

Trial Pit Excavation for ground investigation

Shallow pits dug by excavator expose the soil profile directly, for logging, sampling and in-situ tests.

TYPICALLY USED FOR

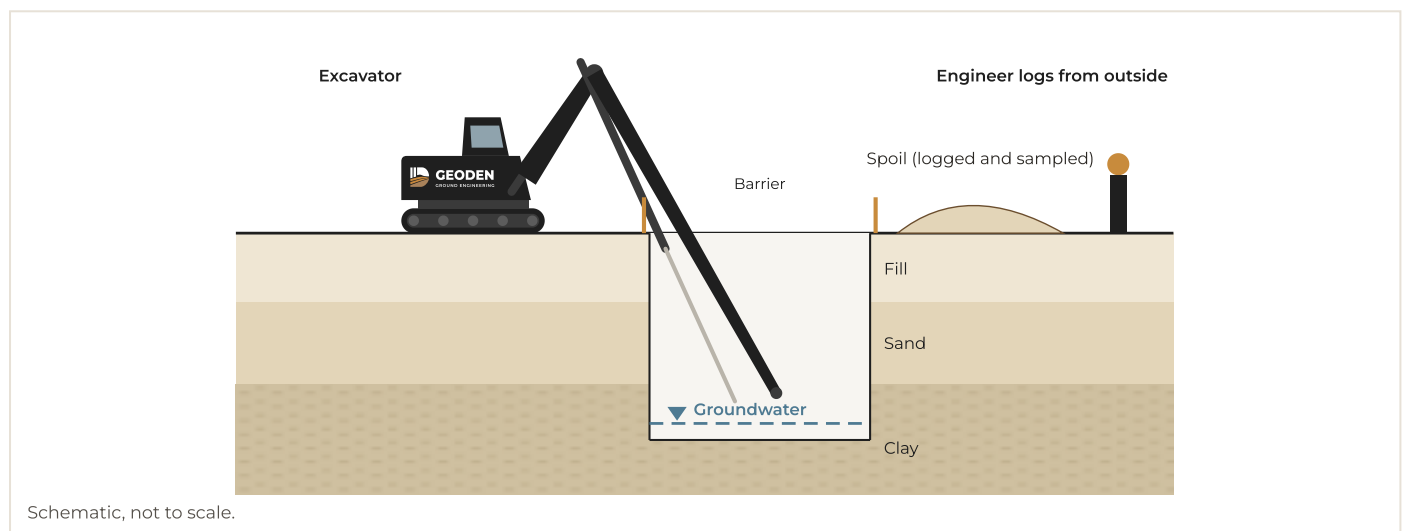
- Shallow ground investigation and fill characterisation.
- Checking soil layers between boreholes and CPTs.
- Locating services, old foundations and obstructions.
- Sampling for laboratory testing and borrow material assessment.

LIMITATIONS

- Depth is limited by the excavator reach and the stability of the pit sides.
- Below the water table, or in loose sand, the sides may collapse.
- Pits disturb the ground and must be backfilled and compacted.

HOW THE TEST WORKS

The pit location is checked for services, then excavated in layers. The exposed faces and the spoil are logged by an engineer from outside the pit, with photographs and measurements.



TEST PLANNING INPUTS

- Purpose and the information required.
- Locations and target depths.
- Service records and permits to dig.
- Sampling and testing schedule.
- Backfill requirements.

TEST EXECUTION CONTROLS

- Pit position and ground level surveyed.
- Logging to the agreed standard, with photographs and scale.
- Groundwater inflow and side stability observed.
- Barriers and edge protection while open.
- Backfill compacted in layers.

INTERPRETATION AND REPORTING

Test plan: What is specified

Investigation scope and locations agreed with the consultant.

Test record: What was measured

Trial pit logs, photographs and sample records.

Interpretation: What it shows

Laboratory and in-situ test results, in the factual report.

DELIVERABLES

Location plan · Trial pit logs · Photographs · Sample and test records · Factual report