

## C.3 Through the Looking-Glass

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Difficulty: Medium

cisra Puzzle Competition 2008  
<http://puzzle.cisra.com.au>

The clues so far lead you to believe that Carol is referring to a construction site in the area. It's a controversial new shopping centre development which has been progressing at an incongruous rate. And it lies only a few blocks away from your place. You lock the door as you leave, taking the camera with you.

Along the way you encounter several disturbing sights: a man crawling along a footpath, a child walking in circles furiously licking a lollipop stick where nothing remained, and a woman in the park attempting to feed some pigeons the entire contents of her handbag. But Carol is in trouble, so you shake off your feelings of unease and increase your pace.

The looming shapes of cranes, scaffolding and the twisted walls of the building site appear in front of you. Some individual shops have started to be fitted out, but the development is still surrounded by a wire fence with a locked gate.

Looking around for a way to enter the site, you eventually discover a gap in the fence, beyond which is a series of metal stakes, each topped with a plastic green crate. The scene is oddly familiar. Scrolling through the photos on Carol's camera, you realise where you've seen it before: the camera holds a landscape photo of this very spot.



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