

4.8 Directional and Informatory Signs

4.8.1 Directional signs are those signs which provide information as to the route to be followed to reach a particular destination. Informatory signs, in the context of this section, are signs which provide information as to places of interest to road users, such as car parks.

4.8.2 Generally only in the larger private estates will directional or informatory signs be necessary, however providing such signs do not obscure other traffic signs, whether regulatory or warning, owners of private roads may erect directional or informatory signs as they think fit. The only stipulation is that such signs should be designed in accordance with the requirements of this section.

4.8.3 All directional and informatory signs described by this section, must unless otherwise stated in this section accord with the following :-

- (i) Colour of border - blue
- (ii) Colour of background - white
- (iii) Colour of symbols, letters, numerals, and characters - black
- (iv) All letters and numerals to be in the Transport Heavy Alphabet
- (v) All Chinese characters to be in the Gothic Style

4.8.4 The basic design parameters for directional and informatory signs is the "x height", which is equal to the height of the lower case "x", and the stroke width (s/w) which is one-quarter of the "x height" value.

4.8.5 The "x heights" to be used for directional and informatory signs on private roads should be in accordance with Table 4.8.1

Table 4.8.1
Appropriate x heights for
Directional and Informatory Signs

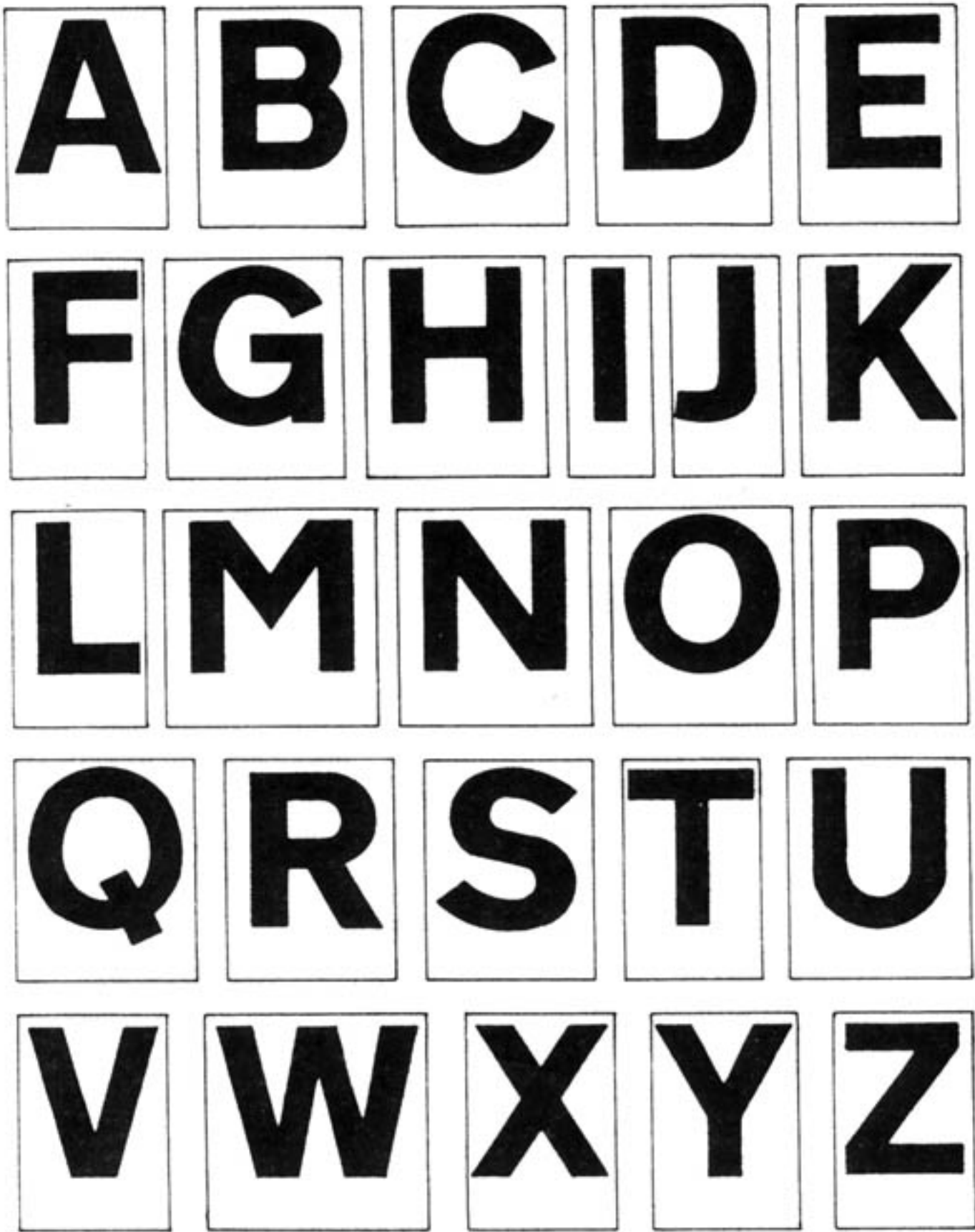
	<u>x ht.</u>		<u>Appropriate</u>
	<u>mm</u>		<u>Use</u>
i)	20)	
ii)	25)	For pedestrian signs
iii)	37.5)	
iv)	50)	
v)	62.5)	For signs providing
vi)	75)	information for drivers

4.8.6 For both pedestrian and vehicular signs it is always preferable for the larger of the 'x heights' shown in Table 4.8.1 to be used, but where this would result in the overall sign size being too large to be able to erect in the appropriate location a smaller 'x height' may be utilised.

4.8.7 Diagrams 4.8.1 to 4.8.5 illustrate, letters, numerals, punctuation marks, and tile proportions, for the Transport Heavy Alphabet.

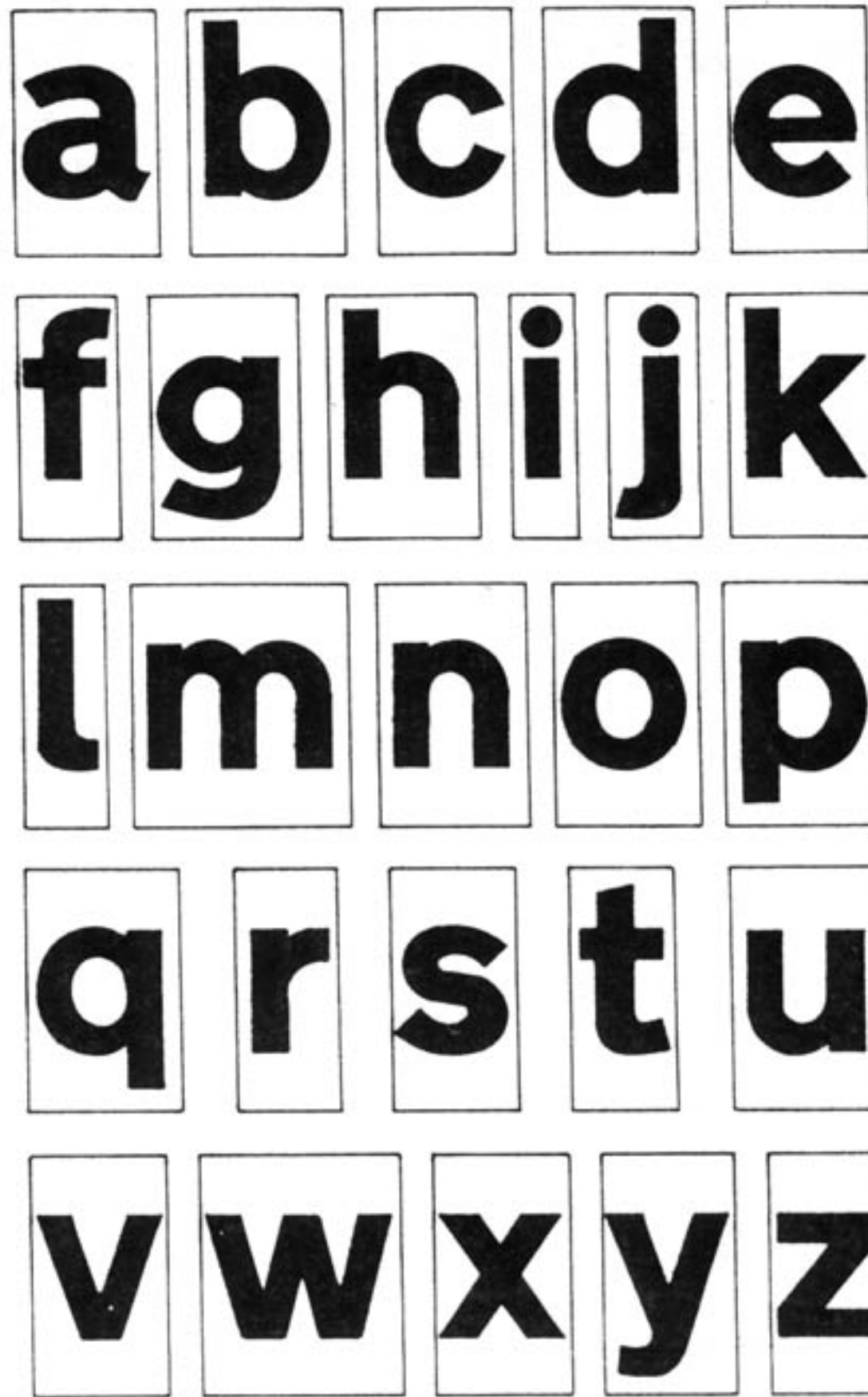
4.8.8 Letters and numerals are arranged in tile form which when butted together to form words automatically provide the correct spacing required. Tile heights are twice the 'x height', that is using an x height of 25mm would mean the height of all tiles for that sign would be 50mm. Tile widths are found by multiplying the x height by the percentage for each letter or numeral as given in Table 4.8.2. For example the width of the tile for the upper case letter A at a x height of 75mm would be 75 times 1.42, that is 106.5mm.

4.8.9 When 'T' 'U' or 'Y' are followed by 'a', 'e', 'g', 'o', 'r', 's', 'u', 'w' or 'y', narrower tile widths are required, and to obtain the correct widths the smaller percentages indicated in brackets in Table 4.8.2 must be used. When the upper case 'W' is followed by another upper case letter the larger percentage shown in brackets in Table 4.8.2 must be used to determine the tile width.



TRANSPORT HEAVY UPPER CASE ALPHABET

DIAGRAM 4.8.1



TRANSPORT HEAVY LOWER CASE ALPHABET

DIAGRAM 4.8.2

1 2 3 4

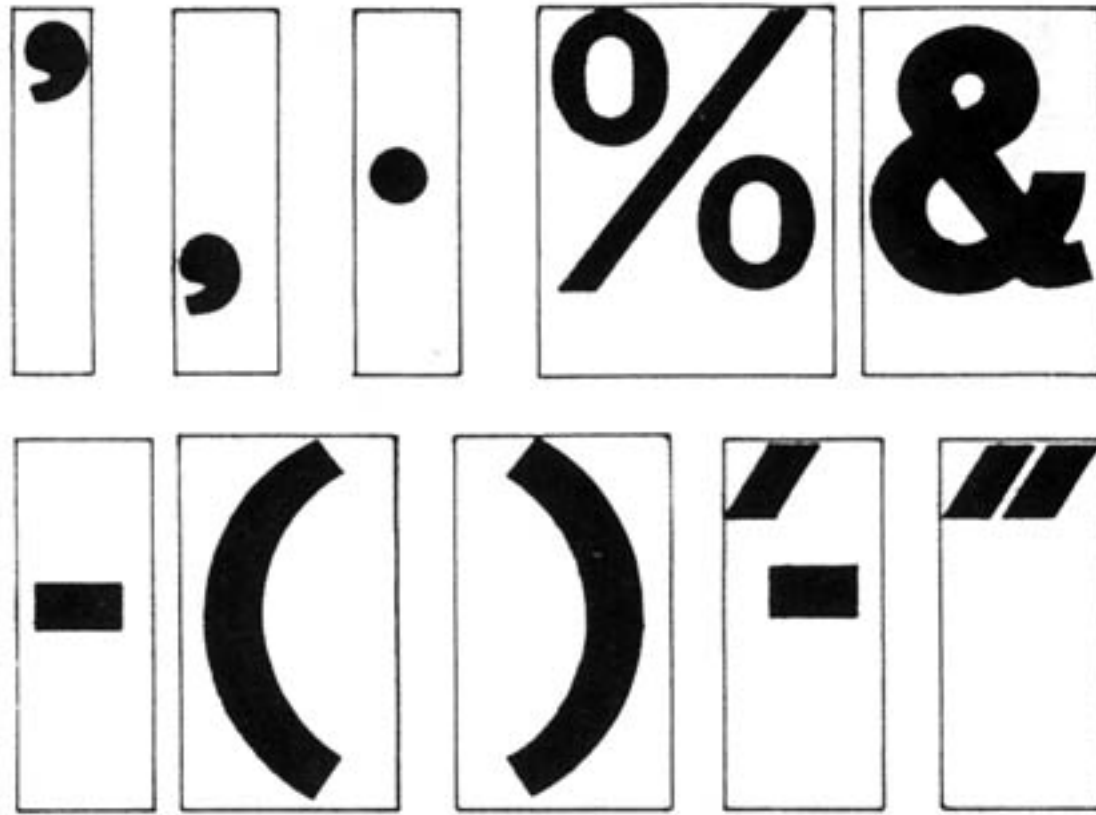
5 6 7 8

9 0

1₂ 1₄ 3₄

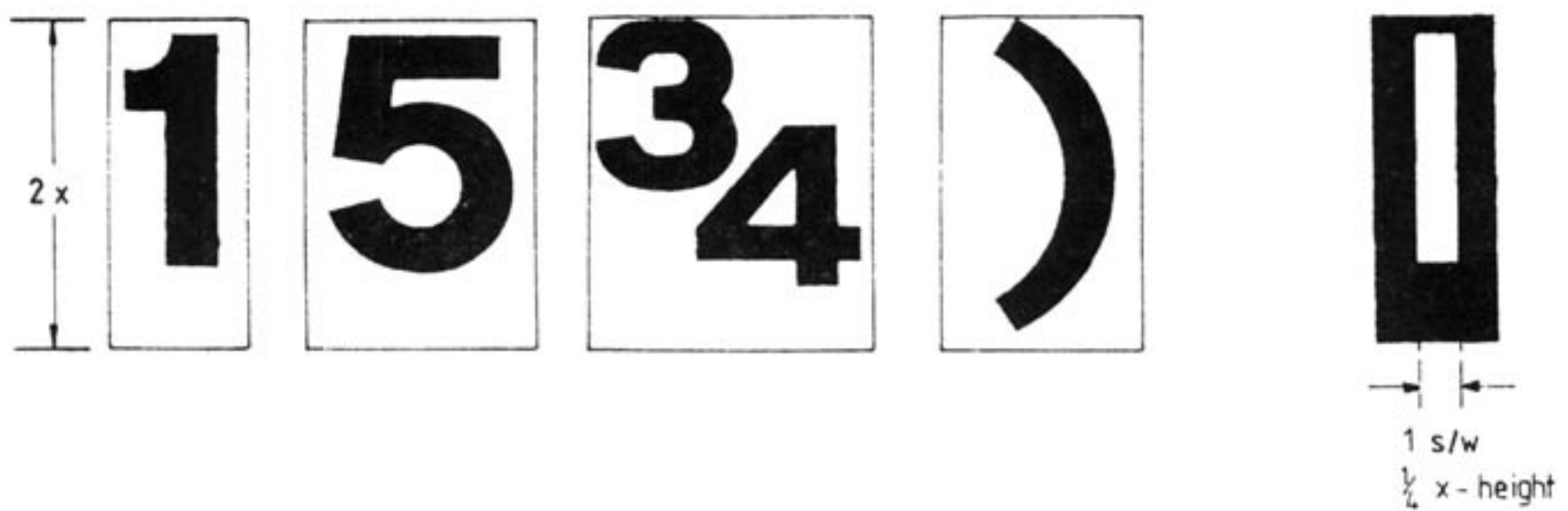
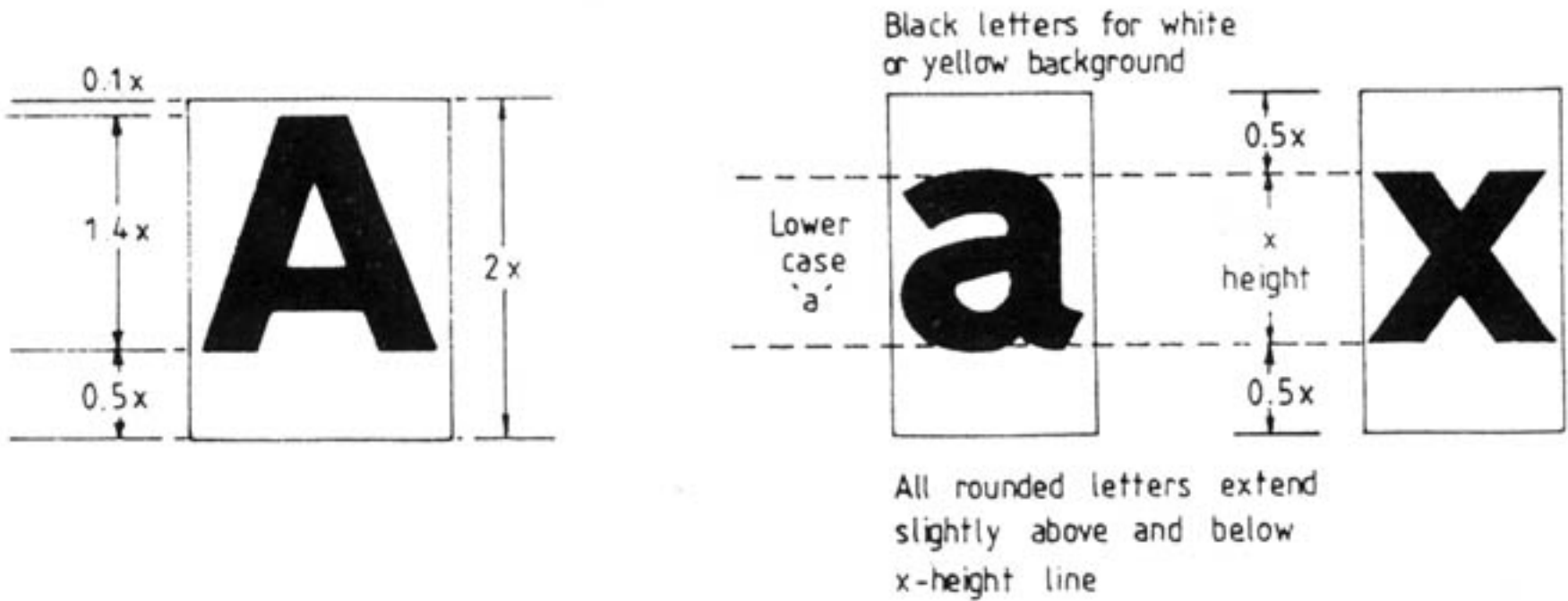
TRANSPORT HEAVY NUMERALS

DIAGRAM 4.8.3



TRANSPORT HEAVY PUNCTUATION MARKS

DIAGRAM 4.8.4



TILE PROPORTIONS

DIAGRAM 4.8.5

Table 4.8.2

TILE WIDTHS FOR TRANSPORT HEAVY ALPHABET

<u>Upper Case</u>		<u>Lower Case</u>		<u>Numerals and Fractions</u>		<u>Punctuation Marks etc.</u>	
<u>Letter</u>	<u>% of height</u>	<u>Letter</u>	<u>% of height</u>	<u>Numeral</u>	<u>% of height</u>	<u>Mark</u>	<u>% of height</u>
A	142	a	111(104)	1	84	-	71
B	146	b	107	2	125	.	56
C	151	c	107	3	136	,	41
D	150	d	119	4	138	(115
E	136	e	110(103)	5	130)	115
F	121	f	79	6	129	,	56
G	156	g	117(110)	7	107	/	88
H	159	h	119	8	138	"	92
I	73	i	55	9	129	%	160
J	95	j	71	0	145	&	126
K	138	k	114				
L	118	l	63				
M	186	m	173	1/4	130		
N	168	n	119	1/3	136		
O	158	o	115(107)	1/2	136		
P	134	p	120	2/3	172		
Q	161	q	120	3/4	162		
R	148	r	80(67)				
S	146	s	100(98)				
T	118(113)	t	84				
U	157	u	120(107)				
V	133(127)	v	107				
W	193(196)	w	160(154)				
X	130	x	110				
Y	128(125)	y	106(104)				
Z	119	z	93				

Note : see paragraph 4.8.9 regarding figures in brackets

4.8.10 Chinese characters are also related to "x height" and as indicated in Diagram 4.8.6, the height of each character is 2.25 times the "x height". Tile widths and heights are also related to "x height" values but for convenience Table 4.8.3 provides the appropriate dimensions according to the 'x height' being used.

Table 4.8.3

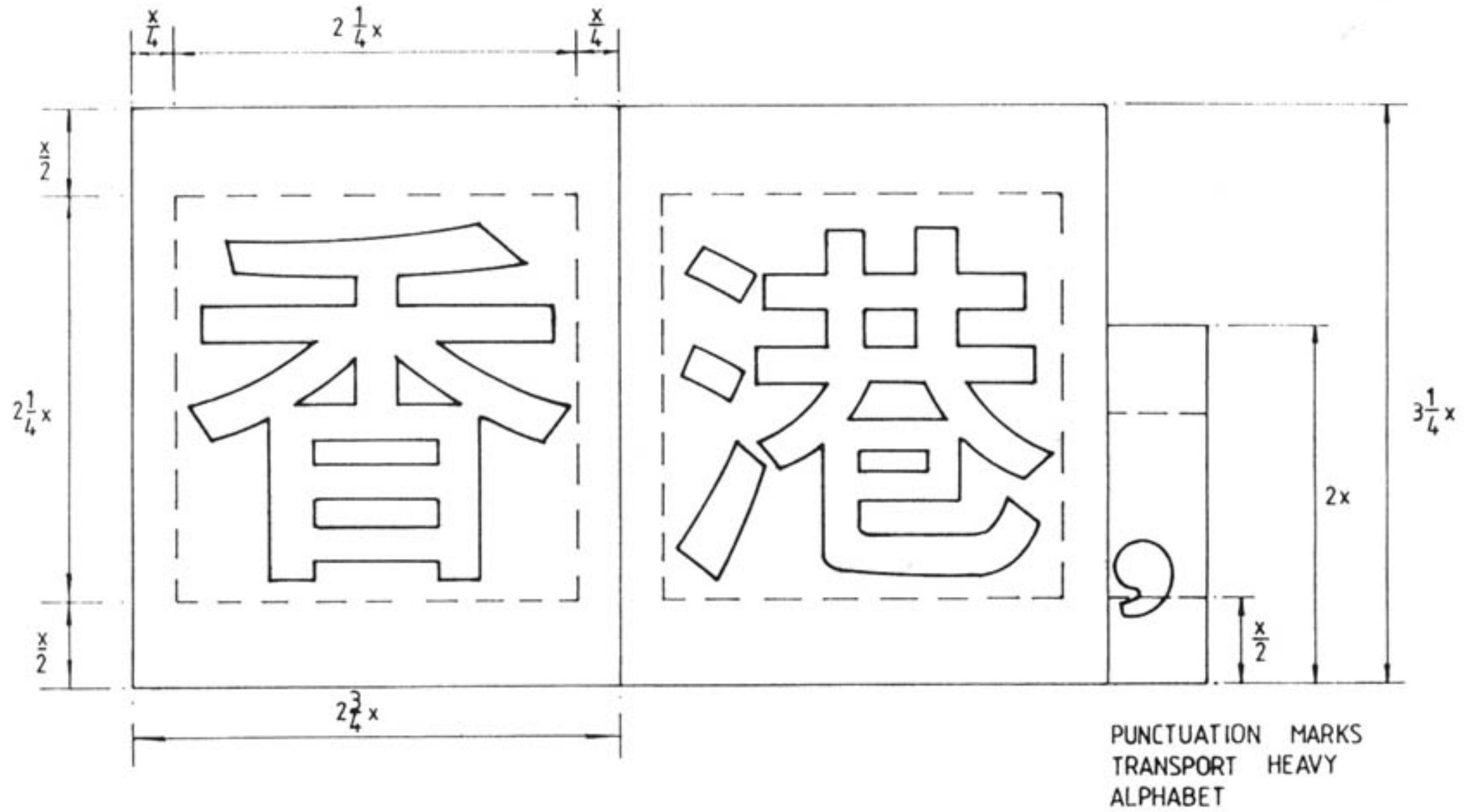
Tile heights and widths for Characters

<u>"x height"</u> <u>(mm)</u>	<u>Tile Height</u> <u>(mm)</u>	<u>Tile Width</u> <u>(mm)</u>
20	65	55
25	81	69
37.5	122	103
50	163	138
62.5	203	172
75	244	203

4.8.11 Words are formed by butting up individual tiles to each other. The equivalent Chinese, which must read from left to right, is formed from tiles butted together, and up to the appropriate English tiles which should be positioned immediately above the characters as illustrated in Diagram 4.8.7.

4.8.12 Spaces between individual words on the same line; the position of that line in relation to the sign as a whole; and, border widths and radii; are all determined according to appropriate stroke width values. Table 4.8.4 gives the actual dimensions for particular stroke widths according to the 'x height' being used.

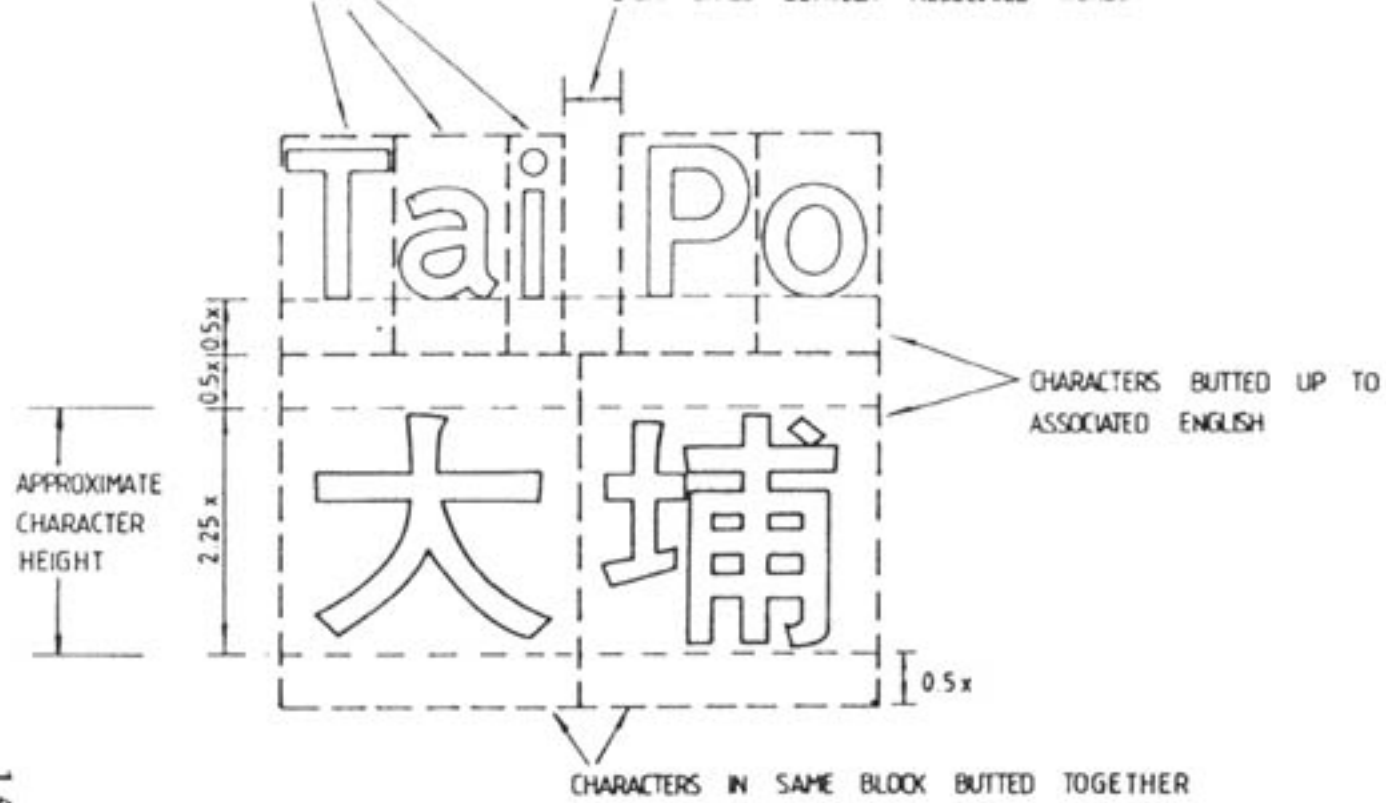
4.8.13 Basic stroke width dimensions for the width the and radii of sign borders are given in Table 4.8.5, and are further illustrated in Diagram 4.8.8.



X DENOTES X-HEIGHT

EXAMPLES OF GOTHIC CHARACTERS AND TILE DIMENSIONS

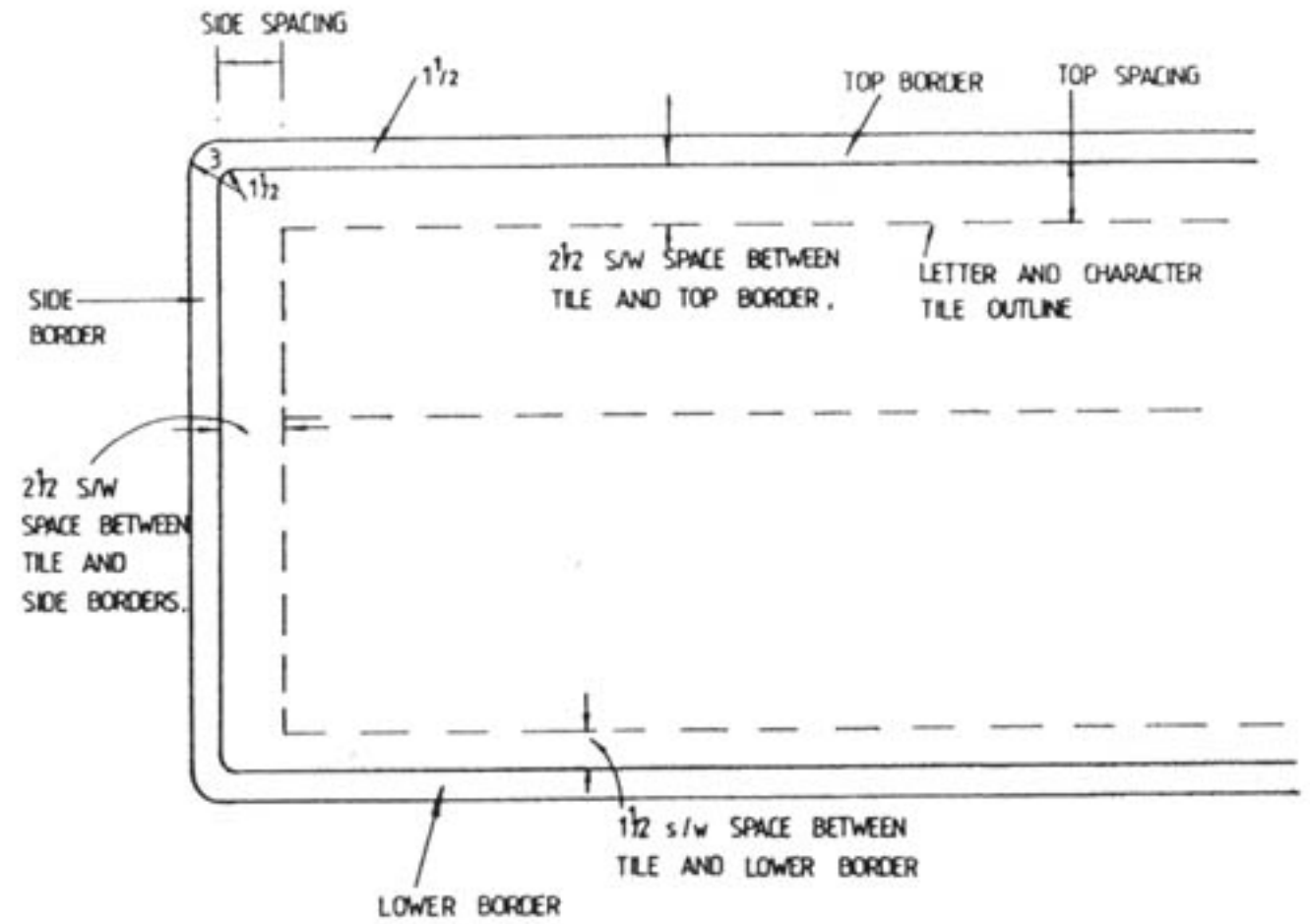
LETTER TILES BUTTED TOGETHER TO FORM A WORD
 2 s/w SPACE BETWEEN ASSOCIATED WORDS



BLOCK ASSEMBLY

DIAGRAM 4.8.7

DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS



TILE AND BORDER SPACINGS

DIAGRAM 4.8.8

DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS

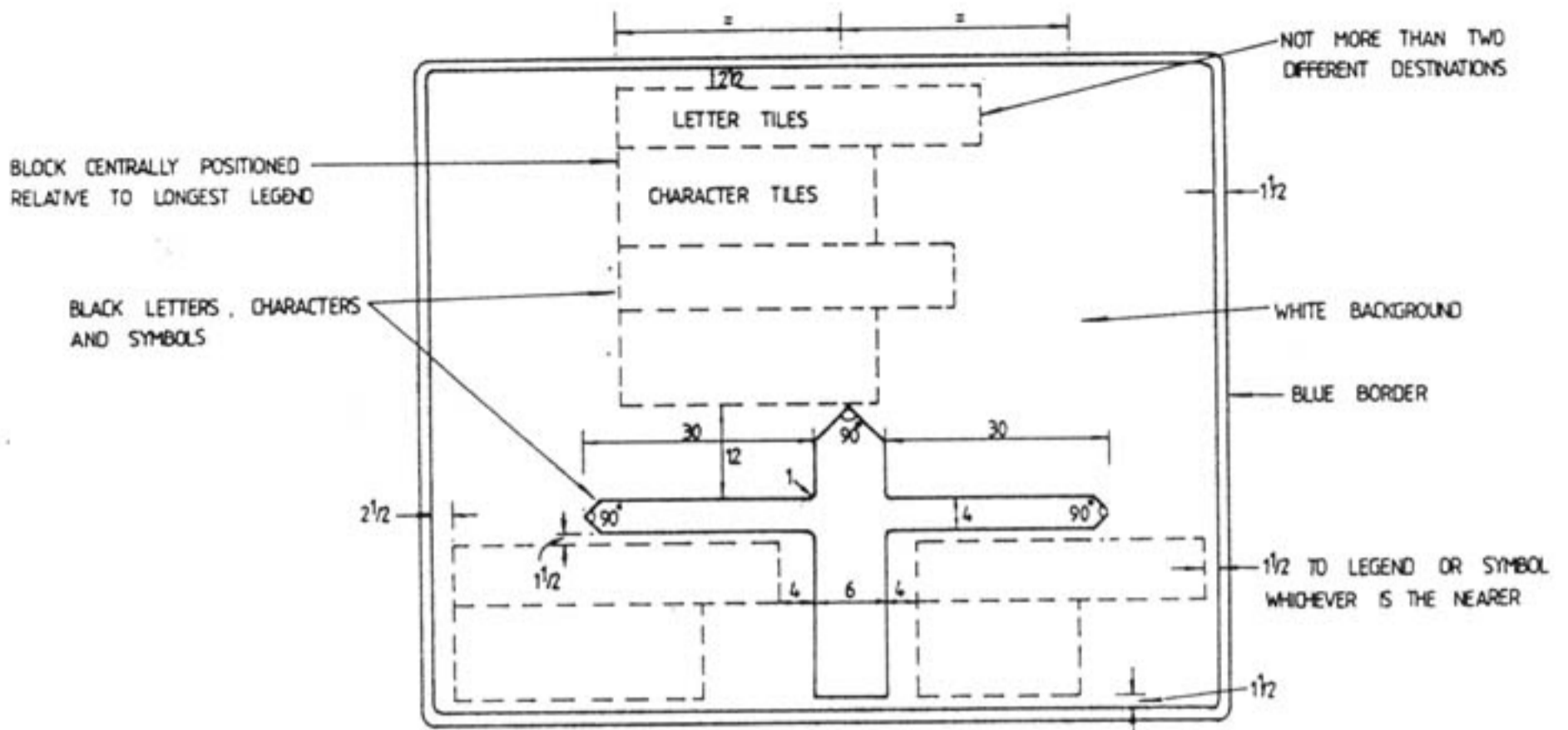
Table 4.8.4
STROKE WIDTH DIMENSIONS ACCORDING TO 'x' - HEIGHT
'x' - height

<u>s/w</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>35.7</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>62.5</u>	<u>75</u>
	<u>s/w dimensions (mm)</u>					
1/4	1	2	2	3	4	5
1/2	3	3	5	6	8	9
3/4	4	5	7	9	12	14
1	5	6	9	13	16	19
1 1/2	8	9	14	19	23	28
2	10	13	19	25	31	38
2 1/2	13	16	23	31	39	47
3	15	19	28	38	47	56
4	20	25	38	50	63	75
5	25	31	47	63	78	94
6	30	38	56	75	94	113
7	35	44	66	88	111	131
8	40	50	75	100	125	150
9	45	56	84	113	141	169
10	50	63	94	125	156	188
12	60	75	113	150	188	225
14	70	88	131	175	223	263
16	80	100	150	200	250	300
18	90	113	169	225	281	338
20	100	125	188	250	313	375
30	150	188	281	375	469	563

Table 4.8.5
Border Widths and Corner Radii

- (i) Border width 1 1/2 s/w
- (ii) Internal corner radii 1 1/2 s/w
- (iii) External corner radii 3 s/w

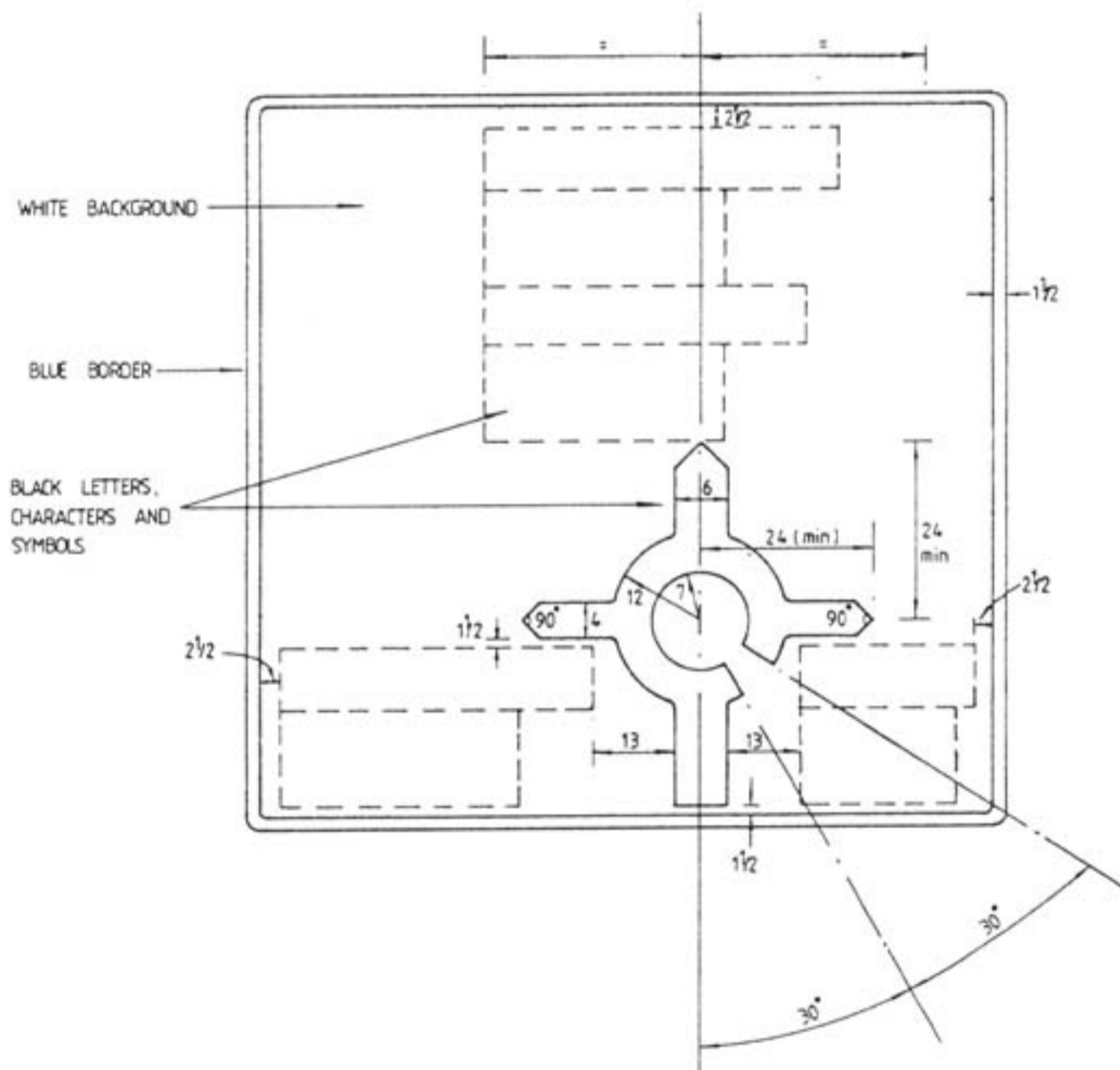
- 4.8.14 Letters and Chinese characters are normally positioned centrally one above the other to form a complete block. There should be a space, between any block, or symbol, whichever is the closest to the border of 2 1/2 s/w for the top border, 2 1/2 s/w for the side borders, and 1 1/2 s/w for the lower border, as indicated in Diagram 4.8.8.
- 4.8.15 Where two words are on the same line they should be separated by a space of 2 s/w as indicated in Diagram 4.8.7, and where a numeral has an associated letter there should be a space of 1 s/w as also indicated on this Diagram. These particular rules in this paragraph only apply to letters and numerals and not characters.
- 4.8.16 When forming words on the same line, generally the first letter of the first word should be in upper case, with the remaining letters, including the first letter of other words being lower case, e.g. "Shopping centre". The exception to this is in proper names where the first letter of each word will be in upper case letters.
- 4.8.17 The actual design of any sign will depend on the information required to be put on that sign, however Diagrams 4.8.9 to 4.8.27 provide common design details for particular sign types, which will also be appropriate for other signs that might be required along private roads.
- 4.8.18 It should be noted that for the Parking Direction Signs there is an exception in respect of paragraph 4.8.3 (iii) which states that all symbols should be black, in that the parking symbol is a white 'P' on a blue background, see Diagrams 4.8.15 to 4.8.19. Similarly, for directional signs for the disabled, Diagrams 4.8.22 and 4.8.23, a white symbol on a blue background is used, and for the hospital directional signs a red cross on a blue background should be used, Diagrams 4.8.20 and 4.8.21.



ADVANCE DIRECTION SIGN FOR CROSS ROAD

DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS

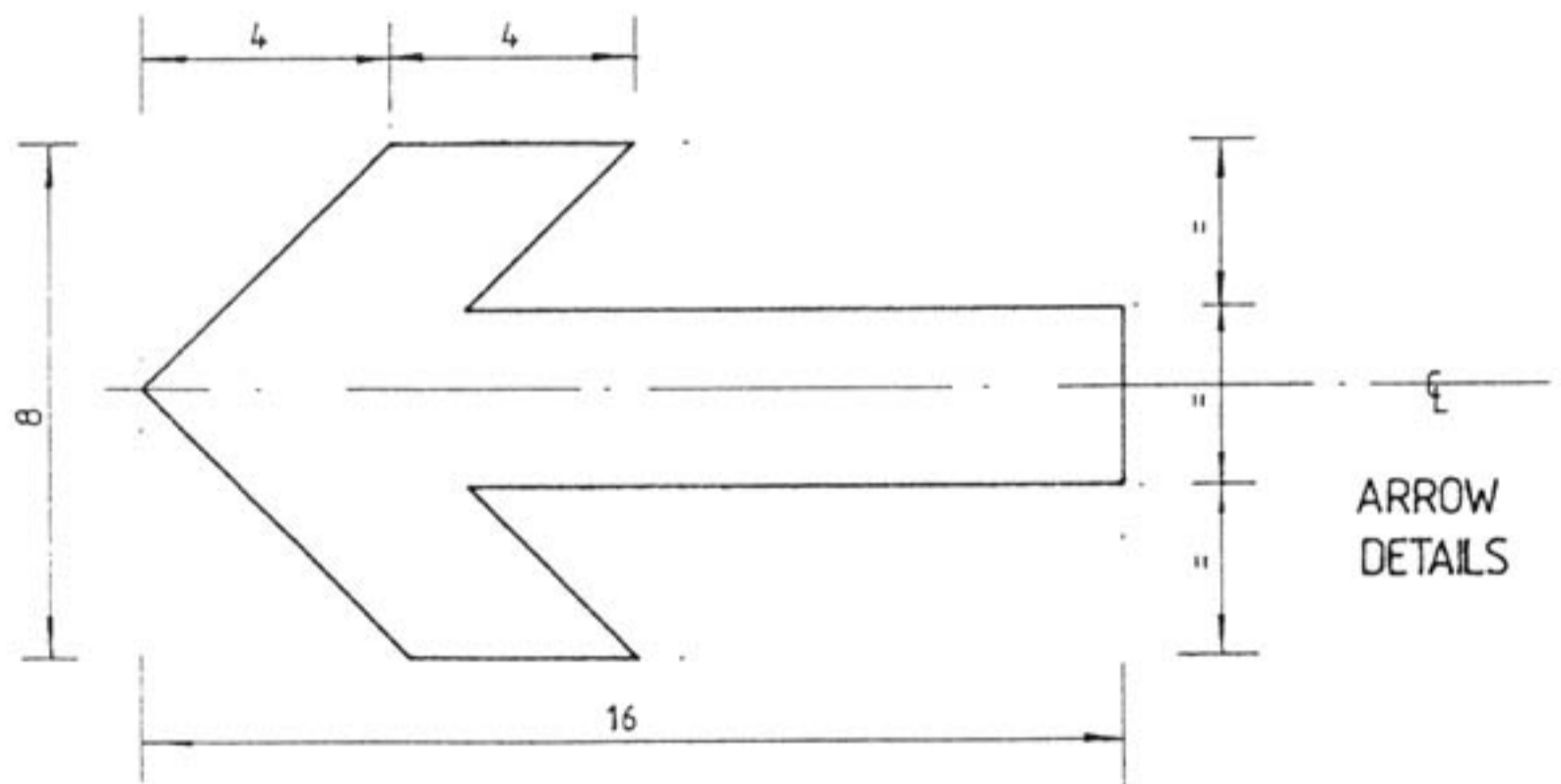
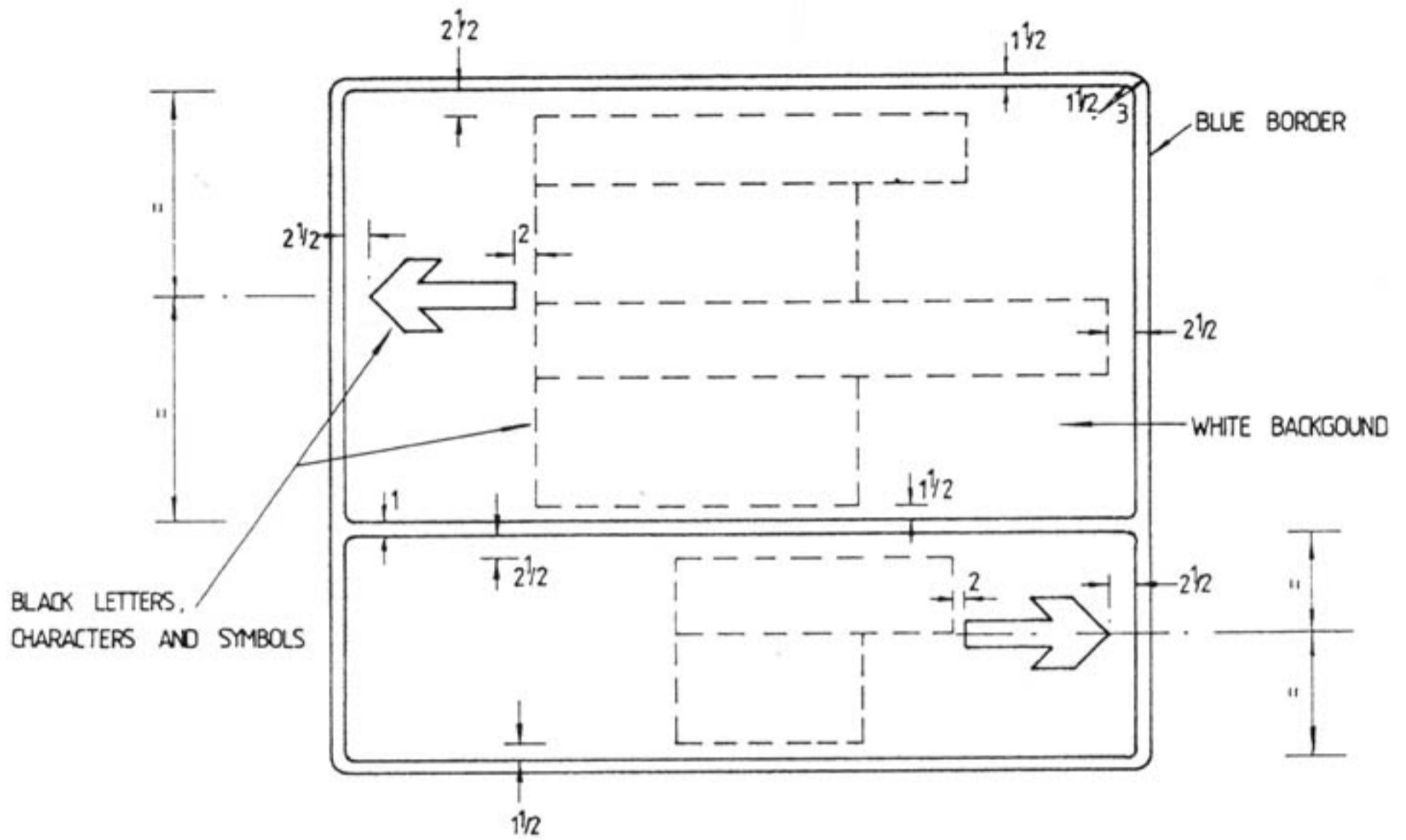
DIAGRAM 4.8.9



ADVANCE DIRECTION SIGN 4-ARM ROUNDABOUT

DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS

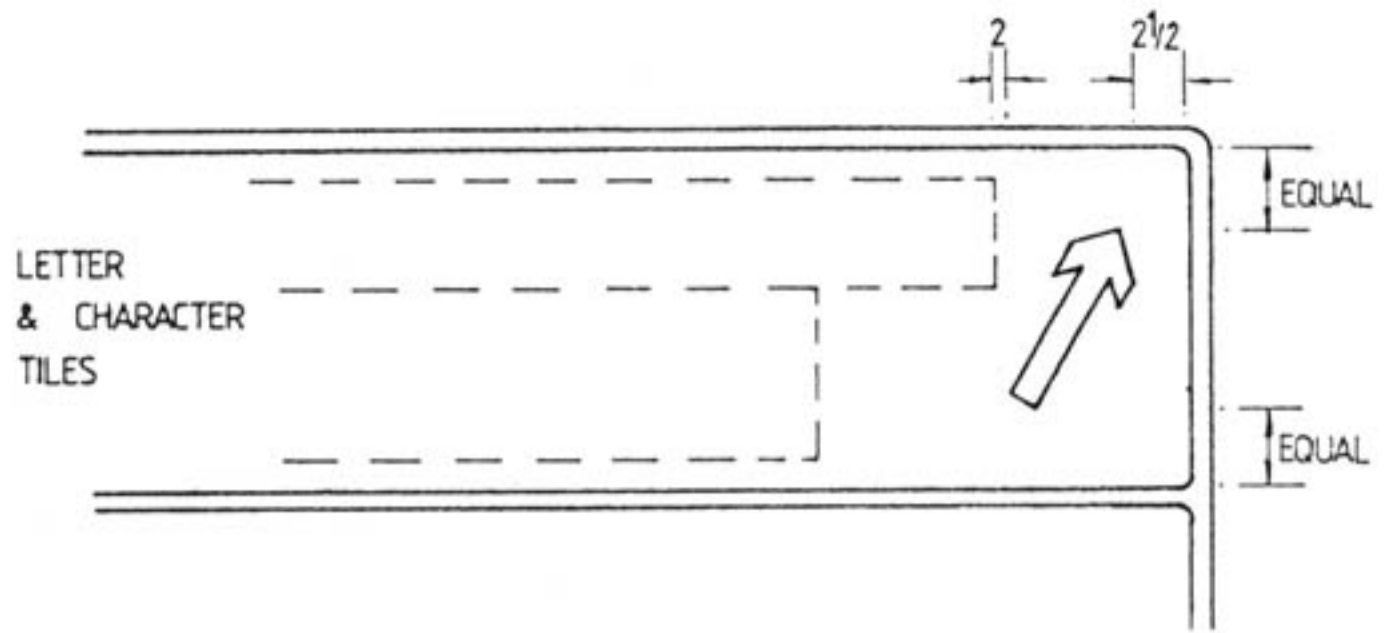
DIAGRAM 4.8.10



STACK TYPE ADVANCE DIRECTION AND DIRECTION SIGN

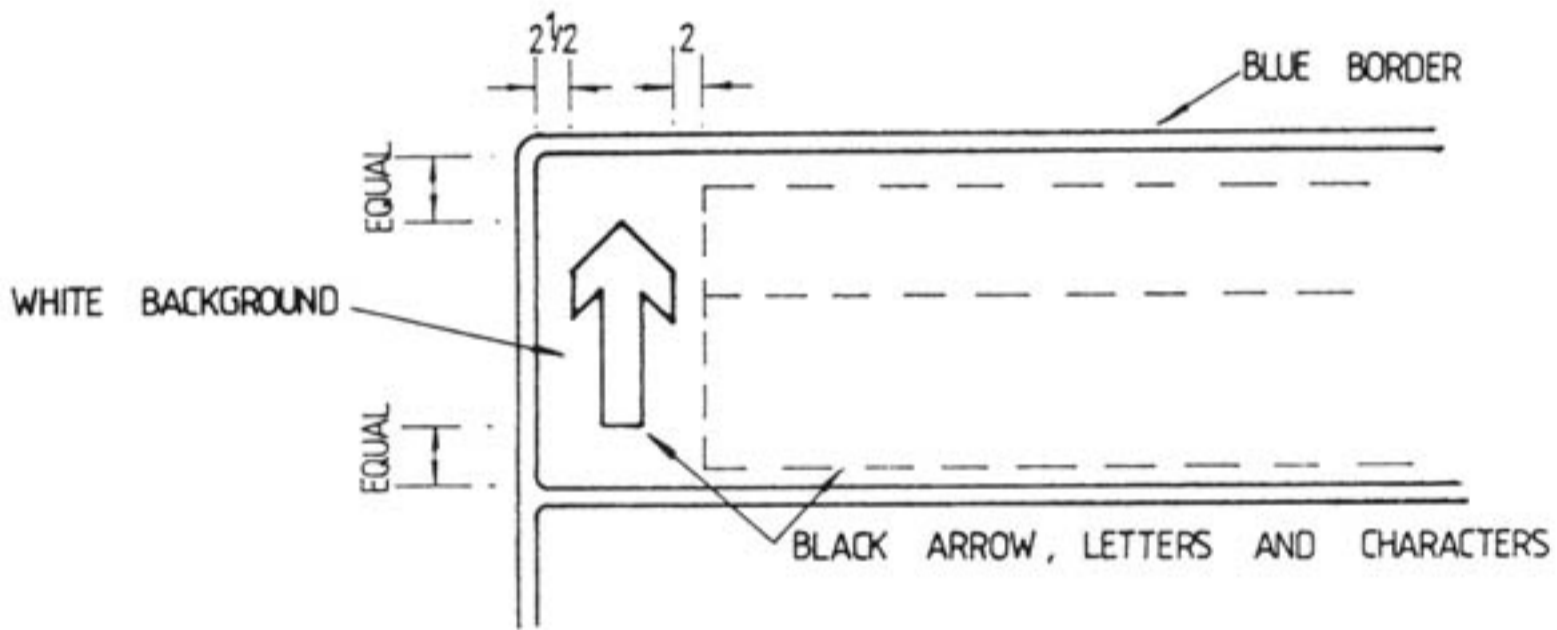
DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS

DIAGRAM 4.8.11



BOTH $22\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ AND 45° ARROWS MAY BE USED.

DIRECTION TO RIGHT



WHEN THE DIRECTION IS STRAIGHT AHEAD THE ARROW IS ALWAYS PLACED TO THE LEFT OF THE SIGN. ARROW DIMENSIONS ARE AS SHOWN IN DIAGRAM 4.8.13

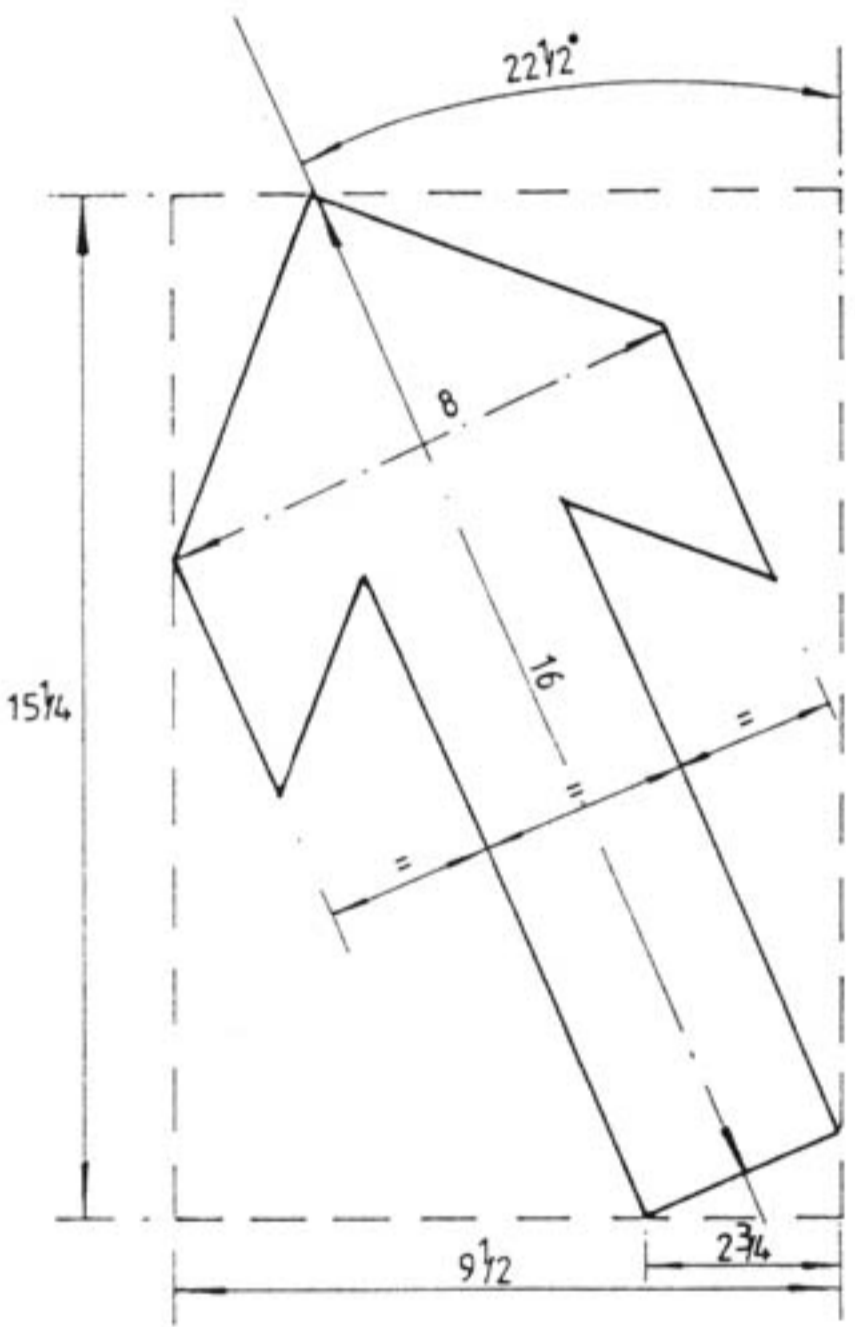
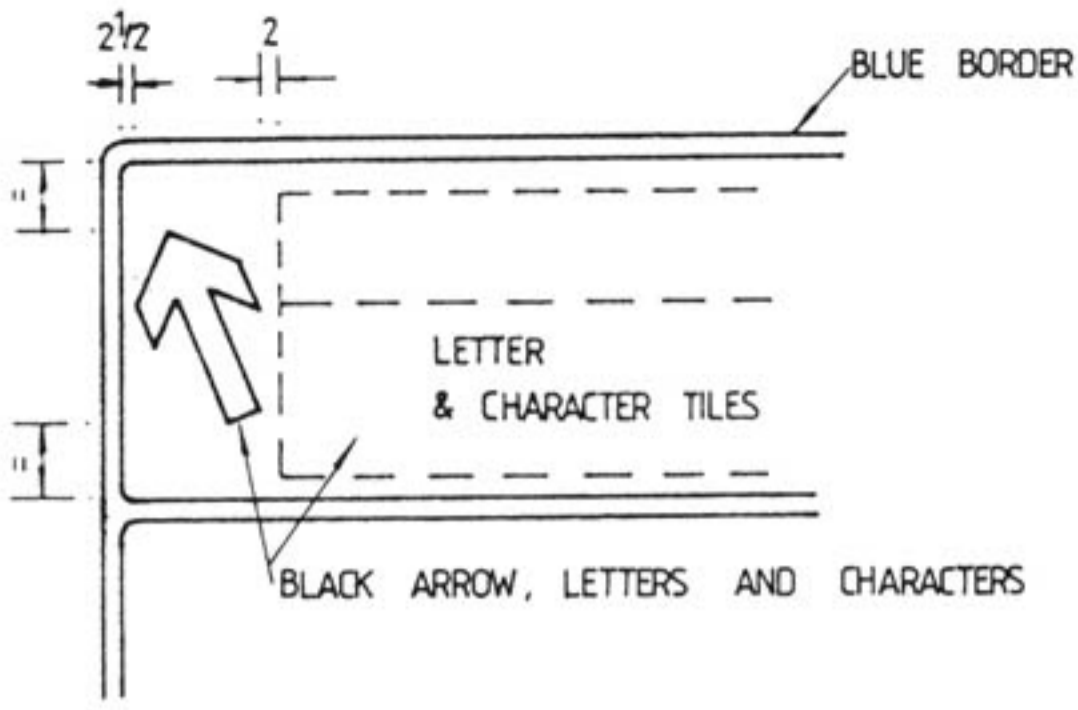
DIRECTION STRAIGHT AHEAD

STRAIGHT AHEAD AND INCLINED RIGHT ARROWS

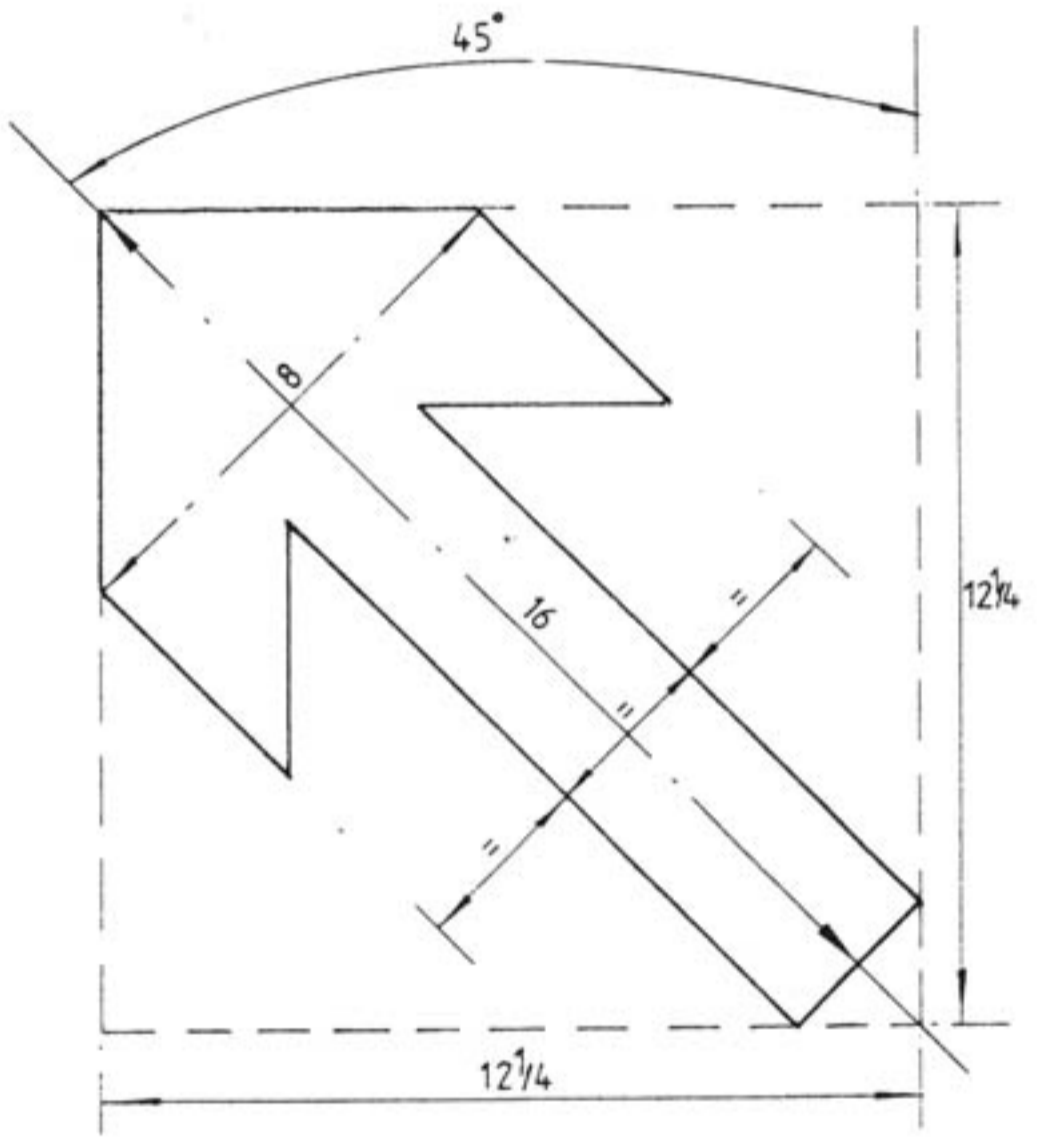
FOR STACK TYPE RECTANGULAR SIGNS

DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS

DIAGRAM 4.8.12



22 1/2° ARROW

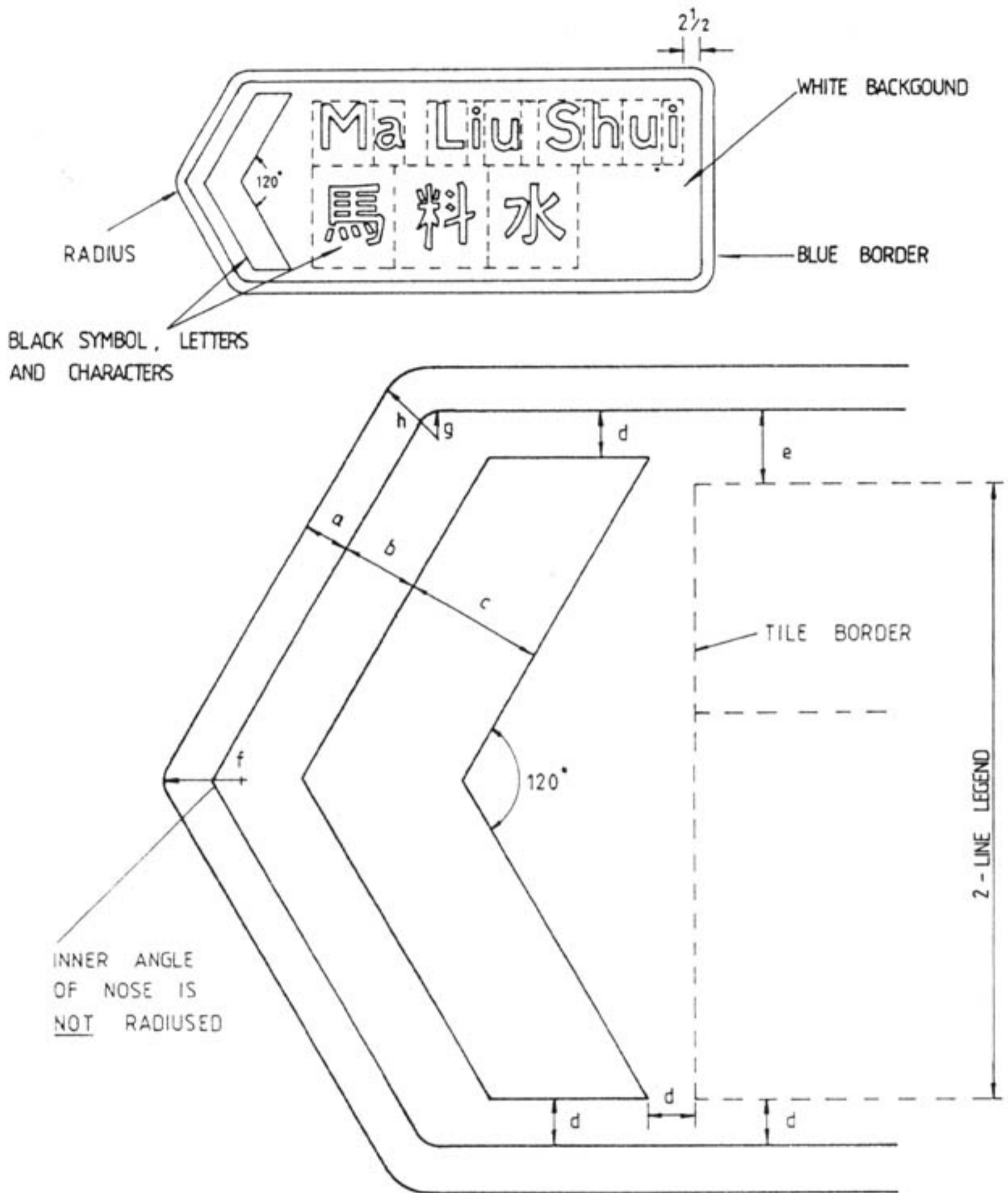


45° ARROW

INCLINED ARROW FOR STACK TYPE RECTANGULAR SIGNS

DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS

DIAGRAM 4.8.13



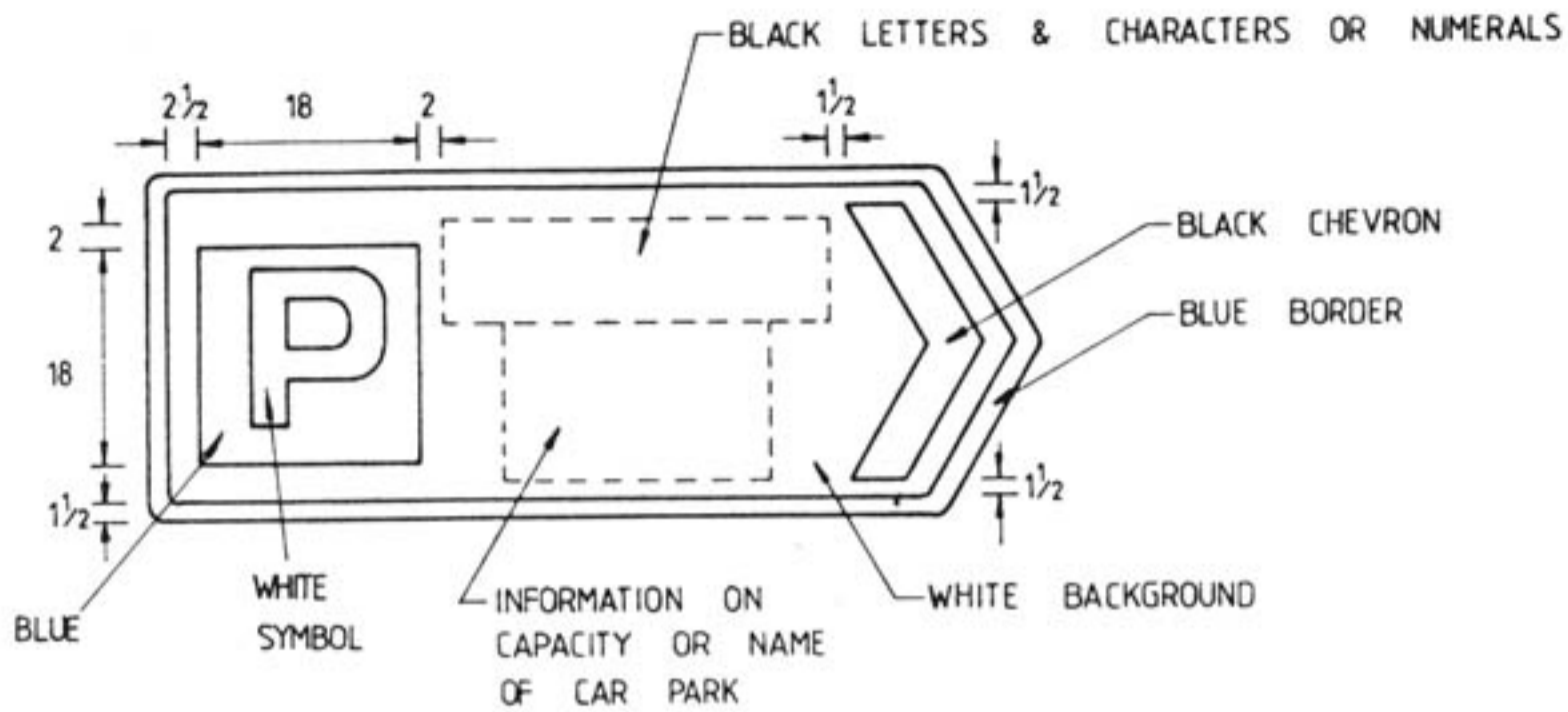
STROKE WIDTHS FOR CHEVRON DETAIL

	<u>2 LINE LEGEND</u>	<u>4 OR MORE LINE LEGEND</u>
a	1 1/2	1 1/2
b	2 1/2	3 1/2
c	4 1/2	6
d	1 1/2	1 1/2
e	2 1/2	2 1/2
f	1 1/2	1 1/2
g	1 1/2	1 1/2
h	3	3

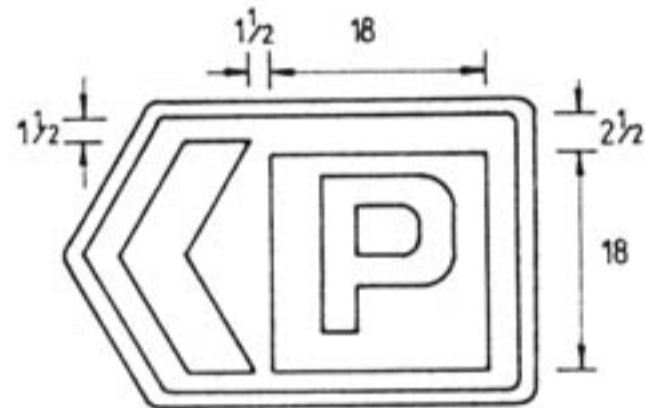
FLAG TYPE
DIRECTION SIGN

DIAGRAM 4.8.14

(i) DIRECTION SIGN WITH INFORMATION AS TO CAPACITY OR SIMILAR

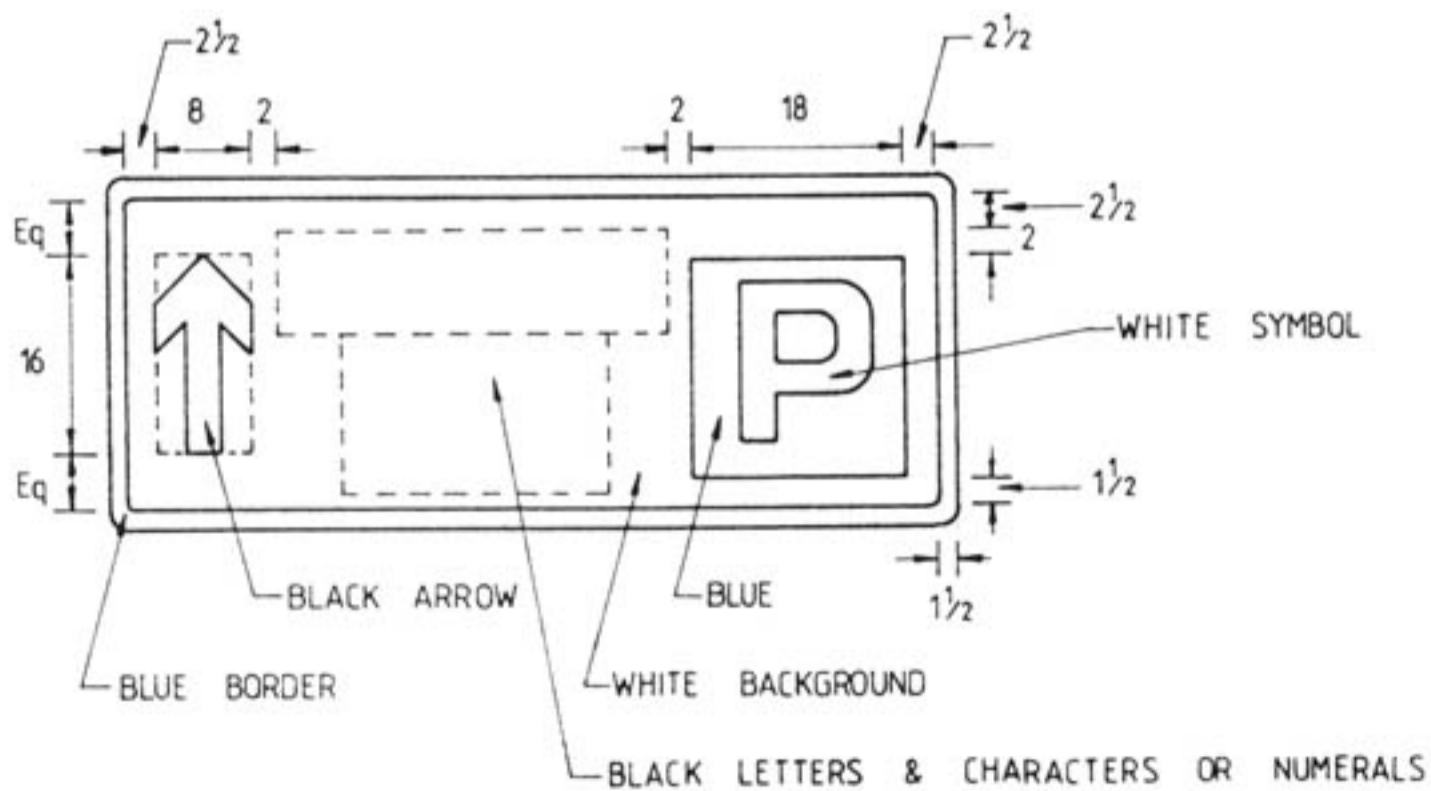


(ii) LOCAL DIRECTION SIGN



(iii) RECTANGULAR DIRECTION SIGN

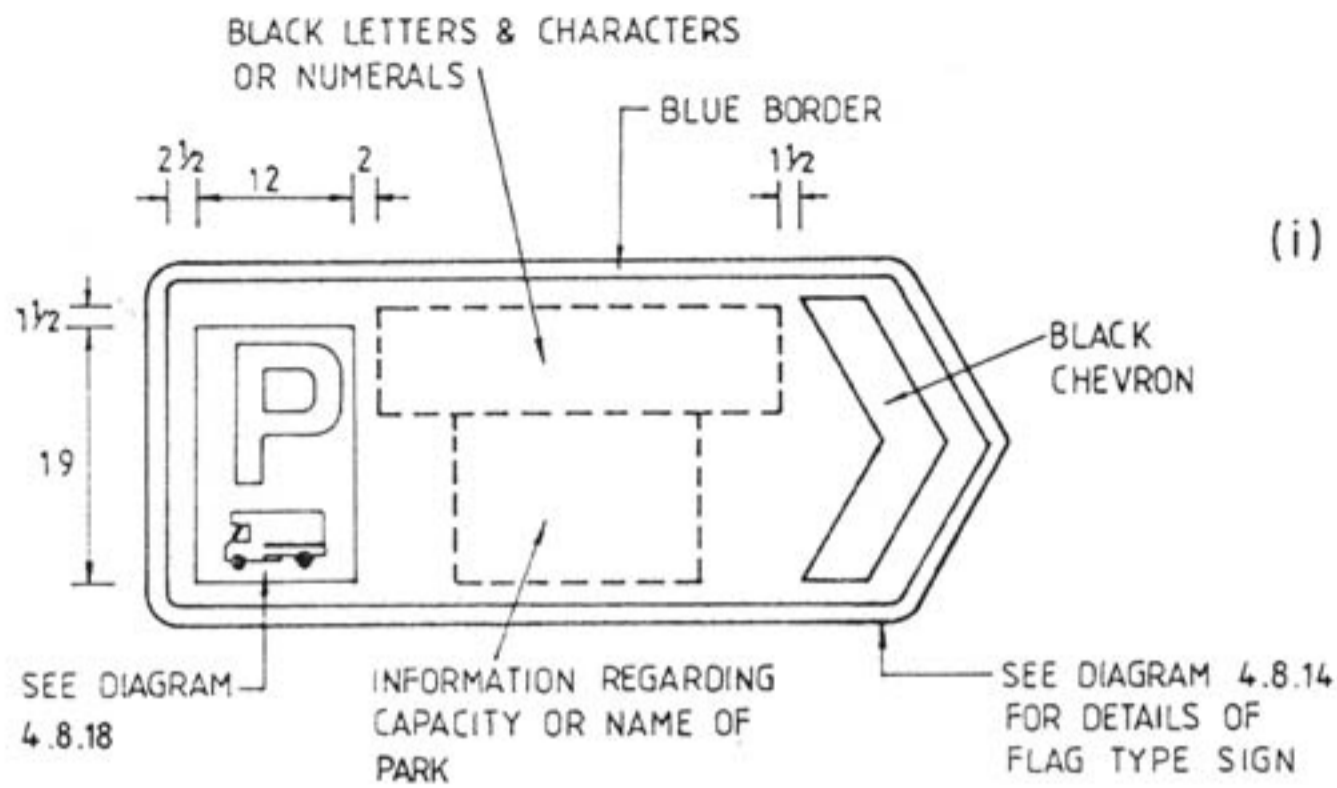
MAY ALSO BE USED WITHOUT WRITTEN INFORMATION AS A LOCAL DIRECTION SIGN



CAR PARK DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

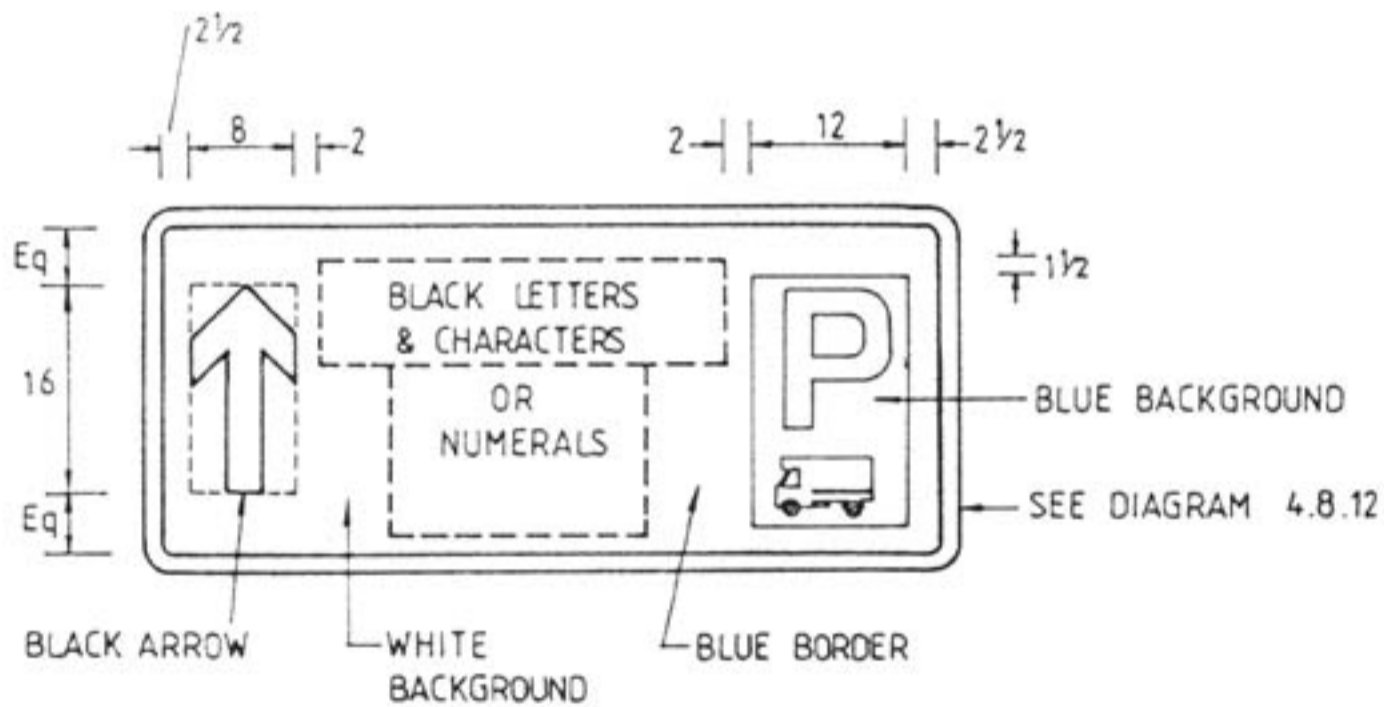
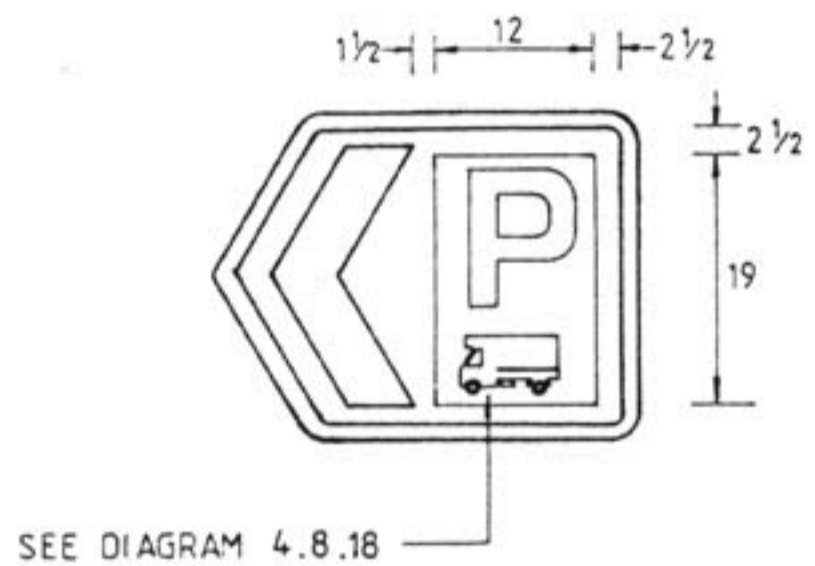
(DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS)

DIAGRAM 4.8.15



(i) DIRECTION SIGN WITH INFORMATION AS TO CAPACITY OR SIMILAR

(ii) LOCAL DIRECTION SIGN



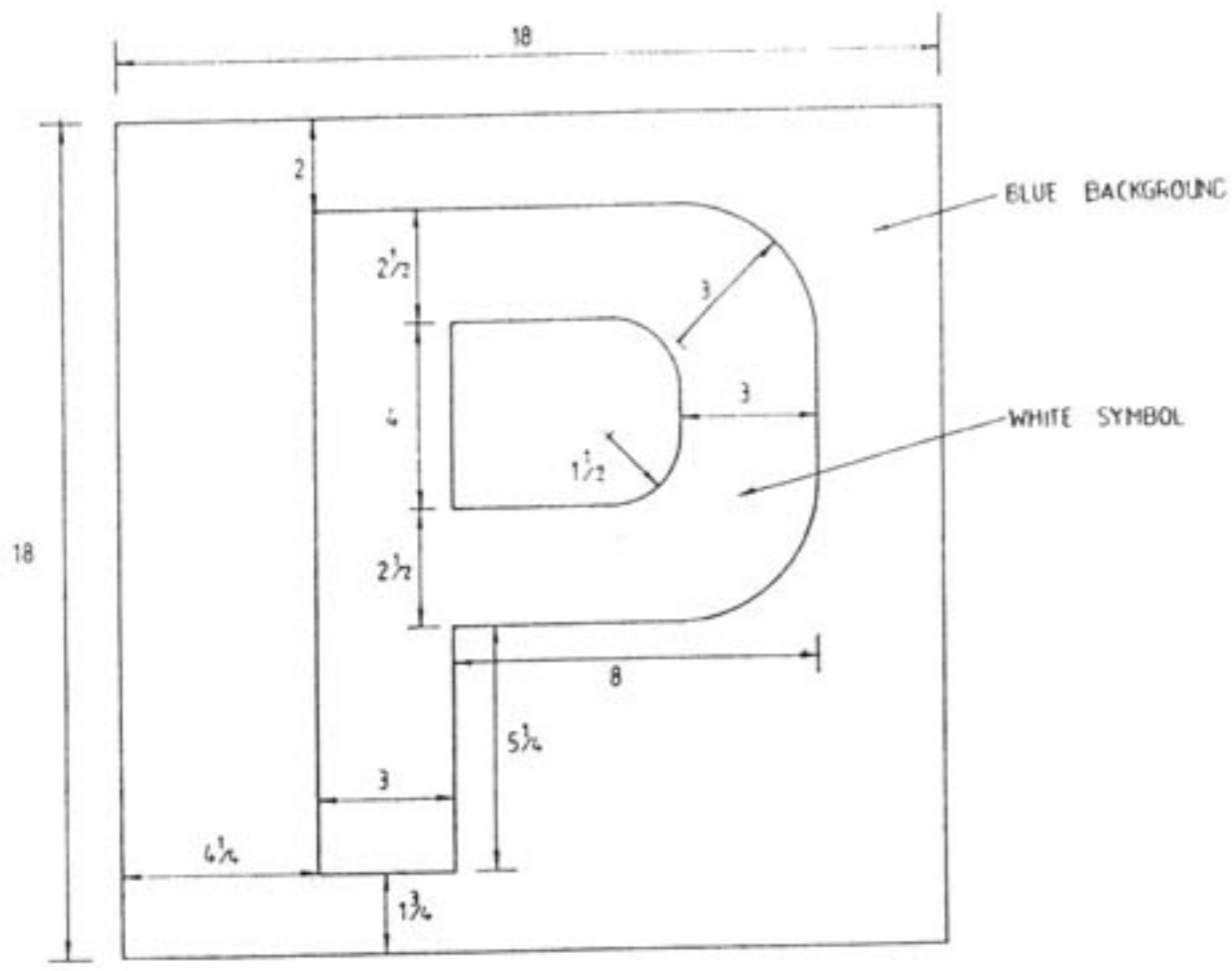
(iii) RECTANGULAR DIRECTION SIGN

MAY ALSO BE USED WITHOUT WRITTEN INFORMATION AS A LOCAL DIRECTION SIGN

(DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS)

GOODS VEHICLE PARK
DIRECTION SIGN

DIAGRAM 4.8.16

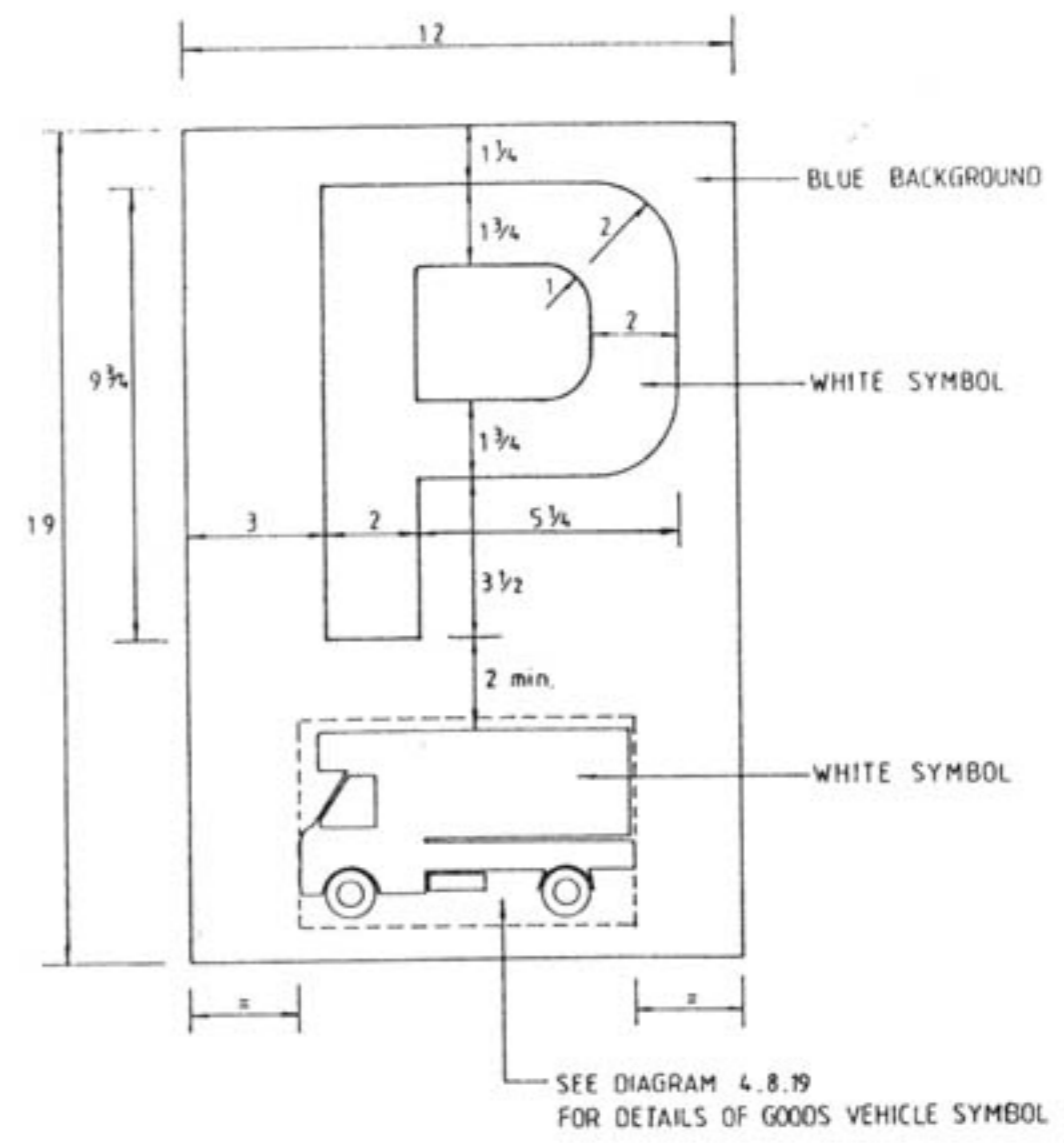


CAR PARK SYMBOL

FOR USE WITH DIAGRAM 4.8.15

DIAGRAM 4.8.17

(DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS)

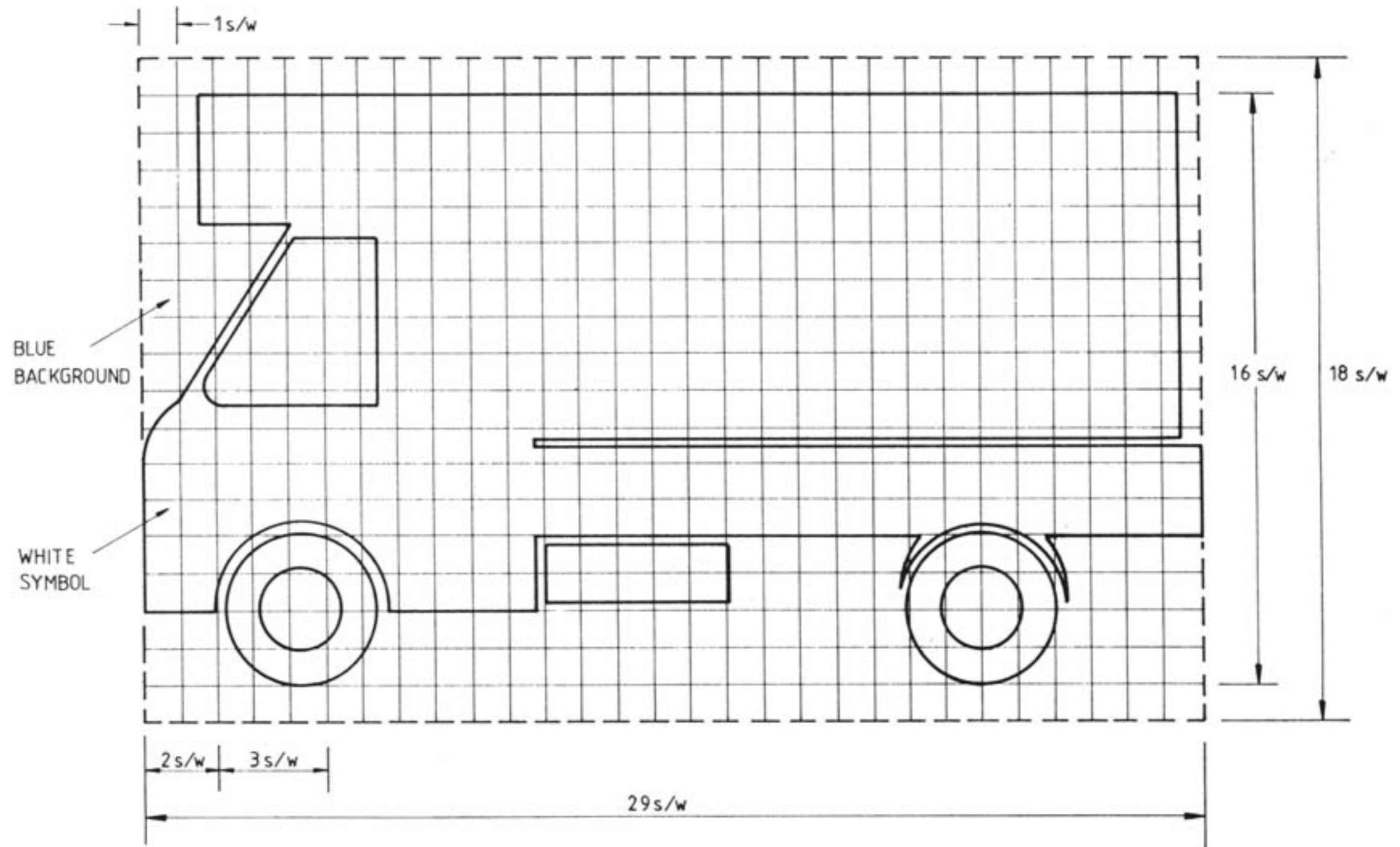


GOODS VEHICLE PARKING SYMBOL

FOR USE WITH DIAGRAM 4.8.16

DIAGRAM 4.8.18

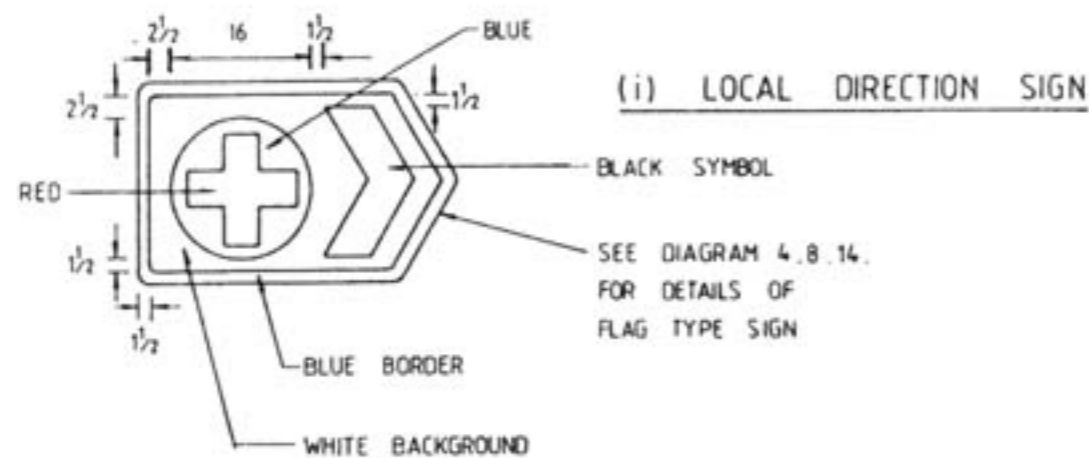
(DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS)



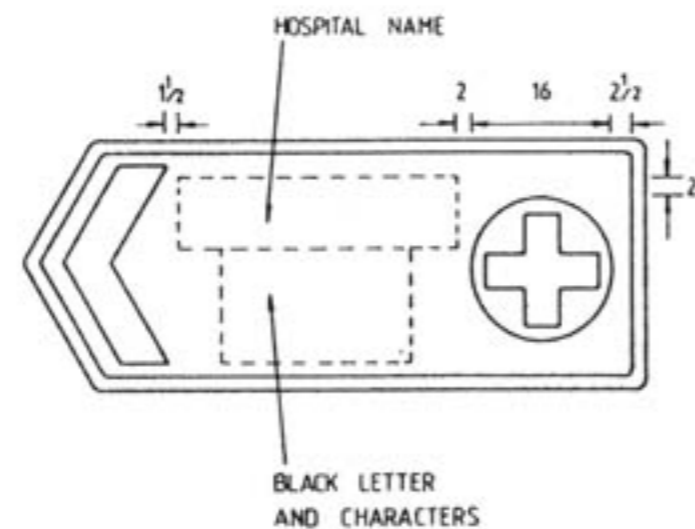
GOODS VEHICLE SYMBOL FOR USE WITH DIAGRAM 4.8.18.

NOTE : IN RESPECT OF DIAGRAM 4.8.18. THE APPROPRIATE X-HT. FOR THE GOODS VEHICLE SYMBOL SHOULD BE CHOSEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING :-

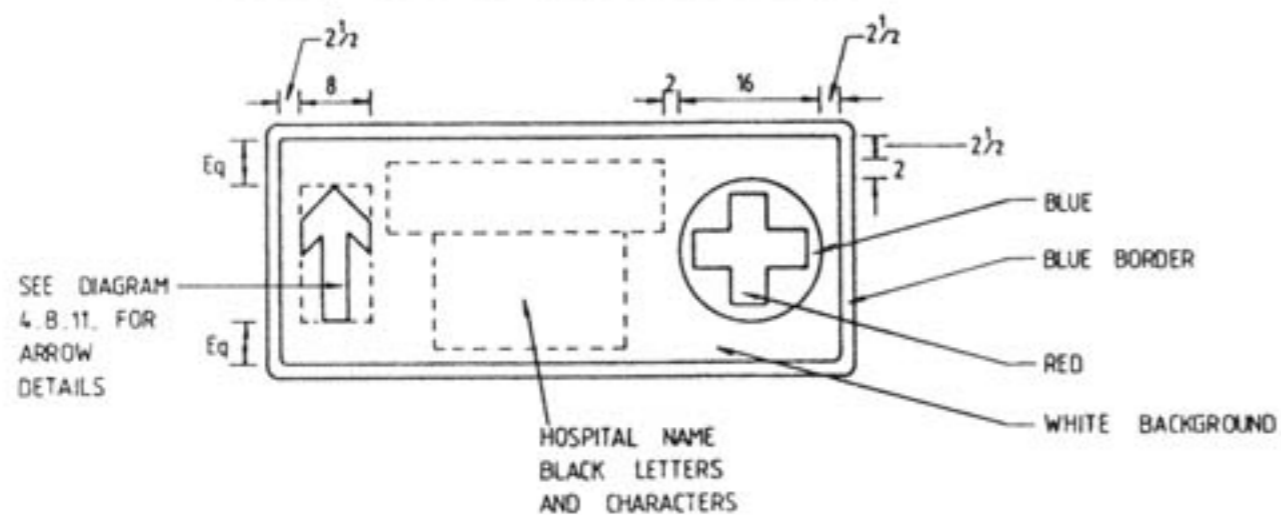
X-HT. OF MAIN SIGN	50 mm, or 62.5 mm	75 mm
APPROPRIATE X-HT. FOR GOODS VEHICLE SYMBOL	20 mm	25 mm



(ii) DIRECTION SIGN
WHERE NAME OF HOSPITAL
NEEDS TO BE PROVIDED.



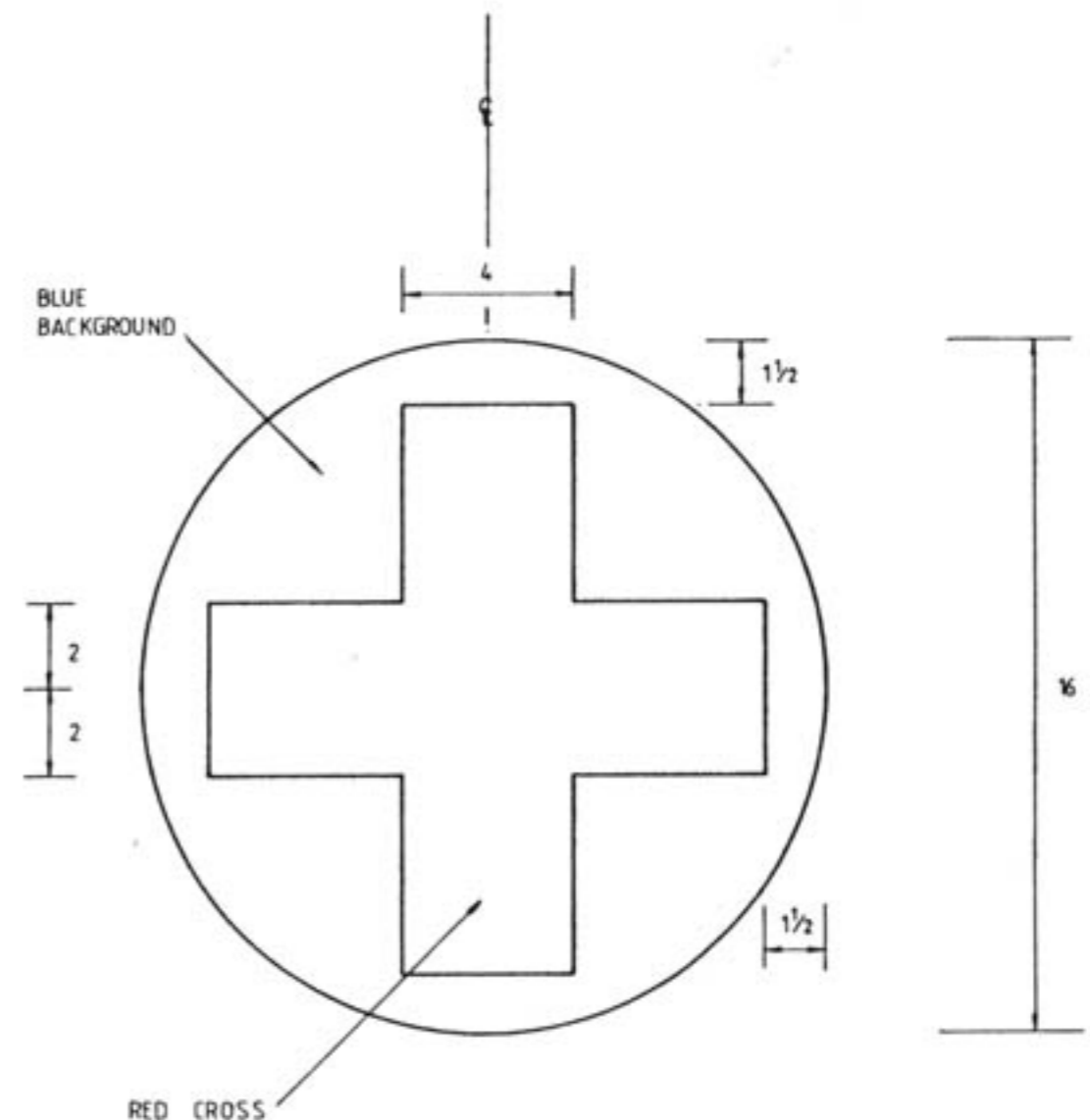
(iii) RECTANGULAR DIRECTION SIGN



HOSPITAL DIRECTION SIGNS

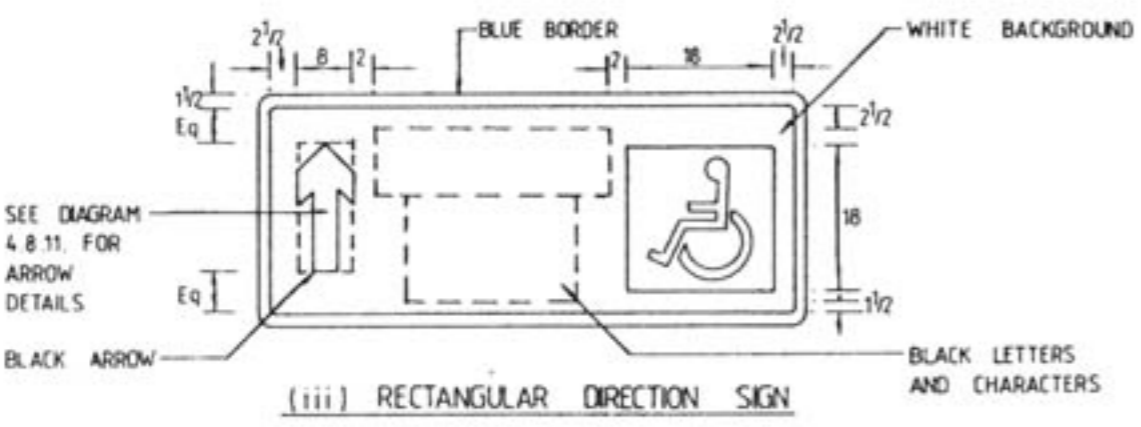
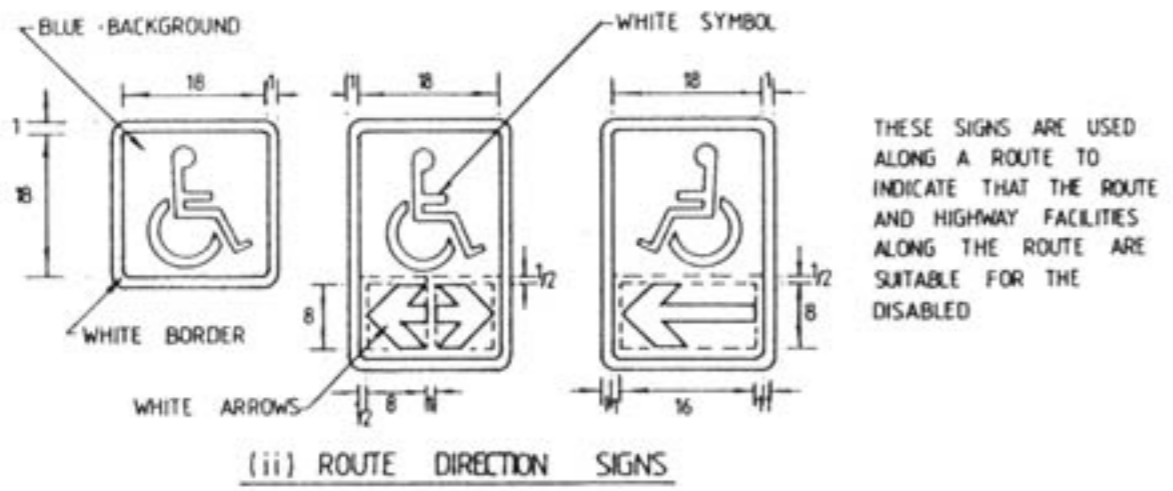
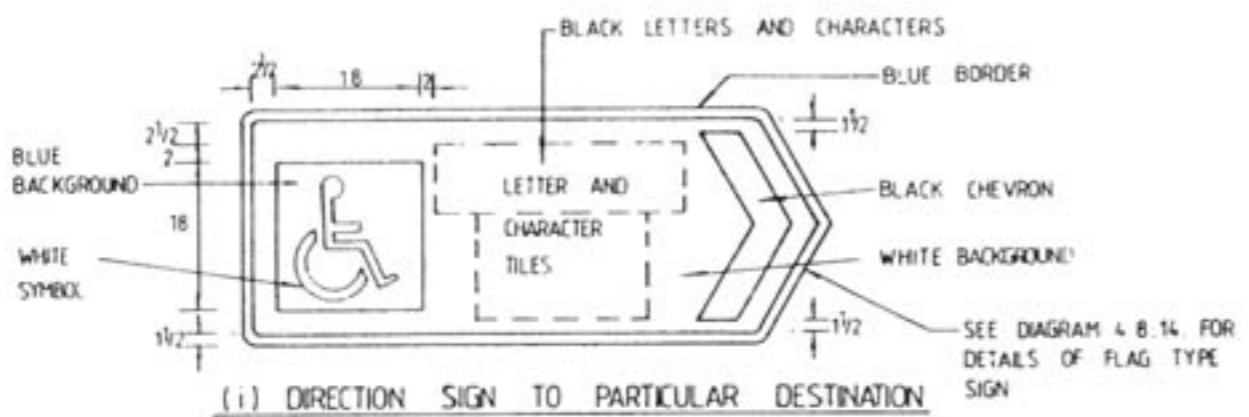
(DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS)

DIAGRAM 4.8.20



HOSPITAL SYMBOL
FOR USE WITH DIAGRAM 4.8.20

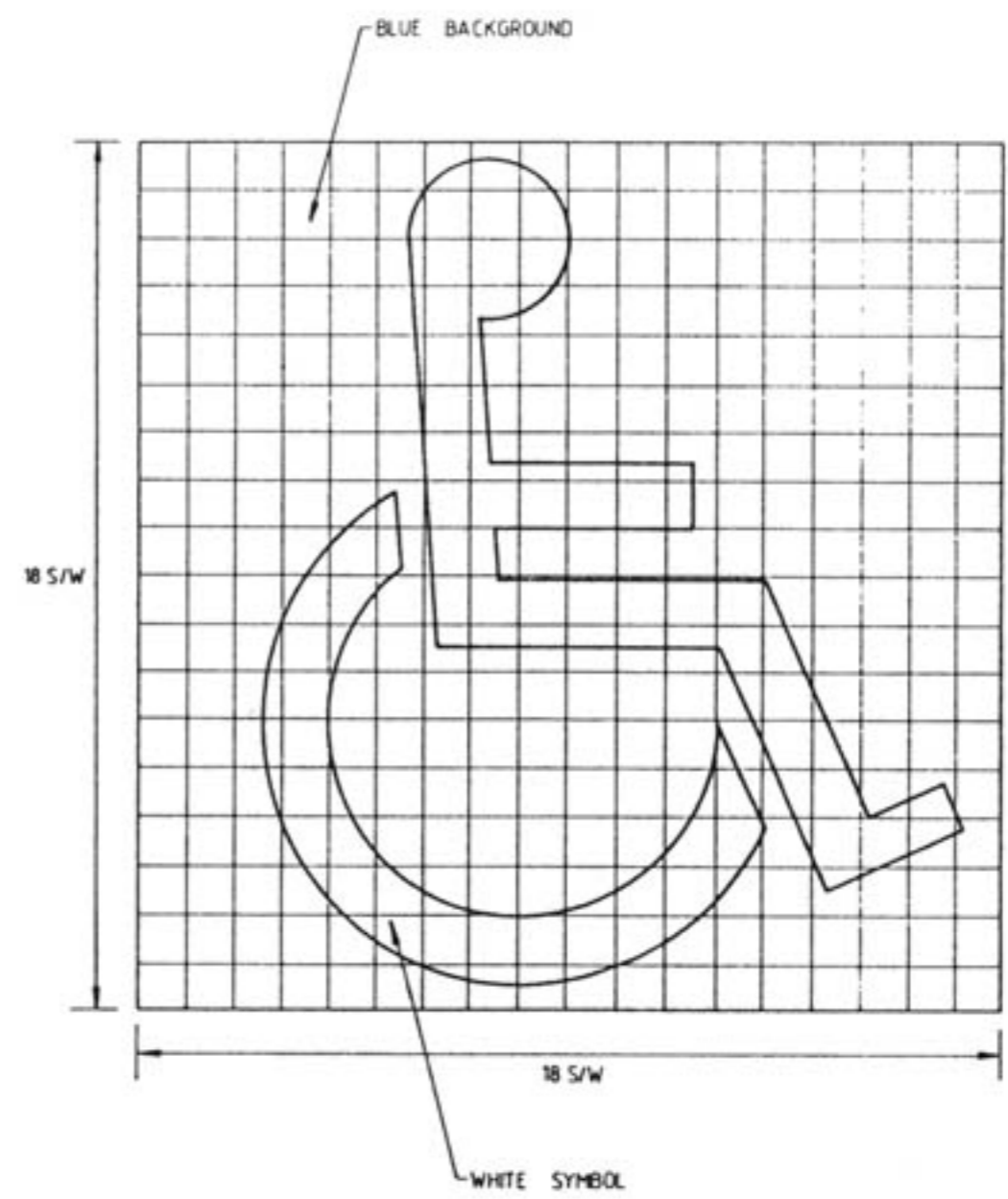
DIAGRAM 4.8.21



DIRECTION SIGNS FOR DISABLED PERSONS

DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS

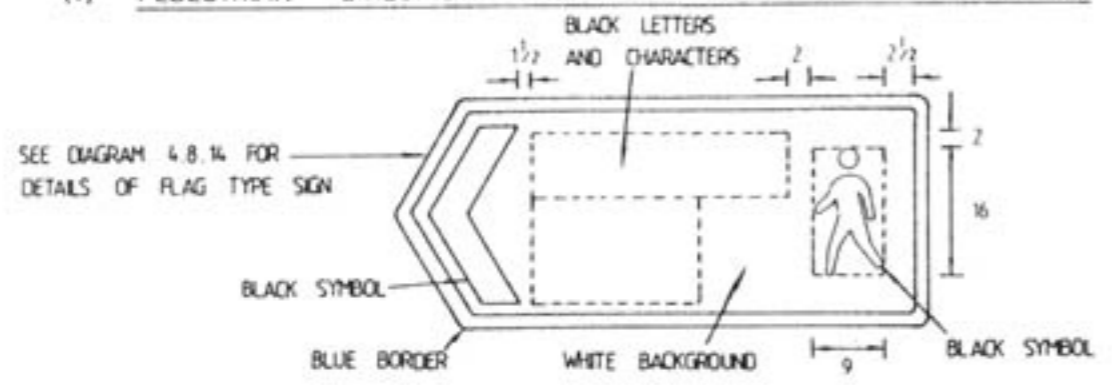
DIAGRAM 4.8.22



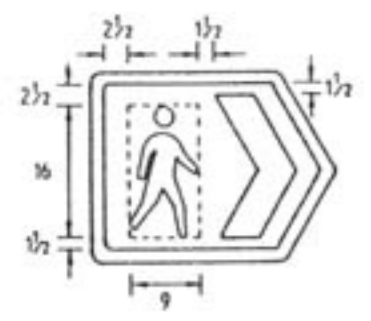
DISABLED PERSON SYMBOL
FOR USE WITH DIAGRAM 4.8.22

DIAGRAM 4.8.23

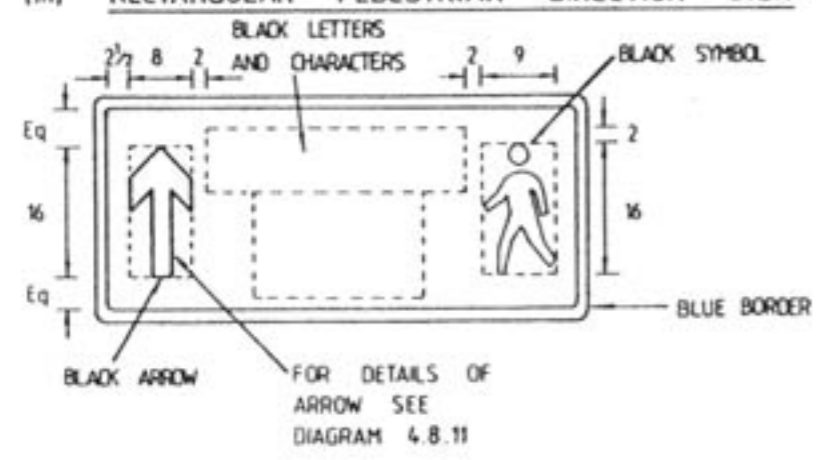
(i) PEDESTRIAN DIRECTION SIGN TO PARTICULAR DESTINATION



(ii) PEDESTRIAN ROUTE DIRECTION SIGN



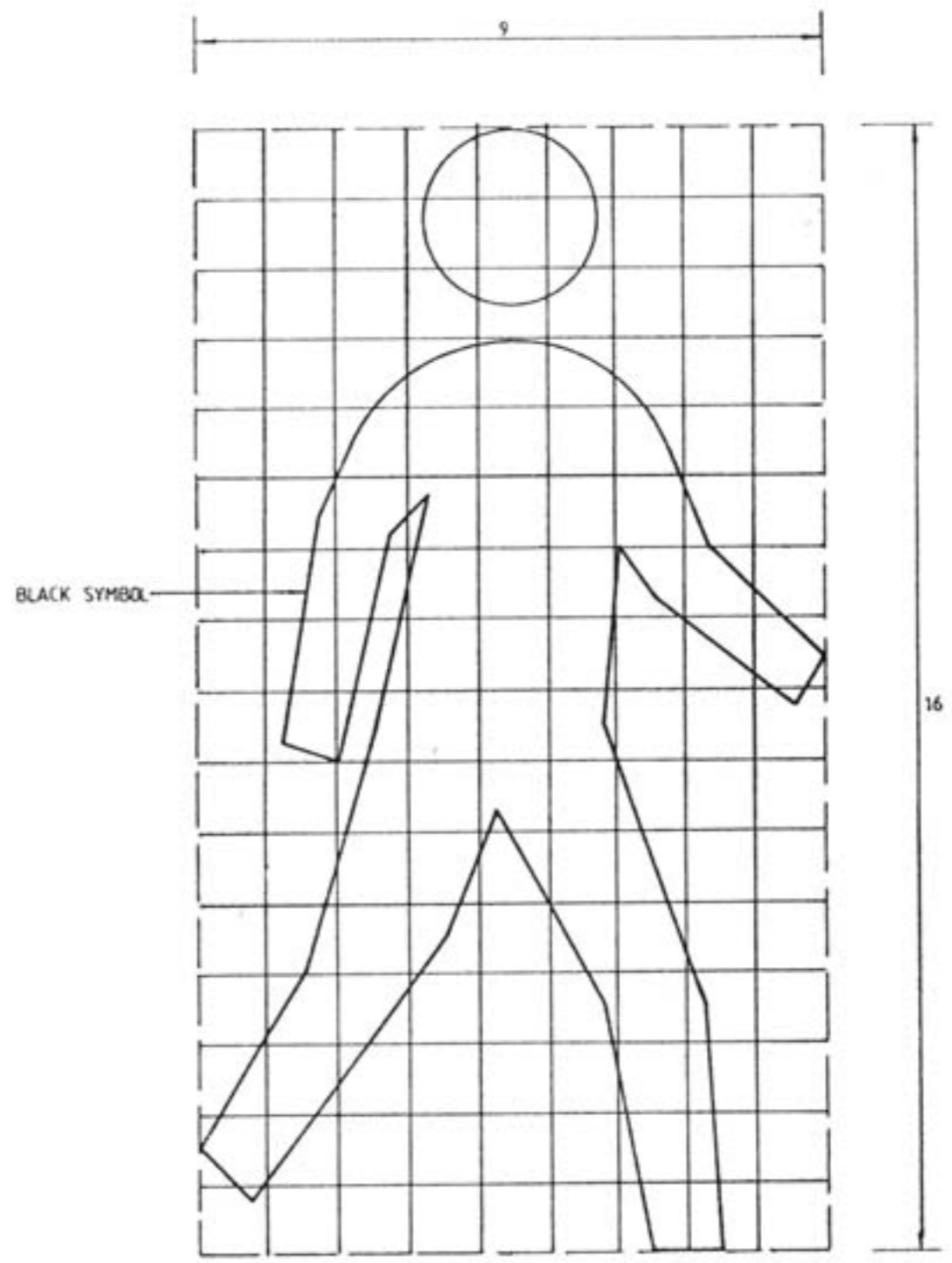
(iii) RECTANGULAR PEDESTRIAN DIRECTION SIGN



PEDESTRIAN DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

(DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS)

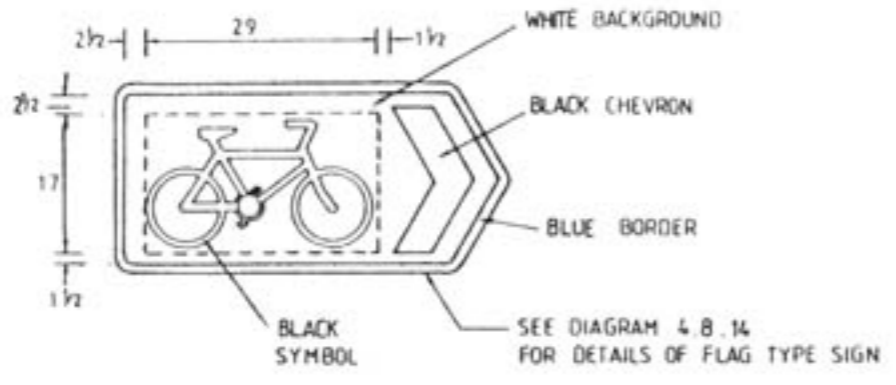
DIAGRAM 4.8.24



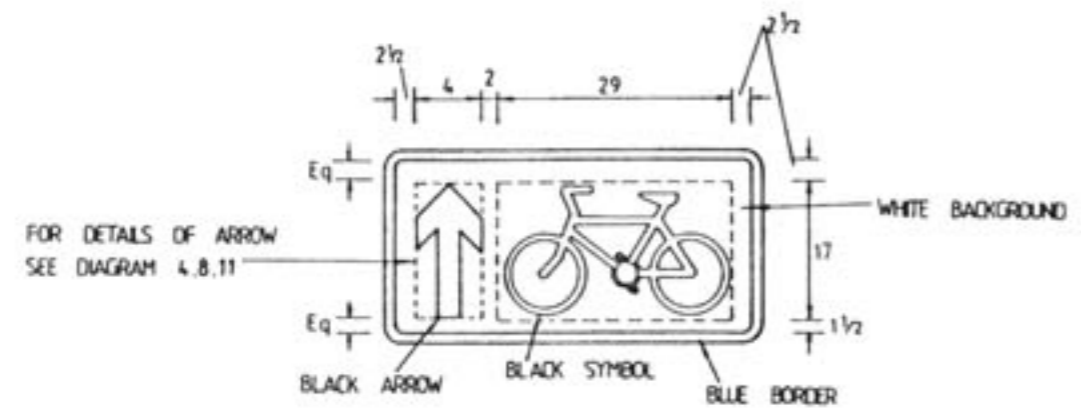
PEDESTRIAN SYMBOL FOR USE WITH DIAGRAM 4.8.24

(DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS)

DIAGRAM 4.8.25



(i) LOCAL DIRECTION SIGN

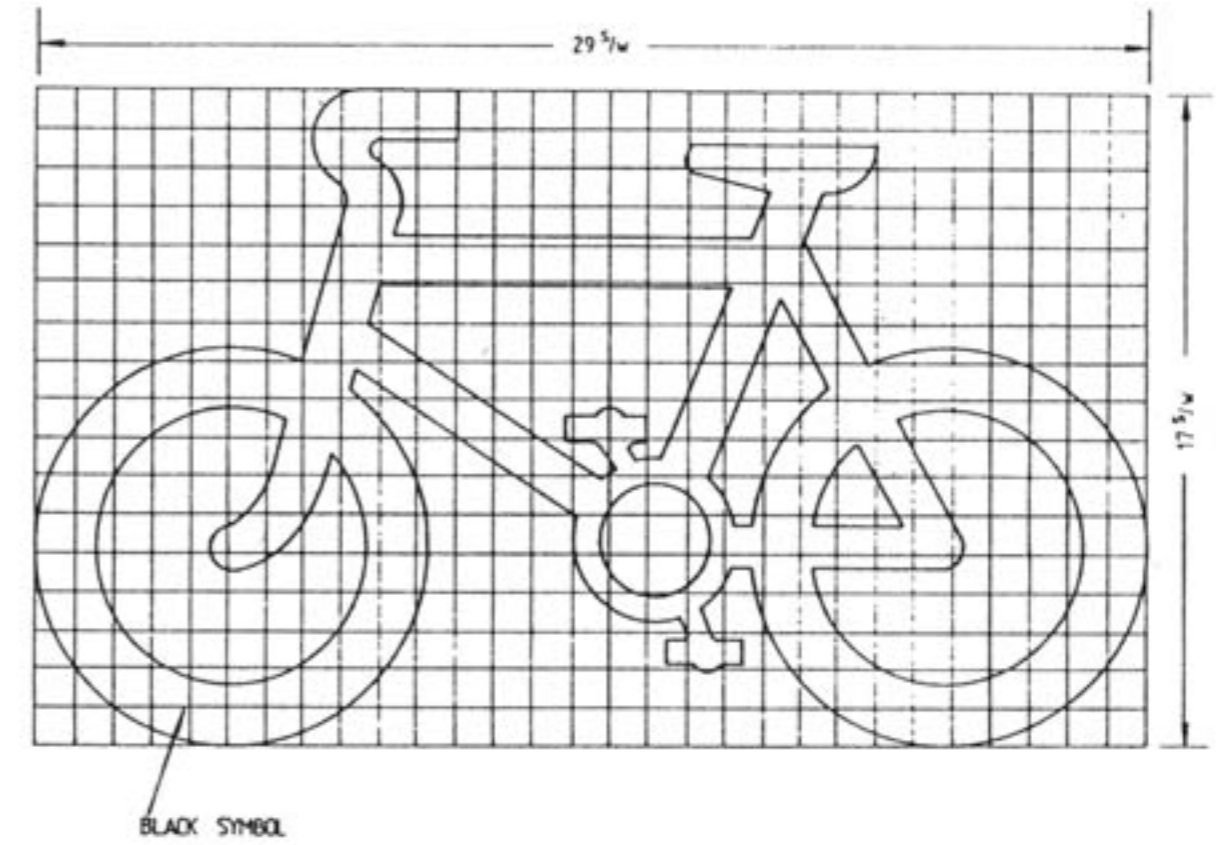


(ii) RECTANGULAR DIRECTION SIGN

CYCLIST DIRECTION SIGNS

(DIMENSIONS IN STROKE WIDTHS)

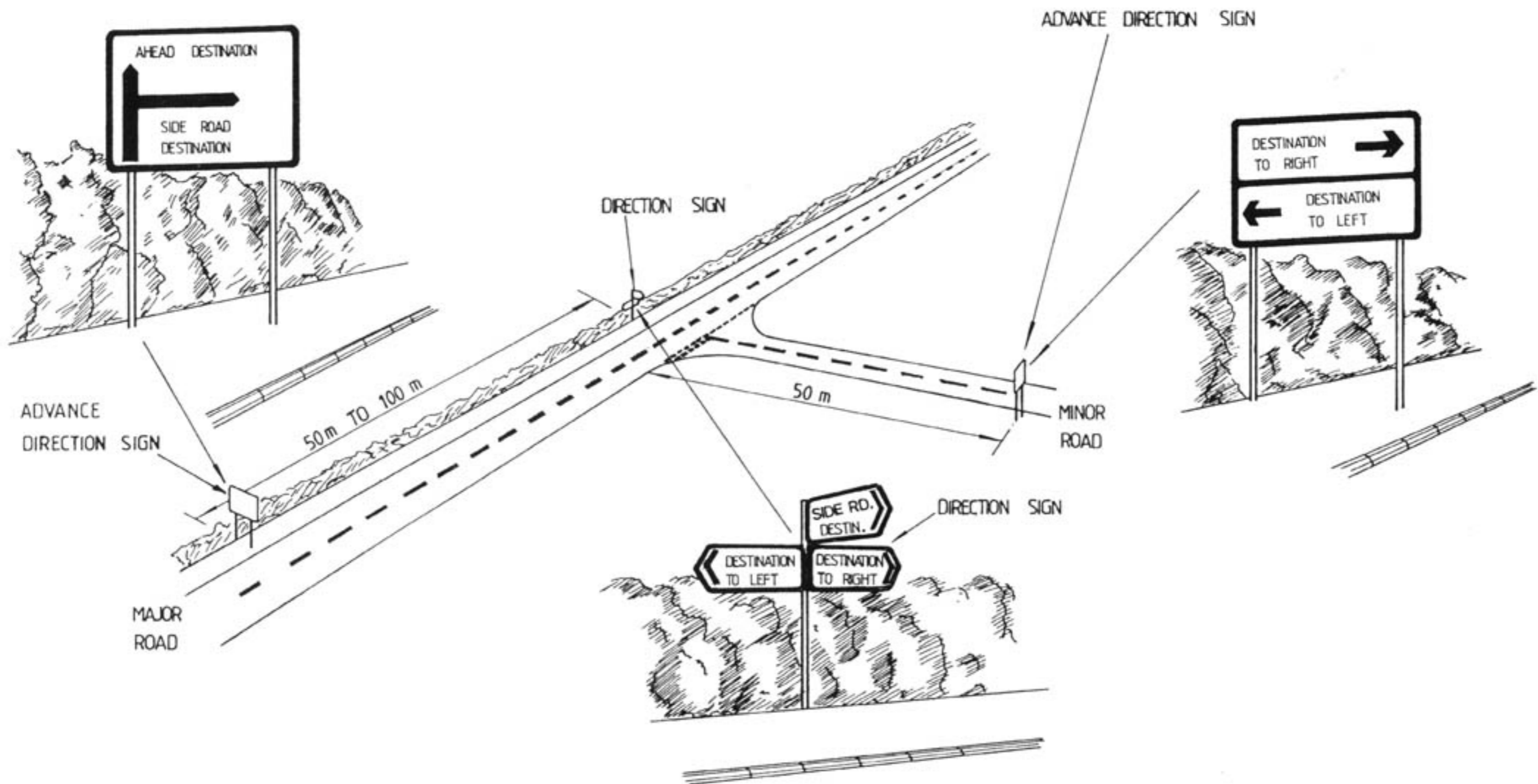
DIAGRAM 4.8.26



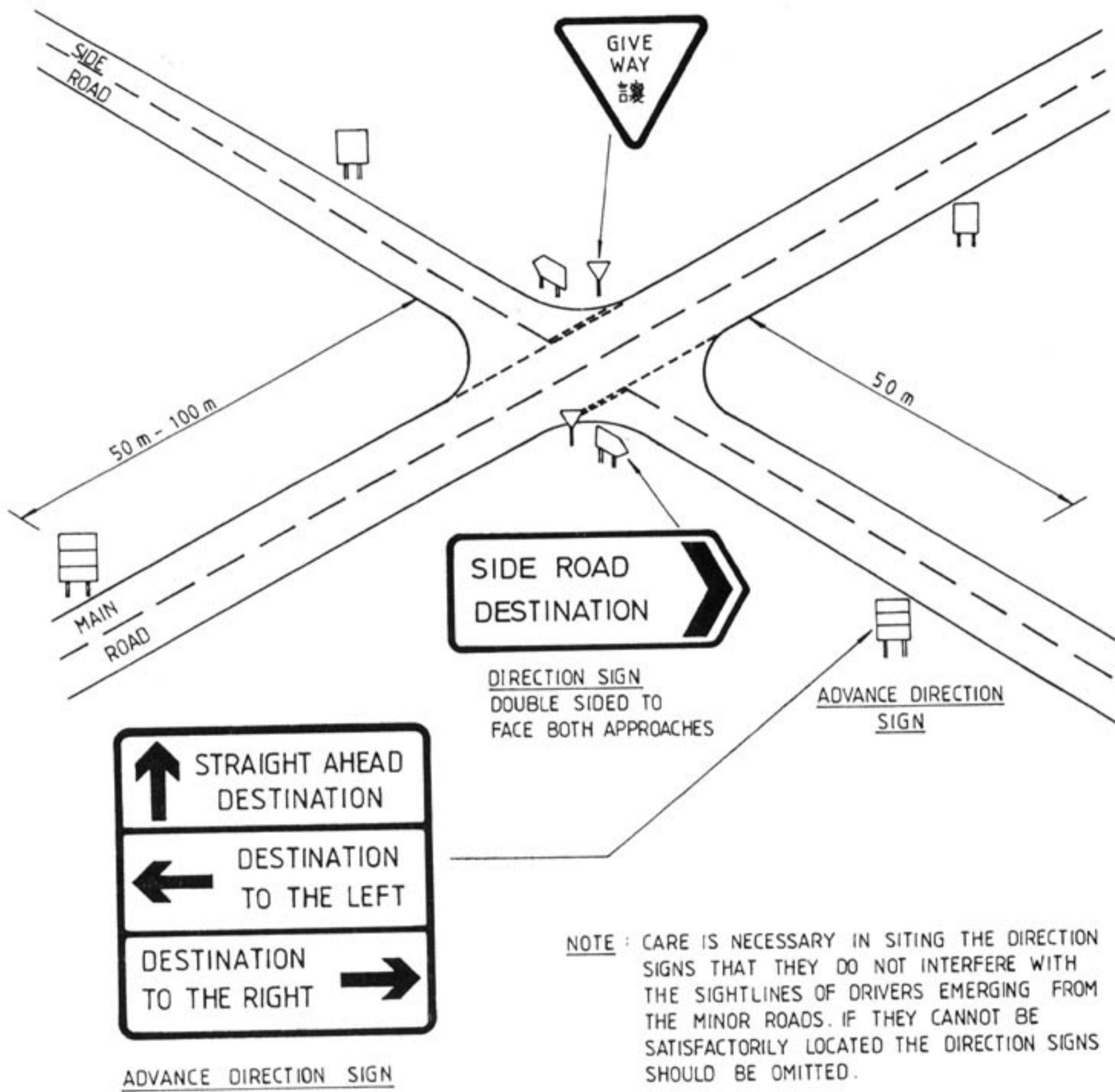
CYCLE SYMBOL FOR USE WITH DIAGRAM 4.8.26

DIAGRAM 4.8.27

- 4.8.19 Along private roads, the use of Advance Direction Signs in addition to Direction Signs will seldom be necessary but where they are used, the Advance Direction sign should be located on the main road some 50 metres to 100 metres in advance of the junction and on any minor roads approximately 50 metres in advance of the junction. Illustrations of signing arrangements in this respect are shown in Diagrams 4.8.28 to 4.8.30.
- 4.8.20 As noted on Diagram 4.8.29, care needs to be taken when siting any Directional Sign that it does not interfere with the visibility of drivers emerging from the side road, and if there is any doubt in respect of this it is better to omit the sign and just rely on the Advance Direction Sign. Or conversely if in the situation that only a Directional Sign were intended to be used, but this would obscure the driver's visibility, then it is better to use an Advance Direction Sign instead.
- 4.8.21 It is not always necessary, as mentioned above, to have Advance Direction Signs as the approach speeds of vehicles along private roads will not be very high and in a number of cases a Direction Sign alone will be sufficient, which should be located in the positions for such signs shown on Diagrams 4.8.28 to 4.8.30. Additionally Diagram 4.8.31 illustrates a Direction Sign used solely to direct traffic from the minor road to destinations along the major road. This situation could occur where the minor road although serving developments in the vicinity has no main destination and therefore no destination to indicate, however for traffic on the minor road approaching the junction with the major road it is considered necessary to indicate the particular destinations along the major road.
- 4.8.22 At a roundabout junction formed from two or more minor roads, Advance Direction or even Direction Signs will not normally be necessary. However warning of the roundabout should be given by the use of Figure No. 217, roundabout ahead illustrated in Diagram 4.8.32, and as also referred to in paragraphs 4.5.14 and 4.5.15 of Section 4.5.

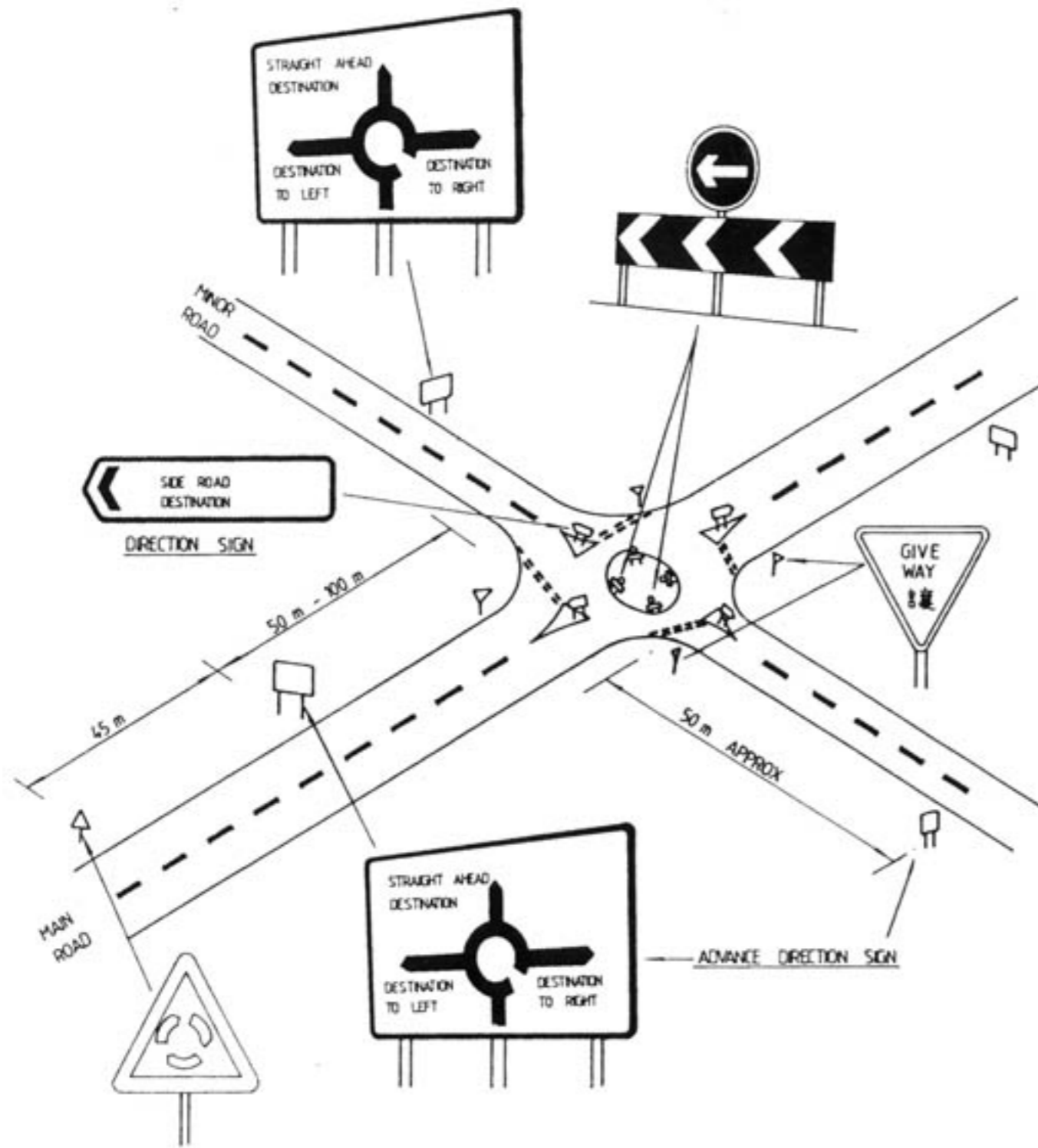


USE OF ADVANCE DIRECTION AND DIRECTION SIGNS ON PRIVATE ROADS



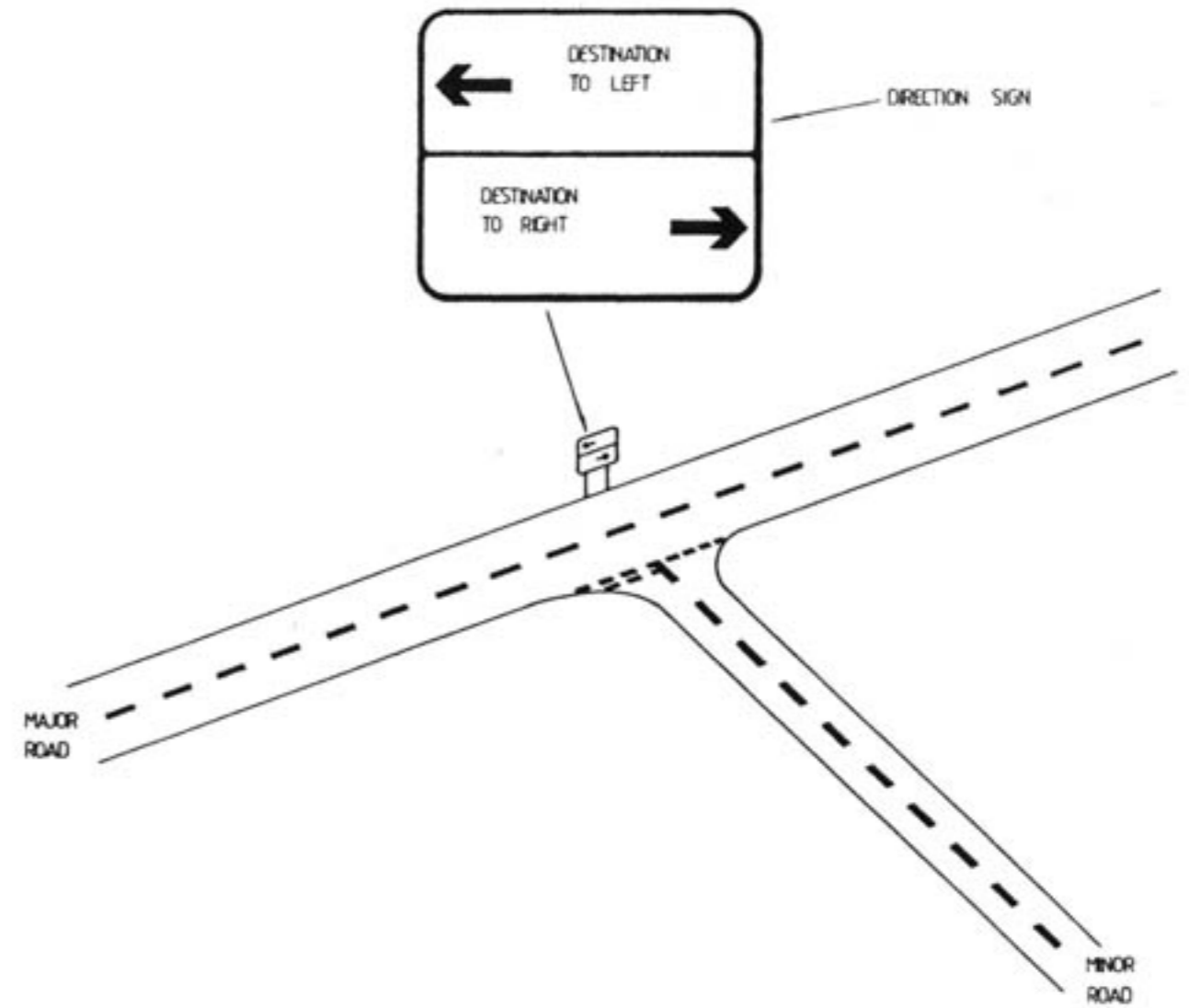
USE OF ADVANCE DIRECTION AND DIRECTION SIGNS
AT A FOUR-WAY JUNCTION

DIAGRAM 4.8.29



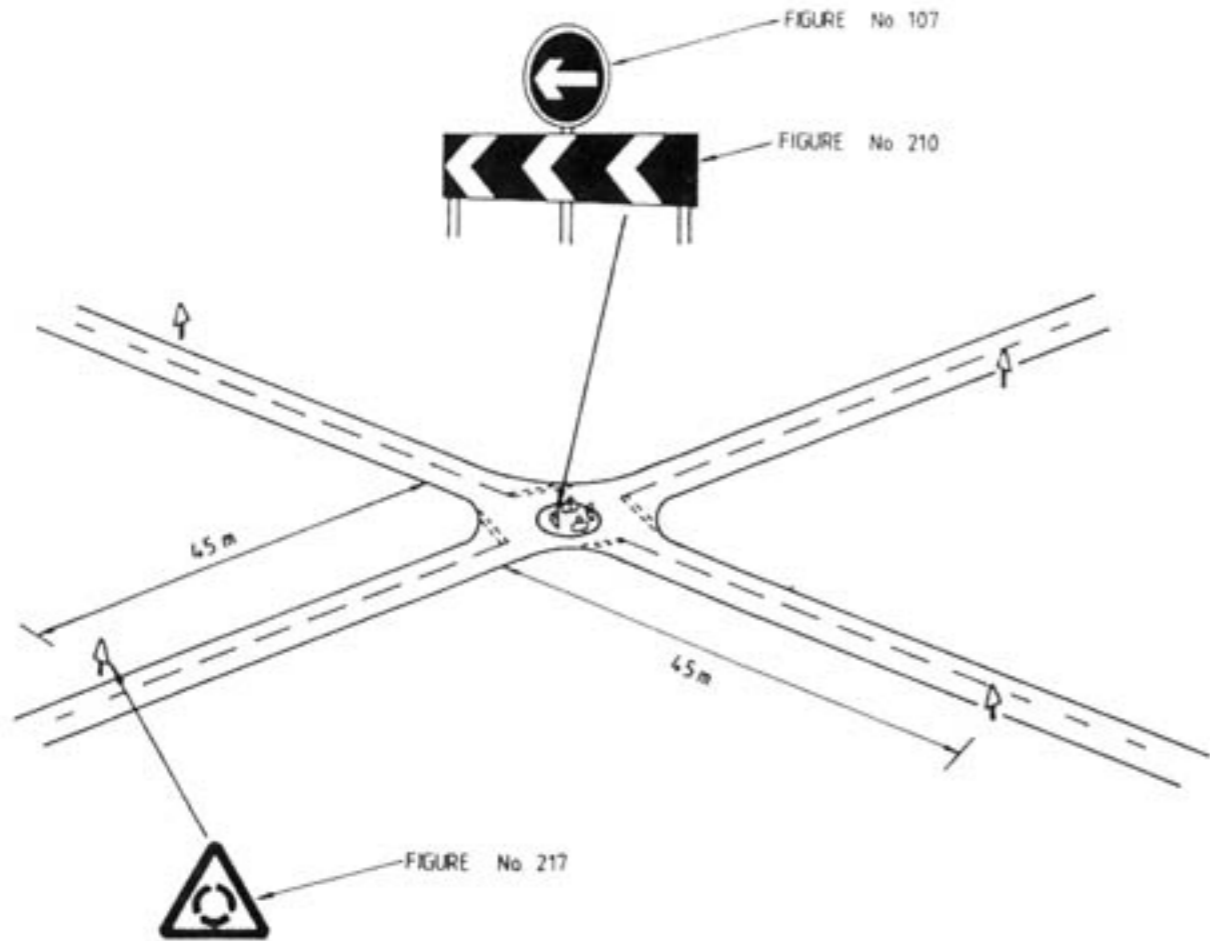
USE OF ADVANCE DIRECTION AND
DIRECTION SIGNS AT ROUNDABOUTS

DIAGRAM 4.8.30



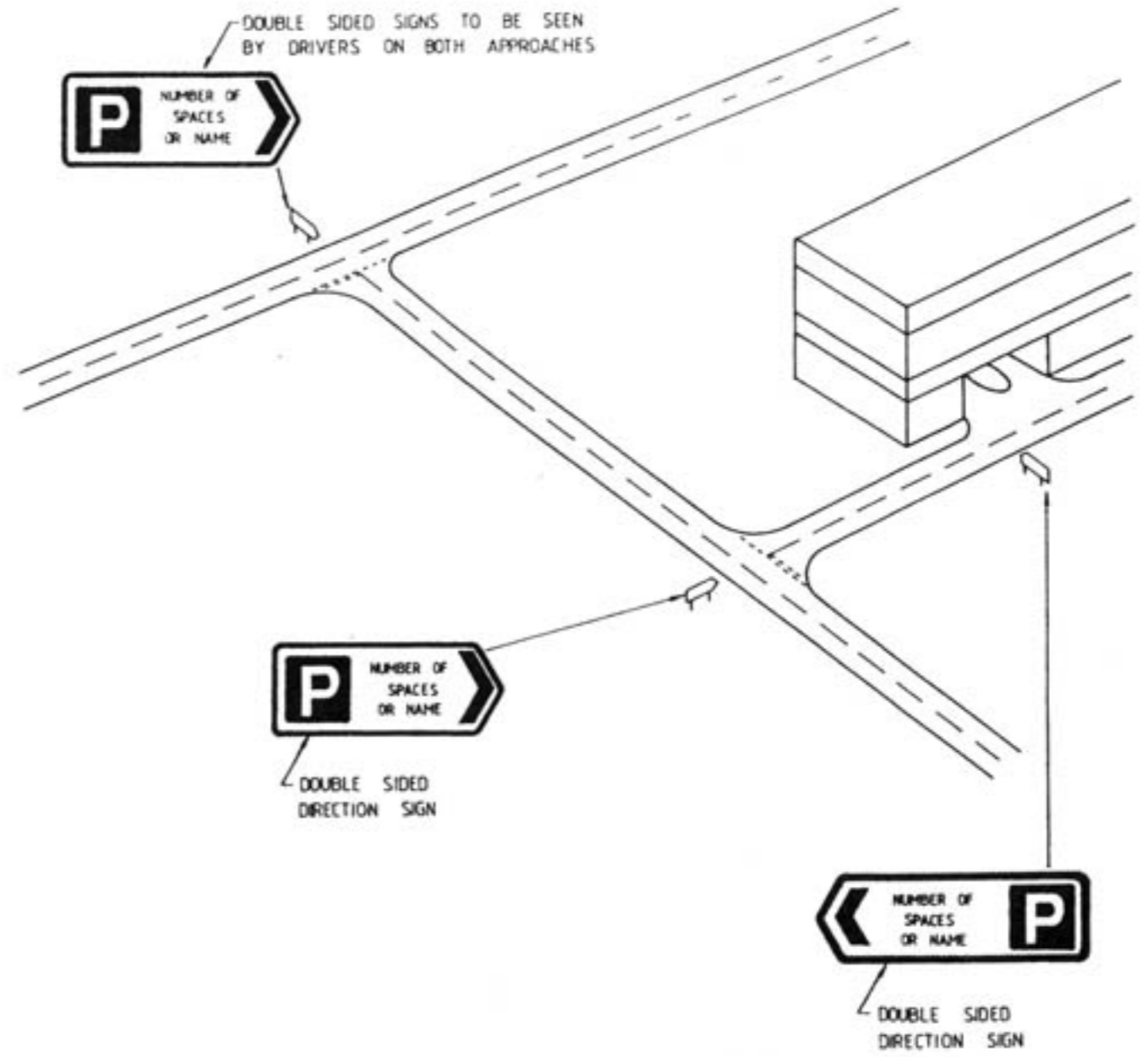
DIRECTION SIGN FOR MINOR ROAD ONLY

DIAGRAM 4.8.31



SIGNING FOR ROUNDABOUT
WHERE DIRECTIONAL SIGNS
ARE NOT REQUIRED

DIAGRAM 4.8.32



SIGNING OF CAR PARKS
OR OTHER SIMILAR DESTINATIONS

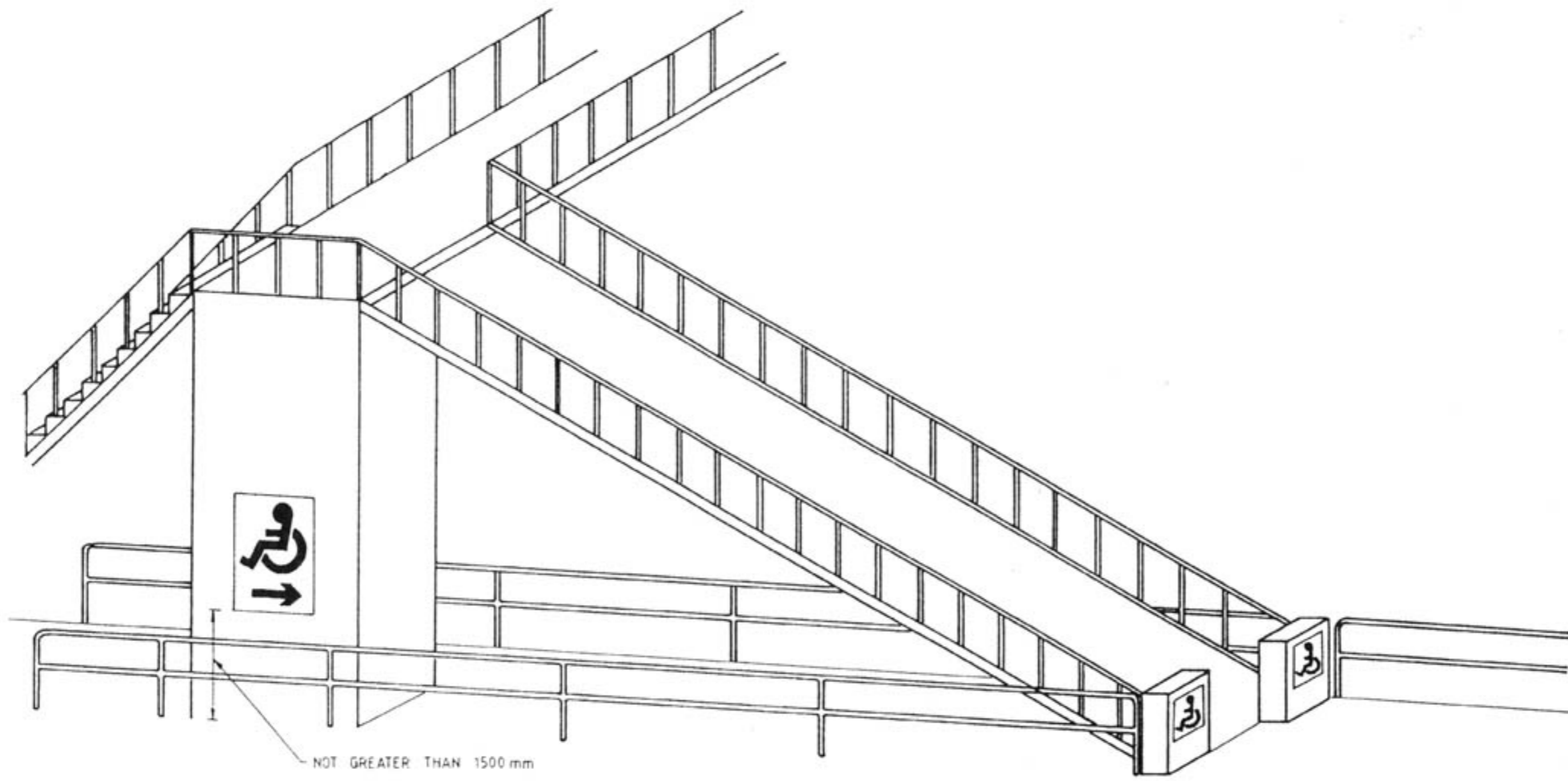
DIAGRAM 4.8.33

- 4.8.23 Where it is considered appropriate to direct drivers to a particular destination, such as a car park, this may be achieved by the use of direction signs erected at junctions along the route to the car park, as shown in Diagram 4.8.33. The distance away that the signing to the car park, or other destination, should be commenced will depend upon the particular circumstances, but obviously if it is, for example, the main car park for that area, the signing will need to start at least from the junction where to continue in another direction would result in the car park being missed. Once started the signing for the car park, or other destination, must continue until that car park, or other destination, has been reached.
- 4.8.24 Pedestrian direction signs will normally be located in the immediate vicinity of the facility e.g. a sign to a subway, or toilet. However, on some occasions it may be appropriate to direct pedestrians well in advance, to a particular facility. If the latter type of signing is adopted, then apart from routes such as walking trails, it is pointless to erect signs which are not within reasonable walking distance of the facility, generally therefore such signs should not be erected more than 400m in advance of the facility being indicated.
- 4.8.25 Pedestrian direction signs will normally be of the flag type, as illustrated in (i) in Diagram 4.8.24, and should incorporate a pedestrian symbol to indicate that it is for pedestrians. On some occasions particularly where a destination is straight ahead a rectangular direction sign as shown in (iii) in Diagram 4.8.24 would be appropriate, and may be used. The arrows used on rectangular signs may be positioned on the left or right of the legend depending on what is considered most descriptive for the particular location.
- 4.8.26 Over use of pedestrian direction signs should be avoided. In most areas pedestrians will either know the direction to a particular destination, or can use vehicle direction signs to find the facility. Also it is quite unnecessary to use a

pedestrian direction sign to indicate a footbridge for example, when that footbridge can be seen quite clearly from a distance. On the other hand a sign indicating a destination which is via that footbridge may be very helpful.

4.8.27 Physically handicapped people can experience considerable difficulty in negotiating what for able bodied persons might be considered as only a slight inconvenience. Therefore if routes are available which can be used by the disabled, and the criteria for this is generally taken as being accessible to a wheel chair, then these can be usefully signed using the small route direction signs shown in (ii) in Diagram 4.8.22 and illustrated in Diagram 4.8.34. Further advice on highway facilities for the disabled is given in Chapter 8, Facilities for the Disabled, Volume 6, of the Transport Planning and Design Manual, and copies of this Chapter can be obtained from the Road Safety and Standards Division of the Transport Department.

4.8.28 The cyclist direction signs shown in Diagram 4.8.26 are to indicate routes that may be used by cyclists. Usually these take the form of a cycle track system separated from the general carriageway used by other vehicles. The sign may also incorporate place names to destinations along the track but generally this will only be appropriate if the cycle track is remote from the general carriageway, for if parallel to this, the vehicle direction signs will normally provide the same information and it is not necessary to duplicate this.



SIGNING OF FACILITIES SUITABLE FOR THE DISABLED

(NOT TO SCALE)