the entire width of the house without intermediate support. These are flattened on the under surface, and taper somewhat toward each end. In the middle they would square 18 inches. Upon these beams the rafters are laid crosswise & upon them the boards of the roof, generally in two lengths, but sometimes running entirely across. The roof boards are gettered and placed alternately with the concave and convex sides up, lapping at the edges. The walls are entirely distinct, being set back from the supports of the roof. They are constructed of boards, placed horizontally, overlapping one another, and supported by poles set inside and out and tied together by wythes. Partitions a few feet high, separate the different families in the house each of which has its own fire in front; the bed places, generally a little elevated being ranged round the sides. On festal occasions all the interior partitions, as well as those separating different houses in the same block are removed, so as to leave the whole interior space clear.

The supports of the roof are generally ornamented with carved figures, some in half, others in almost entire relief, and generally capable of being removed. They represent various objects, as for instance, in the Petalthu lodge, on one, a man in the act of shooting a bear; on another Hohwáss, or the Thunder bird, grasping a bear, in his talons, on a third, the same clutching a man, while above the group two half figures seem to look down upon it. A pair of these posts had figures of huge lizards, united as if their tails were coiled together. They were indented on the back, as if scaled and I was told they represented an animal found in some of the prairie lakes which voided a poison that made the Indians' legs sore. These were formerly demons, but exist now as reptiles. The two were about 10 feet long in the carving. On two horizontal planks were represented fish with numerous fins on the back & with feet. These they said once lived in the deep rivers. They were eight or ten feet long. Elsewhere were rude designs of the mountain goat, others & several human figures, two of a white man. Also some with a huge distorted mask & a head dress of feathers similar to those used in