

### ***Vernacular Buildings***

These small, simple, single or two-storey traditionally constructed houses and buildings are a key part of our rural landscape and shared heritage. The houses are often described as 'cottages', and generally comprise modest homes constructed using local materials and traditional techniques by people without formal training using locally available materials such as thatch, stone, slate, earth, wattle and unsawn timber following long established folk traditions. Their form and orientation reflect local site conditions and climate to maximise comfort for occupants. This has resulted in highly regional styles found in dwellings, outbuildings and field enclosures. Particular house forms, layouts, walling and roofing techniques may be found in one region and not another, for example: lobby-entry farmhouses in the east and direct-entry ones in the west.

Not all modest buildings are Vernacular. Buildings that are the work of professional builders and designers, such as estate buildings (gate lodges, farm buildings and estate worker housing) and social housing (labourer's cottages, land commission houses, etc.) are excluded. While in many cases, the design of these buildings was influenced by vernacular buildings, they are not considered vernacular, as they were designed by architects, and in many cases, built by professional builders.