



A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS

These images, all photographed from Google Street View, were taken by placing a camera on a tripod in front of a computer screen in Paris. Google Street View is a technology that displays images taken by a fleet of specially adapted cars, providing online panoramic views of different places around the globe. Since its launch in May 2007, it has expanded from just a few cities in the US to cover a range of locations worldwide. The technology has raised privacy issues, although Google maintains that photos are taken from public property, that features can be blurred on-screen and that users can flag inappropriate or sensitive imagery for Google to remove. The service was nevertheless suspended in a number of countries, including Austria, Australia and the Czech Republic, as a result of objections on privacy grounds. Italy asked Google to give its citizens notice before starting mapping operations, and, in November, Germany became the first country to negotiate an opt-out before the service went live, with almost 250 000 Germans requesting their properties be pixelated.



