

8. SITE PREPARATION and SETTING OUT

1. Task Organization.

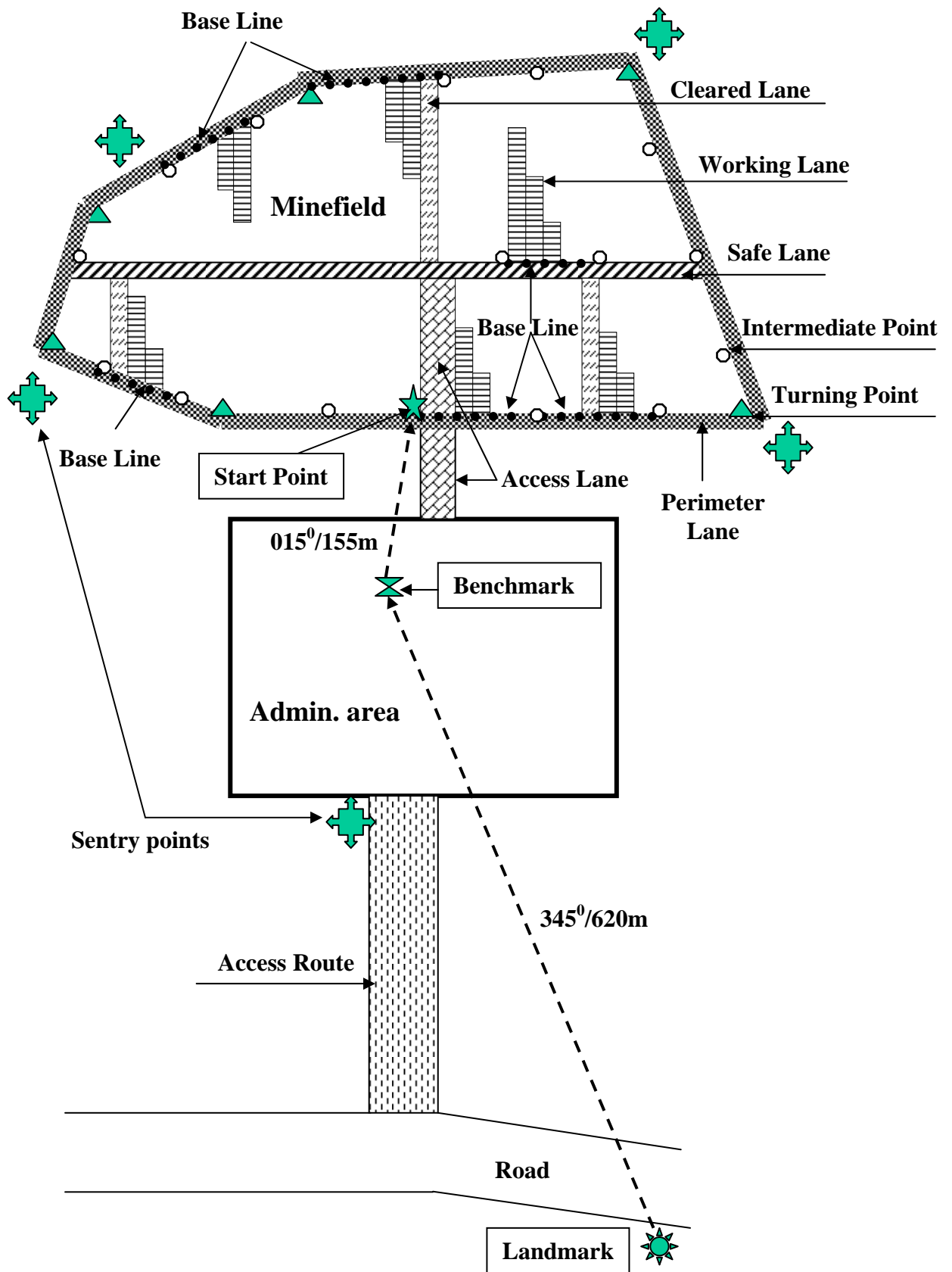
The ground will determine the layout of any work site, but in all cases the conduct of the task will be dictated by the principles of operations. All areas will be established and clearly marked for each work site.

For minimum distances, see chapter *Safety* contained in these standards.

2. Site Reference Points and Lanes

- *Access Lane.* A wide lane that permits entry in to the minefield. The access lanes are to be a minimum of two (2) meters wide.
- *Base Line.* A line related to fixed reference points (start point, turning point or reference point) forward of which all demining occurs. A minefield could consist of several base lines, from different directions.
- *Benchmark.* A fixed reference point outside the minefield, from which all measurements to the start point are made. This point has known coordinates that have been ascertained during the survey.
- *Cleared Lane.* A lane that has been cleared of all mines and UXO.
- *Intermediate Lane.* See: Safe Lane
- *Intermediate Point.* Intermediate reference points (in the form of a marker) are to be used between turning points to ensure that the direction between points is a known fixed line that can be easily and accurately followed.
- *Landmark.* A permanent fixed feature or building outside the minefield, which has known coordinates and is easy to identify on the ground. Used in conjunction with a benchmark to locate the start point of a minefield perimeter.
- *Perimeter Lane.* A lane parallel to the minefield perimeter that has been cleared of all mines and UXO. The perimeter lane is to be a minimum of two (2) meter wide.
- *Safe Lane.* A lane, perpendicular to the working lanes, that has been cleared of all mines and UXO, and will be used as emergency exit in case of an accident and in the case as an intermediate lane when needed. The safe lane is to be a minimum of two (2) meter wide.
- *Start Point.* The first reference point on the perimeter of a minefield that has been surveyed in from the benchmark. It has known coordinates, should be a clearly identifiable fixed marker and is that point from which all minefield measurements are taken.
- *Turning Point.* A surveyed reference point on the perimeter of a minefield where there is as change in direction. This point has known coordinates and is related by magnetic bearings and distance to either an earlier turning point or intermediate point.
- *Working Lane.* The lane where clearances team is working.

Figure 1. Plan view of Site Reference Points and Lanes



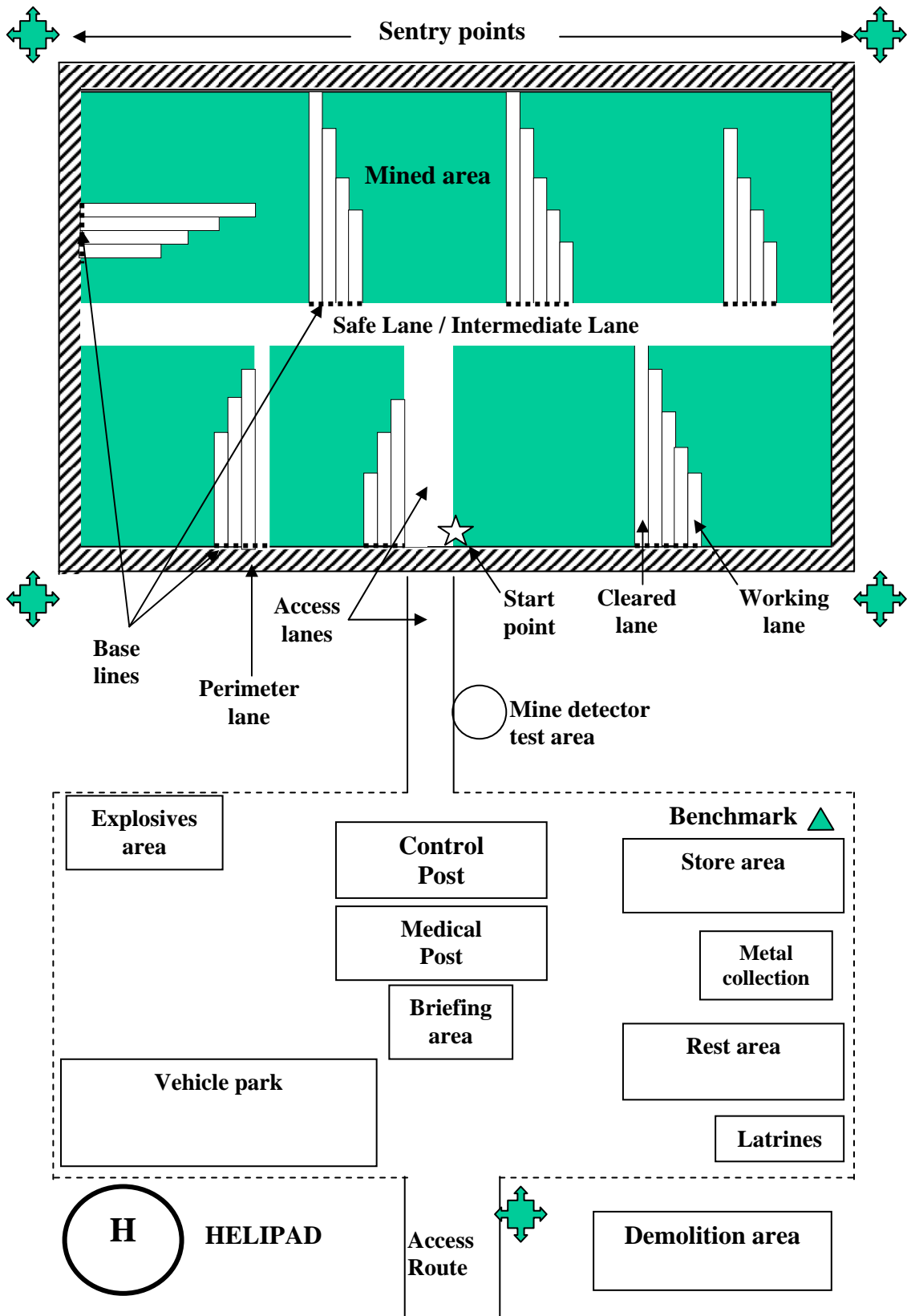
3. Designated Areas

All areas in a work-site that are outside a known contaminated area will be verified and marked prior to use, to ensure they are free of mines.

For minimum distances, see chapter *Safety* of these standards.

- *Access Routes*. All access routes must be clearly marked and be a minimum of two (2) meters wide.
- *Briefing area*. This is the area where all visitors should arrive.
- *Control Post*. A command post from which the site commander controls the operation. The control post must have communication with nearest higher and emergency facilities.
- *Demolition Area*. A location cleared for the disposal, by explosive demolition, of mines and munitions.
- *Explosives Area*. When not in use all explosives will be stored in an explosive storage area. Explosives and accessories must be kept dry, shaded and within a sandbag wall. The explosive area should preferably be sited between the administration area and the minefield.
- *HELIPAD*. A verified, prepared and marked area accessible by vehicles, used for helicopter evacuation CASEVAC (HELEVAC).
- *Latrine*. To prevent people inadvertently straying into unverified areas, and for hygiene purposes, a latrine should be designated for each clearance area. Latrines will be located in the vicinity of the rest area. They should be adequate for the number of personnel on the site.
- *Medical Post*. A static medical post normally co-located with the control post. The medical post should be flat, dry and shaded, and be easily accessible with a stretcher case from the minefield. A paramedic should manage the medical post at all times during clearance operations, and must ensure that the post is properly equipped at all times.
- *Metal Collection Area*. This should be at a convenient location away from the mined area. All metal removed from the mined area should be placed within the metal collection area.
- *Mine detector test area*. An area free of metal, used for checking metal detectors.
- *Rest Areas*. Rest areas are to be used by deminers during their breaks. Sufficient space should be allowed for resting and preparation of equipment. The area should be dry and shaded if possible.
- *Sentry Points*. Will be sited at all mine clearance sites and areas, particularly on route, road and verge clearance tasks. Sentry personnel must be able to communicate with the nearest higher and regular communication checks are to be made. Actions to be taken by sentry personnel if animal/civilian enter into the minefield, or if an accident or explosion occurs in the minefield are to be detailed in the SOPs.
- *Stores Area*. Where all equipment is securely stored. Usually part of, or adjacent to the Control Post.
- *Vehicle Park*. This should be convenient to the Control Post and large enough to accommodate the clearance organization's vehicles and visitor's vehicles. All vehicles should be reversed into the park so they do not have to maneuver to depart in the event of an emergency.

Figure 2. Plan view of typical administration area layout



4. Setting out the Perimeter Lane

Where possible, existing safe areas such as verified roads, paths, cultivated land etc. should be utilized as a perimeter lane. However, whenever a perimeter lane is to be set out, it must be cleared and marked to a minimum of two (2) meters in width.

If no survey has been conducted and consequently no perimeter lane has been set out, a safe area must be established and used as a base line

Treat all areas as suspect and ensure that the site is cleared prior to use. Establish an access lane from the vehicle-park to the minefield and check this lane every morning as part of normal routine.