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Thatch And Thatching (Shire Library)



Synopsis

The craft of the thatcher probably gives more pleasure to people than any other of our rural crafts. Thatching is a craft most people know nothing about and which is commonly thought to be dying out. In fact, thatchers in all three materials - water reed, long straw and combed wheat reed - now have an assured livelihood after two centuries of uncertainty. This book outlines the history of thatching in Britain from its use as the commonest form of roofing to the present day and explains how the thatcher works with his traditional materials.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

After reading this book I would not like to try thatching! Not because the works hard or I don't like heights - its just I would not like to go to that amount of effort and still have a roof that leaked!Jacqueline Fearn covers a history of thatch in England with surprises such as smoke-blacken thatch reveiling a practice of only stripping the top weathered layers of thatch as part of the maintenance cycle. There are a series of Black and white photographs showing experts in action and a very detail description of the process. Its a process I'd be happy to leave to the experts though... If you do want to try your own thatch this is a good starting point with a very good bibliography - even mentioning the Dorset Fire and Rescue Service's guide to fare safety in thatched buildings.

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