

What is it?

A prefab is a temporary bungalow made after World War II. Robert and Ethel Brant lived here with their three children and pet parrot. You can see their photo on the mantelpiece in the living room.

How old is it?

It was built in 1947.

Where did it come from?

This house was one of 46 prefabs on the Finch Lane estate in Amersham. It was made by the Universal Housing Company Ltd in Rickmansworth.

What is it built from?

26 asbestos cement panels, bolted together on a wood and steel frame. This stands on top of a concrete base.

Why is it here at the Museum?

Prefabs weren't made to last forever, so the Finch Lane estate was being demolished to build more modern houses. The Museum wanted one because lots of people remember them.



Home Learning

Imagine

Outside our Prefab is an Anderson shelter. These were air raid shelters used during the Blitz. Can you listen to the sounds of a air raid here? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erMO3m0oLvs> Can you imagine what it would have been like to be squashed inside an Anderson shelter during an air raid? Could you write a letter to a friend telling them about what you can hear and how you feel?

Create

We have found out a lot about the Brant family from the photos that they have left behind. Can you create a photo collage that tells us about your life? Find out more about how photography can help create a story by visiting the world's greatest museums from home <https://artsandculture.google.com/entity/photograph/m068jd?categoryId=medium>

Reflect

World War II would have been a scary time for many children. Some of our favourite books such as *Goodnight Mr Tom* and *Who Stole Pink Rabbit* can help us to understand. The Brant family would have had to be very resilient and they would have been very grateful for their lovely new home. There are many ways that you can build your own resilience by being more grateful. Why not keep a gratitude journal?

Research

The back bedroom of the house belonged to Tommy and Jane Brant. Imagine this is your room. What toys do you think you would play with? Are they like your toys? Can you find out what toys your (grand) parents played with? How are they different from your toys today? Can you design and make a game for your whole family to play? Use this visual history to help you <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDAPaEvr1Hk>

