

A classic American roof in modern materials

## Roofs tell story

One of the most distinguishing features of our residential architecture is the roof. The evolution of roof forms is important in the history of man's quest for shelter.

Early colonists in America

sought refuge in conical huts of branches and turf, pits in the ground with plank walls and sod roofs, and frames covered with skin or bark.

The log cabin, symbol of the American pioneer, came to the country from Sweden later in the seventeenth century.

The first frame houses were constructed about 1610 of crude massive wood timbers with fillings of wattle and clay. Steep gable roofs were covered with thatch straw and reeds.

However, this structure borrowed from medieval England was no match for the severe New England climate and soon house exteriors were covered with long narrow

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