookup.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein flowing sewage from the reusable bathroom toward the outdoor sewage hookup via the plumbing drain line includes flowing sewage from the reusable bathroom toward the outdoor sewage hookup via the plumbing drain line, which extends above-floor and then above-ground from the reusable bathroom toward the outdoor sewage hookup.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising flowing sewage from the reusable bathroom toward a sewage tank of the real estate unit via a plumbing drain line of the real estate unit, wherein the sewage tank is removably disposed outside the interior region.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

flowing blackwater from a toilet of the reusable bathroom toward a sewage tank of the real estate unit via a plumbing drain line of the real estate unit, wherein the sewage tank is removably disposed outside the interior region; and

flowing greywater from a shower drain of the reusable bathroom toward a greywater filter of the real estate unit via a greywater drain line of the real estate unit.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising swapping a sewage tank of the real estate unit with a less full sewage tank to remove sewage from the real estate unit.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein swapping the sewage tank includes removing the sewage tank from a dock removably disposed outside the interior region.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising flowing water from a water reservoir of the real estate unit toward the reusable bathroom via a water supply line of the real estate unit, wherein the water reservoir is removably disposed outside the interior region.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising flowing water from a hose bibb of the retrofitted garage toward the water reservoir.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising powering an appliance within the interior region using a battery of the real estate unit via an electrical outlet of the real estate unit, wherein the electrical outlet serves the interior region, and wherein the battery is removably disposed outside the interior region.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising swapping the battery with a less depleted battery to replenish an electrical supply to the real estate unit.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein swapping the battery includes removing the battery from a dock removably disposed outside the interior region.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein swapping the battery includes operating an electrical quick-connect coupling of the dock to disconnect the battery from electrical connection with the outlet.

17. The method of claim 1, further comprising operating the real estate unit off-grid with respect to an electrical supply to the interior region.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising operating the real estate unit off-grid with respect to remote disposal of blackwater from a toilet of the bathroom.

19. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing renter access to a courtyard at the outdoor area, wherein the outdoor area is a former driveway and/or parking area retrofitted for courtyard use.

20. The method of claim 1 wherein providing renter access to the interior region of the retrofitted garage includes providing renter access to the interior region of the retrofitted garage under an overhead door stowed within the interior region in an open state.

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