



TRADITIONS TRAINING, LLC.

“COMBAT READY” FIREFIGHTING

FIREGROUND PROVEN TIPS, TECHNIQUES & DRILLS

Fire Engineering®

*** The Cape Cod ***

The Cape Cod style home originated in New England in the 17th Century. Traditionally characterized by a low, broad frame building, generally a story and a half high, with a *steep, pitched roof* with end gables. Homeowners have added roof *dormers* for added light and space on the upper floor, in doing so, create many **“knee walls”**. *Knee Walls* are **open void spaces** and often contain hidden fire that “envelope” firefighters once on the upper floor. *These knee walls MUST get opened up while advancing.*

Tips for the advancing crew

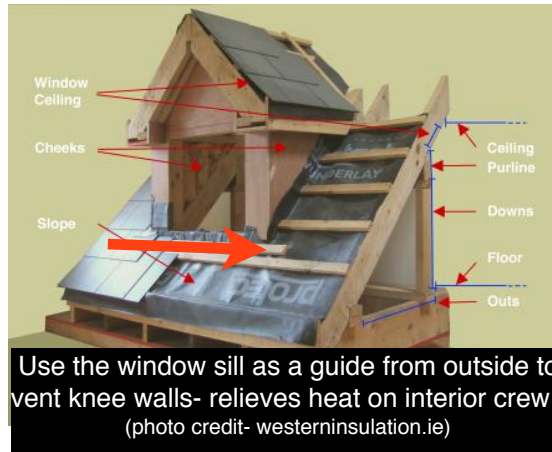
- Punch/Breach hole in walls while going up stairs to second floor
- Holes must be above floor height of the second floor (knee wall)
- Flow water in hole to knock down hidden fire
- Continue to advance, as there will likely be fire in knee walls located throughout the second floor
- Open up remaining knee walls - *any half wall and any vertical wall that runs from floor to slope of roof

Tips for the exterior crew

- Provide reports to interior crews of conditions from outside
- In this situation, it’s likely the “Knee Walls” need venting- NOT the roof
- Ventilate from “dormer to dormer” - from window “sill” to window “sill”
- Ventilation also gained by going through the side of dormer
- Use roof ladders due to steep pitch



2 dormer windows - knee walls showing void space
(photo credit- Haganandhamilton.blogspot.com)



Use the window sill as a guide from outside to vent knee walls- relieves heat on interior crew
(photo credit- westerninsulation.ie)



If needed, open from the side of dormers

(photo credit- kentland33.com)



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