



THATCH AND THATCHING: A GUIDANCE NOTE

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Thatch is an ancient roofing material with rich regional traditions in England. The lack of an agreed history and the difficulty of the planning system in dealing with thatched buildings are a cause of concern.

Conservation of the legacy of thatch roofing requires a policy which recognises regional diversity, sustains materials and techniques, conserves the character of the area and protects roofs of archaeological importance.

This guidance note explores and promotes these issues in the following sections:

- history of thatch
- types of thatch
- conservaton and maintenance
- building regulations, fire and safety
- developing thatching policies
- addressing thatching issues

Appendices provide guidance on sources of professional advice, thatching design and methods, and undertaking research on thatch.

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