



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. DATA BASE No. 2368
2. NAME *Tom Collins House* (1907)
3. LOCATION Allen Park, 88 Wood Street, Swanbourne
4. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY
(Firstly) that portion of road reserve and (secondly) that part of Cottesloe Town Lot 368, being part of Crown Reserve 7804 and being part of the land comprised in Crown Land Record Volume 3013 Folio 196 as are marked A and B respectively on Heritage Council of Western Australia survey drawing No. 2368 prepared by Brown McAllister (WA) Pty Ltd.
5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA City of Nedlands
6. OWNER City of Nedlands
7. HERITAGE LISTINGS

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	27/08/1999
	Permanent Entry	05/11/1999
• National Trust Classification:	Classified	10/11/1997
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:		-----
• Register of the National Estate:		-----
8. CONSERVATION ORDER

9. HERITAGE AGREEMENT

10. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Tom Collins House is a relocated single-storey weatherboard cottage typical of those constructed in the Perth metropolitan area during the first decade of the twentieth century. It has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the relocation of *Tom Collins House* was the first to be undertaken in accordance with the principles outlined in the Burra Charter and as such stands as a significant example of such an undertaking in Western Australia;

the place is valued for its association with the writer Joseph Furphy whose book, *Such is Life* (1903) written under his pen name Tom Collins, is regarded as one of the classics of Australian literature. Joseph Furphy built the house and lived there for the remainder of his life;

the place has value to the Australian literary community which considers it to be unique in Australia as a place built by a writer and which has evolved into a significant literary museum as a tribute to that writer;

the interior furnishings by Joseph's daughter-in-law, Mattie Furphy, are highly valued as outstanding examples of metal work of unique design. They are much valued for their contribution to the history of the visual arts in Western Australia and have considerable rarity value;

the place and its collection is considered to be one of the most important literary museums in Australia;

the place is associated with the Fellowship of Australian Writers (WA), the foremost literary association in Western Australia. The place was gifted to the Fellowship by Joseph Furphy's son, Samuel Furphy, to be a memorial to his father;

the place has acquired social significance for its association with many of the state's leading literary figures; and,

the Allen Park location and its boundaries, in particular Clement Street, has some significance for its association with the Furphy family which moved to the area when it was first opened up for development. Joseph Furphy frequently walked through the bush and along the beaches and wrote about his rambles in letters to his family and friends.

The garage and WC have some significance as structures relating to *Tom Collins House* and its history.