



7.6 In the suburban English village where this can be found, it is known locally as the 'Great Wall of ...'. Is this the ultimate marking of territory for an English housing area? Behind this wall is simply another house, large certainly, and without doubt the occupant has more money than most – at least enough to totally ignore the neighbours' feelings!

overall, but that perhaps instead it is simply moved from one area to another. Second, there is some evidence that the perception of the police and of the public may be out of step with that of the criminals (Ham-Rowbottom, Gifford and Shaw 1999). A study has shown that the cues used by police and public are fairly similar, but that burglars may pay attention to some other features of properties when choosing where to practise their crimes. There is also a potential conflict here between the provision of physical barriers around territories and the need to provide the visibility that affords publicly defensible space. In fact, the main finding of virtually all empirical work on defensible space ideas in relation to crime and security suggests the need for openness and visibility. In particular, what is now called 'road surveillability' in the jargon is seen as extremely important in fighting crime. Actual barriers such as walls and fences, whilst increasing the difficulty of invasion and further expressing territorial identity, may often paradoxically increase the vulnerability of a dwelling to burglary. Not only does this decrease public surveillance, but it may also increase the perceived