

Space Management

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Well maintained, vibrant and active locations will often be perceived to be safer and have lower crime rates than areas that are poorly maintained. The ongoing management of a space sends cues about guardianship and who are legitimate users. Consequently, space management is an important feature of crime prevention through environmental design.



Communicating about acceptable behavioural standards can be a way of promoting particular behaviour and managing a space. Some methods promote positive images, while others are more legalistic.



Murals and artwork add to the feel of an area. Murals can also be used to prevent graffiti. These two images show both permanent (left image) and temporary (right image) murals. These murals / artwork draw people into these locations and give a positive feel to the area.



Left: Providing facilities to properly secure bicycles can promote movement through an area. In this case, there are no facilities and the positive benefits of cycling are negated by the prohibition of securing your bike to the fence.

Far Left: Cultural icons and images can also create a positive sense of place for communities.



The use of climbing vines and murals serves to protect this site from graffiti.

Well maintained garden beds and civic places promote a sense of guardianship in an area.

Street performers can establish a pleasant mood within public places.



Markets and street fairs can activate areas and promote a sense of community culture.

Playgrounds and other activity generators can promote surveillance, enable connections amongst residents and can influence the behaviour of people in the vicinity.

Street art can add to the atmosphere of an area and draw people into particular locations.