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dictionary

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English
Language



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pre·cinct  (prē sĭngkt')

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n.

1.

a. A subdivision or district of a city or town under the jurisdiction of or patrolled by a specific unit of its police force.

b. The police station situated in and having jurisdiction over such a district.

2. An election district of a city or town.

3. often **precincts**

a. A place or enclosure marked off by definite limits, such as walls: *the mysterious precincts of the old monastery.*

b. A boundary: *Hunting is not allowed within the precincts of the estate.*

4. **precincts** The neighborhood or surrounding area; the environs.

5. often **precincts** An area of thought or action; a province or domain: *"It was in these spacious precincts that Dryden's imagination was most at home" (Mark Van Doren).*

[Middle English *precincte*, a defined district or area, from Medieval Latin *praecinctum*, from Latin, neuter past participle of *praecingere*, to encircle : *prae-*, *pre-* + *cingere*, to gird; see **kenk-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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