

Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan



Prepared by
The Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee
and
The Resource Management Planning Group, TRCA

June 1999



THE TORONTO AND REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



THE TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan

Prepared by:

The Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee
and
The Resource Management Planning Group, TRCA

June, 1999

Cover Photographs:

Wild Columbine
Kortright Centre for Conservation
White-tailed Deer

This Vision Statement was developed by the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee and is accompanied by five values which should guide our actions.

VISION STATEMENT

Boyd North and Glassco Park will be a special place for future generations to enjoy environmental learning, recreational activity, natural, cultural and heritage experiences. Public activities will occur in association with preserving and enhancing the natural, cultural, and heritage resources of the area.

VALUES

To achieve the vision, we should:

- **Ensure that an extensive and diverse ecosystem is protected and enhanced.**
- **Ensure that the community is integrated with nature through opportunities for acceptable public uses.**
- **Ensure that we create an exceptional legacy for future generations.**
- **Ensure that the lands will provide for opportunities to learn about the natural, cultural, and heritage resources.**
- **Ensure that Legacy: A Strategy for a Healthy Humber is supported in the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan, including the preservation, restoration and celebration of the natural, cultural, and heritage resources.**

**BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
ADVISORY COMMITTEE INVITEES**

Gary Adams	Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Tourism
Dave Darker	West Humber Naturalists
Michael DiBiase	Regional Councillor - City of Vaughan
Joe Esposito	Vaughan Wood Ratepayers Association
Mario Ferri	Councillor - City of Vaughan
Kim Gavine	Ontario Heritage Foundation - Heritage Programs
David Green	Humber Watershed Alliance
Dino Guilliane	York Catholic District School Board Trustee
Peter Heinz	Hike Ontario
Natalie Helferty	Federation of Ontario Naturalists
Lyman Henderson	Woodbridge Presbyterian Church
Lawrence Ignace	Ministry of Natural Resources (Ontario Streams)
Barb Jeffrey	The Regional Municipality of York - Planning Dept.
Linda Laflamme	City of Vaughan - Planning and Development
Joanna Lioni	York Region Board of Education Trustee
Domenic Lunardo	City of Vaughan - Planning and Development
Luciano Martin	Action to Restore a Clean Humber
John McMahan	Kleinburg & Area Ratepayers Association
Murray Rowan	Kleinburg & Area Ratepayers Association (Alternate)
John Ryerson	McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Lorenz Schmidt	Ecowerks Technologies
Deborah Schulte	Humber Watershed Alliance
Scott Somerville	City of Vaughan - CAO
Frank Surowiak	York Regional Police
Tony Varone	Urban Renaissance
Alan Wells	The Regional Municipality of York - CAO
Mario Zuccaro	North Woodbridge Ratepayers Association
Rita Zuccaro	City of Vaughan - Council Office

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Vision Statement and Values	
The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan Advisory Committee Invitees	
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
Chapter 1: Developing the Management Plan	
1.1 Introduction	7
1.2 Objective	8
1.3 Location, Site Description and Current Resource Uses	8
1.4 Process for Developing the Management Plan	12
1.5 The Advisory Committee	14
1.6 Public Consultation	15
Chapter 2: Determining the Management Zones	
2.1 Management Zone Definitions	16
2.2 Determining the Management Zones	17
2.3 Permitted Resource Uses	18
2.4 Analysis of Resource Use	20
Chapter 3: Management Guidelines and Recommendations	
3.1 Management Guidelines	35
3.1.1 Natural Heritage	35
3.1.2 Archaeological and Historical	37
3.1.3 Outdoor Recreation, Education and Tourism	38
3.2 Management Zone Recommendations	39
3.2.1 Nature Preserve Zone	39
3.2.2 Natural Environment Zone	39
3.2.3 Primary Restoration Zone	39
3.2.4 Heritage Preserve Zone	40
3.2.5 Agricultural Preserve Zone	40
3.2.6 Public Use Zones: Low, Low to Moderate, and Moderate to High Density	41
3.3 Future Management of Boyd North and Glassco Park	41
3.3.1 Implementation Recommendations	42
3.3.2 Safety and Security	43
3.3.3 Integration with the Community	44
3.3.4 What the Community Can Do	44
3.4 Maintenance of the Management Plan	45

MAPS

Map 1	Site Location
Map 2	Existing Land Uses
Map 3	Special Features
Map 4	Forest Cover
Map 5	Aquatic Habitats and Terrestrial Species of Concern
Map 6	Valley and Stream Corridors
Map 7	Terrestrial Habitats and Regeneration Areas
Map 8	Restoration Areas
Map 9	Culture and Heritage Resources
Map 10	Leased Agricultural Areas and Buildings
Map 11	Economic Resources
Map 12	Recreational, Educational, and Tourism Resources
Map 13	Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan

FIGURES

Figure 1	Regional Context
Figure 2	1999 Existing Resource Uses in Boyd North and Glassco Park
Figure 3	Revenues Generated within Boyd North and Glassco Park, 1997
Figure 4	Proposed Management Zones

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) initiated the preparation of a comprehensive management plan for Boyd North and Glassco Park study area in the fall of 1998. This plan includes a background report which provides a description and evaluation of the property based on relevant plans and policies, existing resource inventories and environmental conditions, site limitations and opportunities. The Management Plan itself identifies specific management zones for the site, which determine the types of activities that will be permitted on the different areas of the property. The Plan provides a framework for the Authority to determine priorities for future initiatives, including the protection of natural features and habitat regeneration based on an ecosystem approach to management. The Management Plan will also provide a framework for determining the ecological appropriateness of any proposed public use locations and ensure that the integrity and diversity of the area are maintained.

An Advisory Committee was established to undertake the Boyd North and Glassco Park management planning process. The *Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan* is the product of over seven months of work by the TRCA and Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee has taken action to ensure the preservation and enhancement of this property. The Management Plan was based on the Advisory Committee's vision that:

"Boyd North and Glassco Park will be a special place for future generations to enjoy environmental learning, recreational activity, natural, cultural and heritage experiences. It will also be a place where public activities will occur in association with the preservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural, and heritage resources of the area".

There have been a number of opportunities for the public to provide input into the Management Plan. An information session, two public meetings, information displays and discussions with TRCA staff were some of the methods of input. The public realized the need for and have fully supported the Management Plan planning process. In general, the public response to the proposed Management Plan was very favourable. The public indicated that they prefer to keep as much of the planning area as natural as possible with some members of the public noting that open tableland areas should be planted and regenerated immediately to discourage future development. Other members of the public thought that a passive public use on these tablelands would create greater public ownership and also discourage future intensive development. Finally, it was also suggested that any alterations to the approved Management Plan be subject to a public process.

MANAGEMENT ZONES

To apply the appropriate management zone to a particular area, the Advisory Committee and TRCA staff reviewed, inventoried, analyzed and ranked the environmental features and functions for the entire property. Authority policies (e.g., Valley and Stream Corridors), cultural, heritage, and recreational resources were identified. The Advisory Committee endorsed the continuation of the existing Conservation Authority land uses including Kortright, the nursery, and the Boyd Field Centre. The Advisory Committee also endorsed the concept of the proposed Inter-Regional Trail. The existing land use areas were reviewed and applied as a final layer of information to define the management zone boundaries.

The Advisory Committee identified eight management zones for Boyd North and Glassco Park. They are Nature Reserve, Natural Environment, Primary Restoration, Heritage Preserve, Agricultural Reserve and Public Use: Low, Low to Moderate, and Moderate to High. For each management zone, the Advisory Committee also determined the acceptable level of recreational, outdoor educational, and other resource uses. Within the eight management zones, specific resource management activities are identified and encouraged.

Any proposal for particular resource use within Authority lands must be in keeping with the provisions outlined in the TRCA's *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program* and the *Strategy for Public Use of Conservation Authority Lands*. Any proposal for particular resource use within the Glassco Park area would require the approval of the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

PROPOSED RESOURCE USES

Once the proposed management zones for Boyd North and Glassco Park were defined, a geographic analysis was performed on the newly zoned areas. Approximately 85 percent of the property will be zoned as Nature Reserve, Natural Environment, or Primary Restoration. Permitted resource uses in these areas will range from no formal public use to low intensity recreational and educational uses. This is in keeping with the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee's vision to ensure there is a balance between preservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural, and heritage resources of the property and public use of the lands, with the scales tipping in favour of nature.

In comparison to current land uses, the resource uses proposed within the Boyd North and Glassco Park management zones will result in the amount of natural lands increasing by approximately 45 percent. This will be achieved mainly, by implementing the Primary Restoration Zone in the Management Plan by creating meadows and forest regeneration on agricultural lands and old fields.

The Management Plan Zone Map has designated 8 percent (57.1 ha) of the total land area to Public Use Zones. A majority of these lands, 84 percent (47.9 ha) are existing public use areas, such as Kortright Centre for Conservation or the Boyd Conservation Field Centre. Therefore, only 16 percent (9.2 ha) of Public Use Zones has been created through this planning process and are considered to be a new area for public use.

FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK

It is imperative that the management of Boyd North and Glassco Park be based on a balance between the environmental, social, and economic elements of this fragile ecosystem. As discussed in the *Phase 1: Background Report*, the population surrounding Boyd North and Glassco Park will grow dramatically over the next 20 years. As outlined in the City of Vaughan's Official Plan, three new defined urban areas will be created adjacent to or near Boyd North and Glassco Park: the Woodbridge Expansion Area, Urban Village Area 1 (Vellore Village), and Urban Village Area 2. It is expected that these communities will accommodate a population of approximately 265,000 people. The proposed Public Use Zones within Boyd North and Glassco Park could satisfy some of the outdoor recreational needs for these new communities and for the existing residents of Kleinburg and Woodbridge. The property will also continue to provide recreational and outdoor educational opportunities for the Greater Toronto Area population through destination attractions, for example, the Kortright Centre for Conservation and through the development of new features, such as the proposed Humber Inter-Regional Trail. It is also important to note that the integrated planning

process for the Management Plan identified no surplus land and that public ownership of these lands will become more important in the future.

It is anticipated that Boyd North and Glassco Park will become a major environmental, recreation, outdoor education, and tourism centre due to its strategic location and large size. It is also anticipated that Boyd North and Glassco Park could be significantly influenced by the character and activities of the surrounding communities.

Community Stewardship Committee

One of the recommendations coming out of the Management Plan was the establishment of a community stewardship committee to assist in the implementation of the management plan. Representation from the current Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee is critical to provide continuity and ensure the vision of the Committee is being implemented as envisioned. This community stewardship committee would assist in the review of all proposed public uses and related activities for the property. Another important role of the community stewardship committee is to assist the Authority in raising funds to facilitate site development, such as trail construction and signage.

Integration with the Community

The natural, cultural, recreational, and heritage resources that exist within Boyd North and Glassco Park provide benefits beyond the TRCA property boundaries. As illustrated by the resource mapping, these resources extend into the surrounding landscape and integration with the community was considered throughout the planning process. In the future, much of the land surrounding Boyd North and Glassco Park will be developed for primarily residential purposes. In support of the policies of the Authority, municipalities should be encouraged to support the Authority when planning new developments, by having regard to the following recommendations when considering community design.

The opportunities for outdoor recreation, conservation education, and nature appreciation available within Boyd North and Glassco Park will provide many health and economic benefits to the community. They will also complement the existing municipal and private recreational lands and facilities in the City of Vaughan. Many activities that new residents can do to ensure these new developments positively impact Boyd North and Glassco Park are included in the Management Plan.

Safety and Security

Discussion have taken place with Police and other emergency service providers to identify their concerns and questions regarding accessing the lands for patrol and emergency response purposes. As a result of the lands natural character, many areas are inaccessible by conventional response vehicles (fire, ambulance and police). The Management Plan recommend the development of a detailed emergency response plan with involvement from local and neighbouring emergency service providers. In addition, security patrol and attended security stations should be considered for Kortright Centre, Boyd Field Centre and the Nursery.

Maintenance of the Management Plan

At meeting #6/99, held on June 25, 1999, The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority approved the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan.

Resolution #A177/99

"THAT the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan, dated May 1999, as attached be approved;

THAT staff be directed to assist in the establishment of a community stewardship committee for Boyd North and Glassco Park made up of interested citizens, interest groups and organizations, to help the Authority with the detail planning, management and implementation of the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan;

THAT staff circulate the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan to the Ontario Heritage Foundation, the McMichael Canadian Art Collection and the City of Vaughan for endorsement;

THAT staff send a letter of thanks to the members of the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee for the assistance with the preparation of the Management Plan;

THAT copies of the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan be circulated to the members of the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee, the City of Vaughan, and other appropriate agencies, groups and individuals;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to utilize the Strategy for Public Use on Conservation Authority Lands (1995) when considering new public uses on the Authority's Boyd North lands."

The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan will undergo a review every five years. If major revisions are necessary to reflect changing environmental, social, or economic conditions, they will only be done after consultation with affected groups and individuals. Revisions of the Plan will be in keeping with the original stated vision and objective of the Plan to protect the natural and heritage values of the property.

The Management Plan identifies potential public use zones. Any specific uses proposed within these areas will be screened and assessed according to the *Strategy for Public Use of Conservation Authority Lands* (1995). A community consultation process will also be employed at this later stage of planning to ensure local and regional interests have input into the concept and detailed design review. The consultative process will include the establishment of a working group with representatives from citizens, user groups, agencies, and elected representatives.

The screening process for specific public uses will ensure that all proposed uses, facilities, and landscape changes will be thoroughly examined and designed to minimize disruption, and to protect, enhance, or restore the natural values of the area.

MAP 13 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN MANAGEMENT ZONES

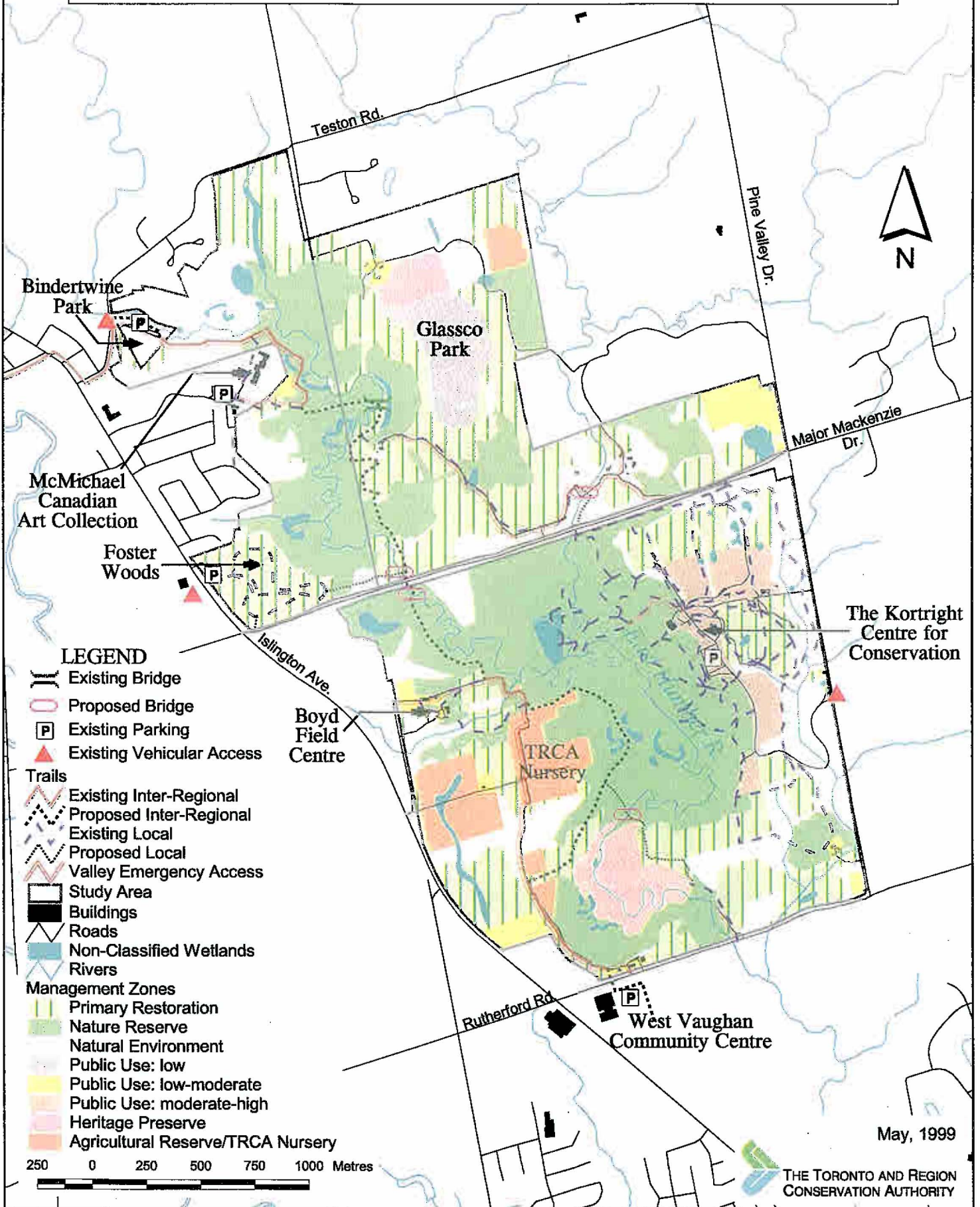


Table 2.1: Permitted Resource Uses

Management Zone	Permitted Intensity of Uses	Resource Uses
Nature Reserve	None to Low Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, education, photography and cross-country skiing.
Natural Environment	Low Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, education, photography, and cross-country skiing.
Primary Restoration	Low Intensity. This Zone will be allowed to evolve into Nature Reserve or Natural Environment.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, education, photography, and cross-country skiing.
Heritage Preserve	Low to Moderate Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, photography, and cross-country skiing. Archaeological excavations and education opportunities.
Agricultural Reserve	Low to Moderate Intensity.	Crops, nursery operations, and associated buildings.
Public Use: Low Intensity	Low Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, photography, and cross-country skiing.
Public Use: Low to Moderate Intensity	Low to Moderate Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, photography, and cross-country skiing. Outdoor education facility, sports fields, picnic grounds, group camping facilities, nature retreat, native woody gardens, and property associated with the Kortright Centre for Conservation and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection.
Public Use: Moderate to High Intensity	Moderate to High Intensity.	Low rise conference centre, nature interpretation centre, restaurant and accommodation (Bed and Breakfast). Buildings and facilities associated with the Kortright Centre for Conservation and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, community centre, arena, group picnic grounds (i.e. the Boyd Conservation Area), a special events/attractions area, and a destination attraction

NOTE: The list of resource use provides examples of the types of uses permitted. This is not an all inclusive list.

CHAPTER 1

DEVELOPING THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) initiated the preparation of a comprehensive management plan for Boyd North and Glassco Park in the fall of 1998. This plan includes a description and evaluation of the property based on relevant plans and policies, existing resource inventories and environmental conditions, site limitations and opportunities. The Plan identifies specific management zones for the site. The management zones determine the types of activities that will be permitted on different areas of the property. For example, within a Natural Environment Zone (such as a large forested area), hiking on trails or nature viewing may be appropriate activities; within a Public Use Zone, picnic grounds, sport fields, or a nature interpretation centre may be developed. The Plan will provide a framework for the Authority to determine priorities for future initiatives, including the protection of natural features and habitat regeneration based on an ecosystem approach to management. The Management Plan will also provide a framework for determining the ecological appropriateness of any proposed public use locations and ensure that the integrity and diversity of the area are maintained.

The TRCA's Mission Statement states that the Authority acts in the community's interest through advocating and implementing watershed management programs that:

- *maintain and improve the quality of the region's lands and waters;*
- *contribute to public safety from flooding and erosion;*
- *provide for the acquisition of conservation and hazard lands; and*
- *enhance the quality and variety of life in the community by using its lands for inter-regional outdoor recreation, heritage preservation, and conservation education.*

Planning efforts have shown that community and interest groups have grown more concerned with the impact of land use change on the remaining natural landscapes within the Greater Toronto Area. At the same time, user groups, businesses, and municipalities have expressed a growing interest in using public lands for a variety of outdoor recreation, ecological restoration, and other uses. The provision of public uses on TRCA owned land must consider economic factors, the recreational needs of the community, and ensure the natural landscape is protected and properly managed.

At meeting #5/98 held on June 26, 1998, the Authority approved the process for preparing a management plan for Boyd North and Glassco Park:

Resolution #A130/98

"THAT staff be directed to proceed with the development of a Boyd North Management Plan;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to establish an Advisory Committee, which would include members of the public, interested community groups, the City of

Vaughan, York Region, the Ontario Heritage Foundation and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection to assist with the development of the plan and facilitate the opportunity for public input."

The initiation of a management planning process for Boyd North and Glassco Park was timely and necessary for a number of reasons:

1. Several concept plans for Boyd North and Glassco Park have been developed over the past twenty years. These plans have generally envisaged large scale development of recreational and conservation education facilities for the site involving significant capital investment from many sources. Changes in the availability of public funds, evolving concepts in conservation and recreation planning, and advances in ecosystem based planning have highlighted the need to review these plans and prepare an updated comprehensive management plan for the site.
2. There has been a long history of land use change surrounding the planning area. It is anticipated that ongoing urbanization in the City of Vaughan, particularly in north Woodbridge and Kleinburg, will increase development pressure on these Authority lands.

The Advisory Committee established to undertake the Boyd North and Glassco Park management planning process decided to take action towards the preservation and enhancement of this property. The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan is the product of seven months of work by the TRCA and Advisory Committee. The Plan is the key to guiding the planning and management of Boyd North and Glassco Park so that it will be a special place for future generations to enjoy environmental learning, recreational activity, natural, cultural and heritage experiences. It will also be a place where public activities will occur in association with the preservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural, and heritage resources of the area.

1.2 OBJECTIVE

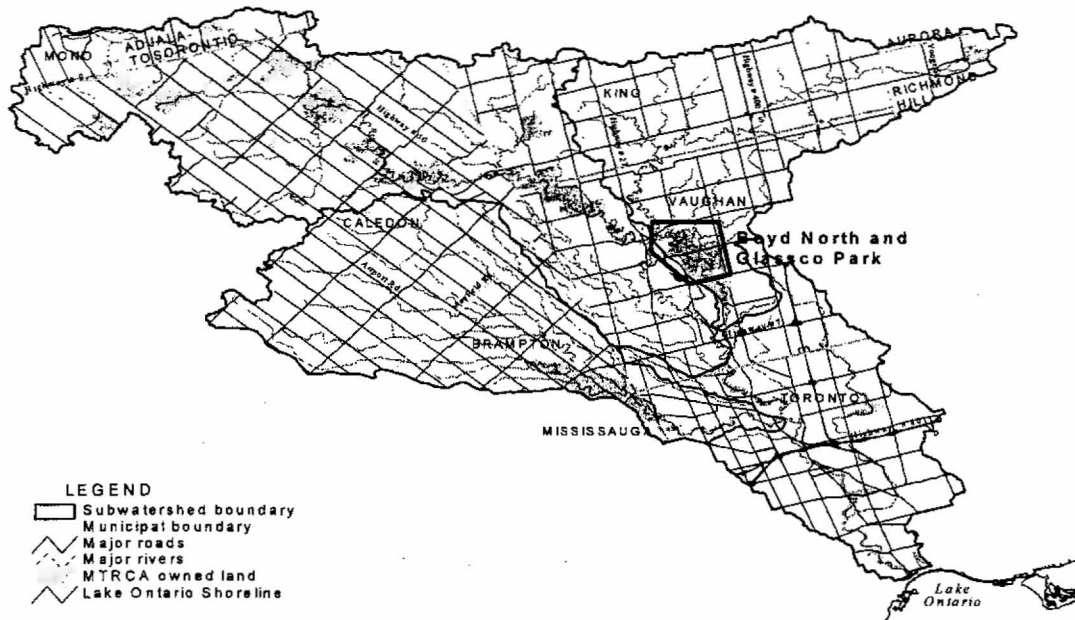
The objective of the Boyd North and Glassco Park management planning process was to examine these lands and determine their environmental features and functions, heritage values, and their potential for recreation or other uses in order to establish a plan for the future management of the properties.

1.3 LOCATION, SITE DESCRIPTION AND CURRENT RESOURCE USES ¹

Boyd North and Glassco Park are located within the Humber River watershed and follow the course of the East Branch of the Humber River in the City of Vaughan (Figure 1). The planning area is bounded by Stegman's Mill Road and Teston Side Road to the north, Rutherford Road to the south, Islington Avenue to the west, and Pine Valley Drive to the east. Major Mackenzie Drive crosses the site (Map 1). The entire planning area encompasses 688 hectares, Boyd North is 494 hectares and Glassco Park is 194 hectares in size.

¹Detailed descriptions of the existing uses of the lands and the natural, heritage, cultural, recreational, educational, and economic resources within Boyd North and Glassco Park are provided in the *Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan: Phase 1 Background Report (TRCA, 1998)*.

Figure 1 Regional Context - Humber River Watershed



Boyd North is owned by The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. This property includes the Kortright Centre for Conservation, the Boyd Conservation Field Centre, the Authority's tree nursery, William T. Foster Woods, and lands under management agreement with the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. Glassco Park is owned by the Province of Ontario, through the Ontario Heritage Foundation, and is managed by the Authority on behalf of the Province.

Boyd North and Glassco Park are part of the 832 hectare Boyd Complex, which includes lands to the north and south of Rutherford Road. The lands south of Rutherford Road include the Boyd Conservation Area and are not part of this planning exercise.

The Kortright Centre for Conservation is a day use facility which provides conservation education to school groups and the general public focussing on water, wildlife and fish, forests, energy, and land themes. It is Canada's largest environmental conservation facility and a tourist attraction with over 4 million visitors since its opening in 1979.

The Boyd Conservation Field Centre focuses on outdoor activities and conservation education. The Centre caters primarily to students, however, adult education and accommodation is available. For school groups, the programs are curriculum related with an emphasis on active, hands-on participation in a wide variety of field activities under the topics of forestry, river surveys, wildlife ecology, native history, art, and many others.

The TRCA's tree nursery produces a variety of native species and sizes of trees and shrubs for planting on Authority, private, and municipal lands. Nursery production on these lands consists of

a wide range of products including bare root trees, shrubs and transplant seedlings, conifers, caliper deciduous trees, bio-engineering materials, and shrub seed.

William T. Foster Woods was created in 1992, as a memorial planting area within the Kleinburg New Forest. The Authority entered into an agreement with the City of Vaughan and the Kleinburg Area Ratepayers Association to manage the lands known as William T. Foster Woods. Revegetation of the site has been completed.

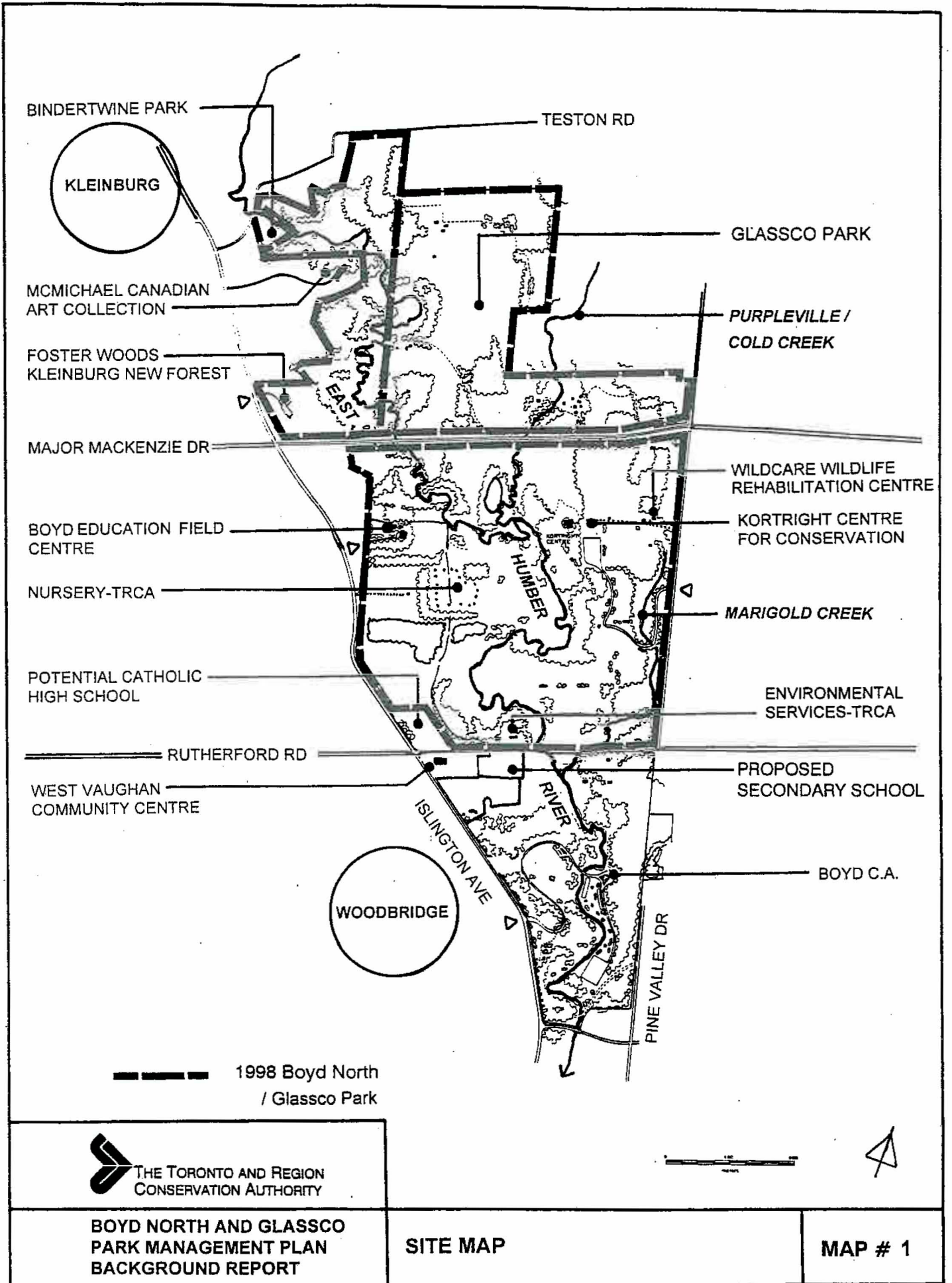
An Inter-regional Trail is proposed through the William Granger Greenway along the East Humber River. The inter-regional trail will link the Village of Kleinburg with the McMichael Canadian Art Collection and travel south to the West Vaughan Community Centre and Boyd Conservation Area. There will be side trails to link with the Kortright Centre for Conservation and the Boyd Conservation Field Centre.

The McMichael Canadian Art Collection entered into an agreement with the Authority in 1975 for use of 26 hectares of Authority owned valley lands along the Humber River. A pedestrian trail is proposed to link the McMichael Collection with the Kortright Centre for Conservation.

Glassco Park currently contains significant forests, areas which have been reforested, house rentals, and some lands being leased for agricultural use. In 1968, J. Grant Glassco conveyed the Glassco farm property to the Ontario Heritage Foundation, provided that the lands be maintained and developed in the same manner and for the same general purposes as the lands of the Metropolitan Toronto Conservation Authority. In 1969, a further agreement was reached between the Authority, the Ontario Heritage Foundation and Willa Glassco. Under the agreement, Ms. Glassco relinquished all rights to the property and the Authority leased the property from the Foundation. The Authority agreed to manage the lands, being responsible for development, maintenance, administration and supervision of the lands.

In terms of the condition of aquatic habitat and species within Boyd North and Glassco Park, the East Humber River currently supports a small coldwater fishery, and Purpleville Creek (also known as Cold Creek) which also runs through the property, is a high quality coldwater stream. While surface water quality does not always meet provincial water quality objectives, the East Humber River exhibits some of the best surface water quality in the Humber River watershed. Some of the more sensitive species found within these watercourses include rainbow trout, brown trout, reddsides dace, rainbow darter, and mottled sculpin. Redside dace has been designated nationally vulnerable by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. There are also a number of smaller unnamed tributaries which flow through Boyd North and Glassco Park.

Boyd North and Glassco Park contain many significant terrestrial features, most of which have been designated as Environmentally Significant Areas by the TRCA, or as Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Boyd North and Glassco Park are currently covered mainly by meadow, farm field, and forest, with other habitat types such as plantation, wetland, and thicket also present. The flood plain cover is forest and meadow, valley slopes are forested, and tablelands mostly consist of meadow and plantation. Wetlands and thickets are scattered throughout. Forest cover is well connected in the planning area and provides a number



THE TORONTO AND REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO
PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
BACKGROUND REPORT

SITE MAP

MAP # 1

of alternatives for species movement. As well, these lands provide an important link in a wildlife corridor along the East Humber River valley.

The fauna found within Boyd North and Glassco Park reflect the diversity and quality of terrestrial habitats found within these lands. Many species are considered Species of Concern by the TRCA according to their needs or sensitivities. For example, the large forest blocks support numerous breeding territories of Scarlet Tanager, Hairy Woodpecker, and Wood Thrush. Species vulnerable to impacts from urban development, including the Northern Redbelly Snake, Spotted Salamander, and Grey Treefrog, are also found within these lands. That many Species of Concern have been identified within Boyd North and Glassco Park indicates the high quality of some habitats.

Heritage resources include Aboriginal and Euro-Canadian archaeological sites, historic structures (e.g., farm houses), and the Toronto Carrying-Place Trail. The most significant archaeological resources include the late Iroquoian Kleinburg Ossuary located in Glassco Park, and the Seed-Barker site, a Late Iroquoian village. The 'log house' at the corner of Pine Valley Drive and Rutherford Road is the only building listed as a significant heritage structure on the site. However, many of the houses within the property and the Boyd Field Centre building have heritage value. The Toronto Carrying-Place Trail facilitated aboriginal transportation and settlement 11,000 years before European settlement. The Trail is a natural feature within the Humber River watershed, that is nationally designated by the Heritage Sites and Monuments Board of Canada and played a role in getting the Humber River recommended a Canadian Heritage River. At this time the Humber River has been officially declared a Candidate Canadian Heritage River. We are optimistic the official dedication will occur in late 1999.

There are a number of recreation and conservation education opportunities found within Boyd North and Glassco Park, including the Kortright Centre for Conservation, the Boyd Field Centre, and existing trails. These facilities are complemented by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection and Boyd Conservation Area, both of which are located adjacent to Boyd North and Glassco Park. The William Granger Greenway is the valley and stream corridor which links the McMichael Canadian Art Collection with Kortright and Boyd Conservation Area. The William Granger Greenway was named for Bill Granger (former TRCA Chair) for his contribution to watershed management.

1.4 PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Management Plan was undertaken in two phases. Phase 1 was the production of a background report and Phase 2 included the planning process and development of the Plan.

Phase 1 was undertaken by Authority staff and included an extensive review of resource inventories; past proposals and master plans; and land use planning designations, policies, and guidelines. The property's natural heritage system, cultural and heritage resources, and existing land and recreational uses were identified. *The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan: Phase 1 Background Report* (October 1998) was produced and provided the necessary background and resource information to proceed with the development of the management plan.

Phase 1 - Background Report

Phase 1 of the management planning process consisted of eight steps:

1. Existing plans and studies within the East Humber River subwatershed, of which Boyd North and Glassco Park are a part, were reviewed.
2. Existing and proposed land use, municipal services, and property ownership were documented.
3. The current public uses and types of recreation activities occurring in the Boyd North and Glassco Park area and surrounding communities were documented.
4. The natural, cultural, heritage, recreation and education resources were defined.
5. Information deficiencies were identified.
6. A background report providing the above resource inventories and other information was prepared by the TRCA, entitled *The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan: Phase 1 Background Report* (October 1998).
7. A Working Terms of Reference for developing the Management Plan through an Advisory Committee was prepared.
8. An Advisory Committee was established in the fall of 1998. The Advisory Committee was selected with broad representation of groups and individuals interested in the future of Boyd North and Glassco Park. Community representatives, special interest groups, private businesses, local residents, and municipal representatives were asked to participate in this planning process. In total, 28 individuals were invited to participate. Twenty three of these individuals attended two or more meetings.

Phase 2 - Production of the Management Plan

Phase 2 of the Boyd North and Glassco Park management planning process involved producing the management plan. The Advisory Committee reviewed and adopted their Working Terms of Reference, assisted staff in the review and analysis of the resource inventories and other information gathered in Phase 1, and helped to define and identify management zone options within Boyd North and Glassco Park.

Phase 2 was completed by TRCA staff with assistance from the Advisory Committee and consisted of the following components:

1. The Advisory Committee developed a Vision Statement and Values for Boyd North and Glassco Park.
2. The property features were documented, analyzed and evaluated based on the available resource inventories and background information.
3. The following features were identified:
 - natural features and functions and potential enhancements;
 - existing outdoor recreation/education uses;
 - linkages between Boyd North and Glassco Park and surrounding communities;
 - potential access points; and
 - the landscape's ability to sustain proposed uses.
4. A Public Information Session and two public meetings were held at the West Vaughan Community Centre. Information displays were set up at the Community Centre and Vaughan Civic Centre to facilitate a wide range of opportunities for public input.

5. The community's input and recommendations for the future management of the Boyd North and Glassco Park area were considered and documented.
6. Management zones were identified to consolidate guidelines and recommendations for the future management of Boyd North and Glassco Park.
7. The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan was prepared to provide a framework for determining the ecological appropriateness of any resource use and ensure that the integrity and diversity of these lands are maintained.

Copies of the minutes for the Advisory Committee, the Working Terms of Reference and a summary of the public consultation are compiled as Appendix A. Appendix A is available upon request.

1.5 THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representatives from the following agencies/groups were invited to participate on the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee: Humber Watershed Alliance, West Humber Naturalists, Action to Restore a Clean Humber, regional and municipal staff, elected representatives, local ratepayer groups, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, the York Region Board of Education, York Catholic District School Board, the Ontario Heritage Foundation, The McMichael Canadian Art Collection, local developers, and Authority staff.

The Advisory Committee assisted the Authority to finalize the Working Terms of Reference, and determine management zones and management recommendations. This Committee also provided technical input and assisted the Authority with the public consultation program.

The Advisory Committee was responsible for the following:

1. Provide technical expertise and advice to the TRCA throughout the development of the Management Plan;
2. Ensure that appropriate staff at their respective municipalities/agencies are adequately informed throughout the process;
3. Provide comment and input to suggestions and proposals brought to the Advisory Committee;
4. Assist in the identification of current outstanding issues involving Boyd North and Glassco Park and make suggestions as to appropriate ways of resolving them; and
5. Assist the TRCA in presentations and public forums.

The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan is the result of over seven months of work by this Committee and TRCA staff. The management zones that are described in Chapter 2 were developed through this planning process.

1.6 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The eventual development and use of Boyd North and Glassco Park will be important to area residents and consequently, they must have a meaningful way to provide input to the planning process. To facilitate a wide range of opportunities for input, many techniques were used to generate a high level of awareness.

The public consultation component of developing the management plan included the following:

- Presentation or discussions with groups (i.e. Ontario Heritage Federation, McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg Area Ratepayers Association, Humber Watershed Alliance, West Humber Naturalists).
- Information sessions, newsletters, and mailings to the public, including ratepayer/user groups to identify a broad range of potential needs and opportunities for the area.
- Public meetings to present the background information, the vision, proposed management zones, and management guidelines.

In general, the public response to the proposed management plan was very favourable. They indicated that their preference was to keep as much of the planning area as natural as possible. Some members of the public noted that open tableland areas should be planted and regenerated immediately to discourage future development. Other members of the public thought that a passive public use on these tablelands would create greater public ownership and help to discourage future intensive development. Finally, the public indicated that any alterations to the approved Management Plan must be subject to a public process.

CHAPTER TWO

DETERMINING THE MANAGEMENT ZONES

2.1 MANAGEMENT ZONE DEFINITIONS

The Advisory Committee considered eight management zones for Boyd North and Glassco Park. They are defined as follows:

- Nature Reserve:** Areas which have significant or unique natural features, landforms, species, or habitats that require careful management to ensure long-term protection.
- Natural Environment:** Large core habitat areas and corridors which are "natural" in character, but do not meet the criteria of the Nature Preserve Zone.
- Primary Restoration:** Priority lands within Boyd North and Glassco Park where health and diversity could be enhanced through environmental restoration.
- Heritage Preserve:** Areas which have important human heritage features or landscapes that require careful management to ensure long-term protection.
- Agricultural Reserve:** Areas which have existing or potential for agricultural uses, including crops or nursery operations.
- Public Use: Low Intensity:** Areas which have existing or potential for low intensity recreational and educational uses or services.
- Public Use: Low to Moderate Intensity:** Areas which have existing or potential for low to moderate intensity recreational and educational uses, facilities, or services.
- Public Use: Moderate to High Intensity:** Areas which have existing or potential for moderate to high intensity recreational and educational uses, facilities, or services.

The *Nature Reserve*, *Natural Environment*, *Primary Restoration*, *Agricultural Reserve*, and *Public Use* management zone definitions are originally from the *Ontario Provincial Parks - Planning and Management Policies*, Provincial Parks Branch, 1976. The definitions were modified slightly by the TRCA staff to better reflect current resources uses at Boyd North and Glassco Park. The *Heritage Preserve* management zone definition has been added by TRCA staff to better reflect a potential management zone for Boyd North and Glassco Park.

Public Use: Low Intensity

- Leased Agriculture/Crop Fields
- Valley and Stream Corridors
- Existing Agreements (OHF)

Public Use: Low to Moderate Intensity

- Existing Recreation, Education, and Tourism Facilities and Event/Service/Parking Areas
- Leased Houses
- Leased Agriculture/Crop Fields
- Valley and Stream Corridors
- Meadows and Hay Fields
- Existing Adjoining Public Facilities (School Site)

Public Use: Moderate to High Intensity

- Existing Recreation, Education, and Tourism Facilities and Event/Service/Parking Areas
- Valley and Stream Corridors

These resource area delineations were then used as the basis for determining the *Nature Preserve*, *Natural Environment*, *Primary Restoration*, *Heritage Preserve*, *Agricultural Preserve*, and *Public Use* management zones that are shown on the Management Plan Zone Map (Map 13).

2.3 PERMITTED RESOURCE USES

Eight management zones for Boyd North and Glassco Park were determined by the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee, in consultation with TRCA and other agency staff, interest groups, businesses, and the public. For each management zone, the Advisory Committee also determined the acceptable level of recreational, outdoor educational, and other resource uses.

Within each of the eight management zones, except parts of the Nature Reserve, some degree of recreational and educational use will be permitted. This leaves some provision to consider tourism opportunities. Only in the Agricultural Reserve (ie., farming) and the Public Use Zones (ie., sports fields) will other land uses be permitted. Specific permitted intensity of uses are detailed in Table 2.1.

Any proposal for particular resource use within Authority lands must be in keeping with the provisions outlined in the TRCA's *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program* and the *Strategy for Public Use of Conservation Authority Lands*. Any proposal for particular resource use within the Glassco Park area would require the approval of the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

2.2 DETERMINING THE MANAGEMENT ZONES

To apply the appropriate management zone to a particular area, the Advisory Committee and TRCA staff reviewed, inventoried, analyzed and ranked the environmental features and functions for the entire property. This information was mapped (Maps 2-12) and it reflects TRCA interpretation of ecological processes on the property. Authority policies (e.g., Valley and Stream Corridors), cultural, heritage, and recreational resources were identified. The Advisory Committee endorsed the existing Conservation Authority land uses including Kortright, the Nursery, the Boyd Field Centre, and the proposed Inter-Regional Trail. The existing land use areas were reviewed and applied as a final layer of information to define the management zone boundaries. The layers of resource mapping that have been used to determine each management zone are outlined and ranked in order of importance below:

Nature Reserve Zone

- Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs)
- Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs)
- Classified and Nonclassified Wetlands
- Terrestrial Habitat--Natural Forest Cover
- Aquatic Habitats and Terrestrial Habitats--Species of Concern
- Other Sensitive Areas
- Valley and Stream Corridors

Natural Environment Zone

- Terrestrial Habitats and Regeneration Areas--Reforestation
- Terrestrial Habitats and Regeneration Areas--Natural Old Field Cover
- Locally Significant Wetlands
- Valley and Stream Corridors

Primary Restoration Zone

- Agriculture/ Crop Fields
- Meadows and Hay Fields
- Environmental and Visual Buffers
- Valley and Stream Corridors

Heritage Preserve Zone

- Archaeological Resources
- Historic Resources

Agricultural Reserve Zone

- Leased Agriculture/Crop Fields
- Meadows and Hay Fields
- Leased Buildings
- TRCA Tree Nursery

Table 2.1: Permitted Resource Uses

Management Zone	Permitted Intensity of Uses	Resource Uses
Nature Reserve	None to Low Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, education, photography and cross-country skiing.
Natural Environment	Low Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, education, photography, and cross-country skiing.
Primary Restoration	Low Intensity. This Zone will be allowed to evolve into Nature Reserve or Natural Environment.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, education, photography, and cross-country skiing.
Heritage Preserve	Low to Moderate Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, photography, and cross-country skiing. Archaeological excavations and education opportunities.
Agricultural Reserve	Low to Moderate Intensity.	Crops, horticultural nursery operations, and associated buildings.
Public Use: Low Intensity	Low Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, photography, and cross-country skiing.
Public Use: Low to Moderate Intensity	Low to Moderate Intensity.	Local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing/interpretation, research, photography, and cross-country skiing. Outdoor education facility, sports fields, picnic grounds, group camping facilities, nature retreat, native woody gardens, and property associated with the Kortright Centre for Conservation and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection.
Public Use: Moderate to High Intensity	Moderate to High Intensity.	Low rise conference centre, nature interpretation centre, restaurant and accommodation (Bed and Breakfast). Buildings and facilities associated with the Kortright Centre for Conservation and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, community centre, arena, group picnic grounds (i.e. the Boyd Conservation Area), a special events/attractions area, and a destination attraction

NOTE: The list of resource use provides examples of the types of uses permitted. This is not an all inclusive list.

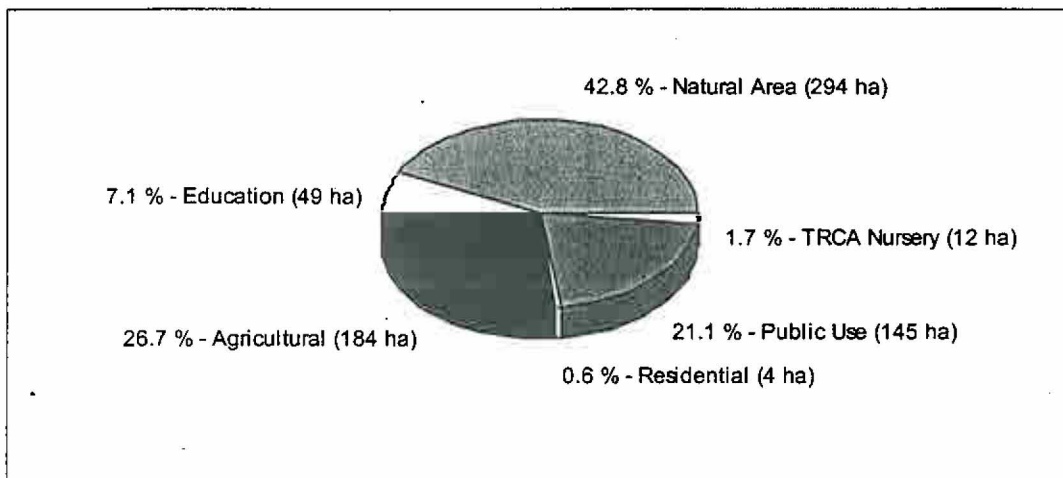
2.4 ANALYSIS OF RESOURCE USE

Once the management zones were defined, determined, and mapped, the management zones proposed for the Management Plan were analysed using a geographic information system application and compared to the existing resource uses.

Existing Resource Uses

As shown in Figure 2, currently about 43 percent of Boyd North and Glassco Park can be considered a 'Natural Area'. As well, 29 percent of Boyd North and Glassco Park is leased and used for residential or agricultural uses, with recreational and educational activities accounting for 28 percent of the property.

Figure 2: 1999 Existing Resource Uses in Boyd North and Glassco Park



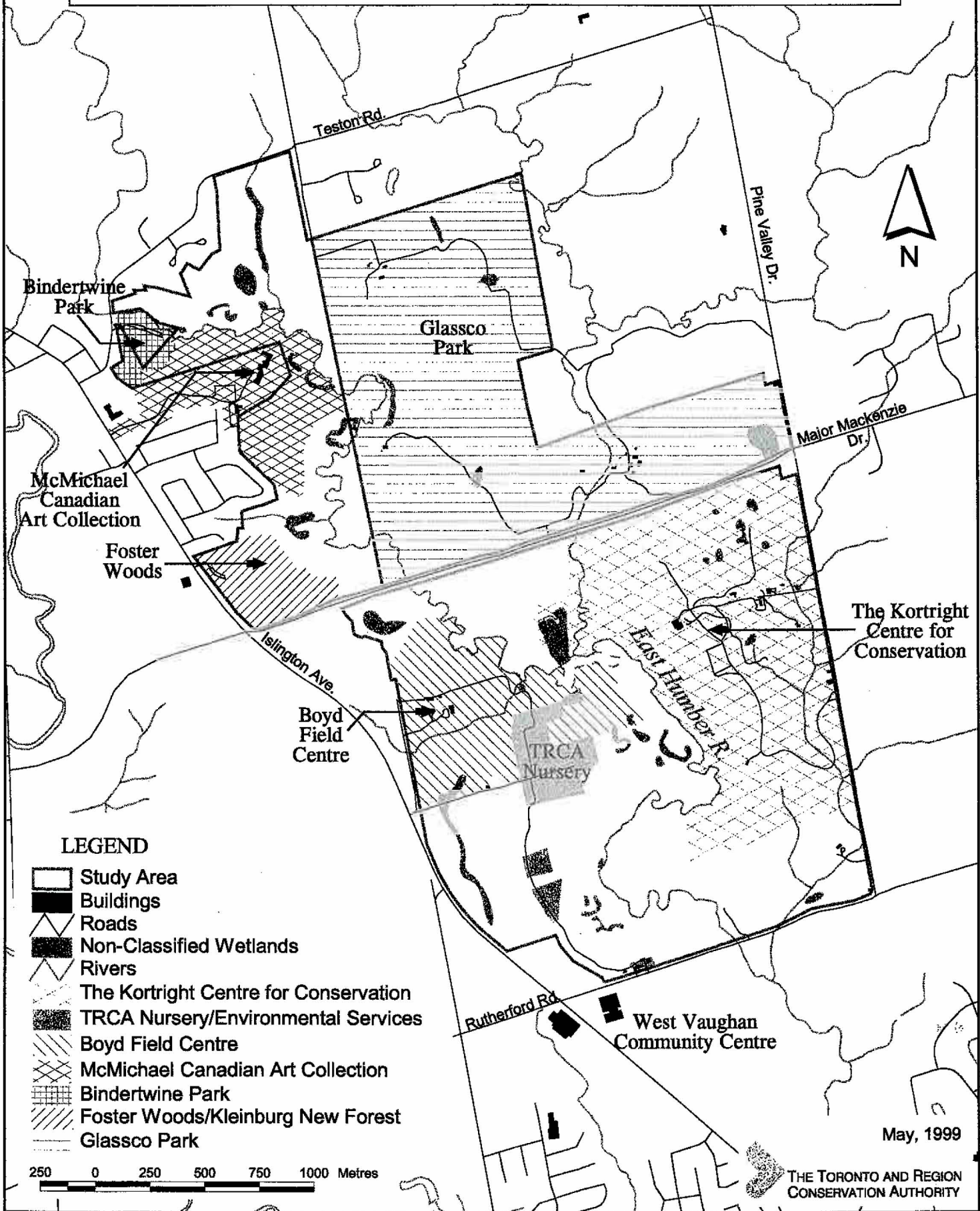
Resource mapping for the various layers used to delineate the Management Zones are attached as Maps 2 through 12.

Revenue Generating Opportunities











Currently within the Boyd North and Glassco Park area, public access is limited to the grounds of the Kortright Centre for Conservation, The Boyd Field Centre, The McMichael Canadian Art Collection, and Foster Woods. Most of the valley and stream corridors, the Seed-Barker archaeological site, the TRCA Nursery, and Glassco Park are not open to the public.

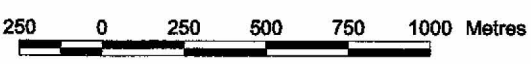
The current economic climate is one of continuing fiscal restraint in the public sector. The future public use, operation of facilities, and access to lands at Boyd North and Glassco Park will need to respond to these conditions. Reduced financial support by traditional funding sources for public use of Conservation Authority lands means new revenue generating initiatives and partnerships will need to be created. This could include exploring the potential for creating opportunities at destination attractions which are responsive to current market, product and activity trends.

**MAP 2 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
EXISTING LAND USES**



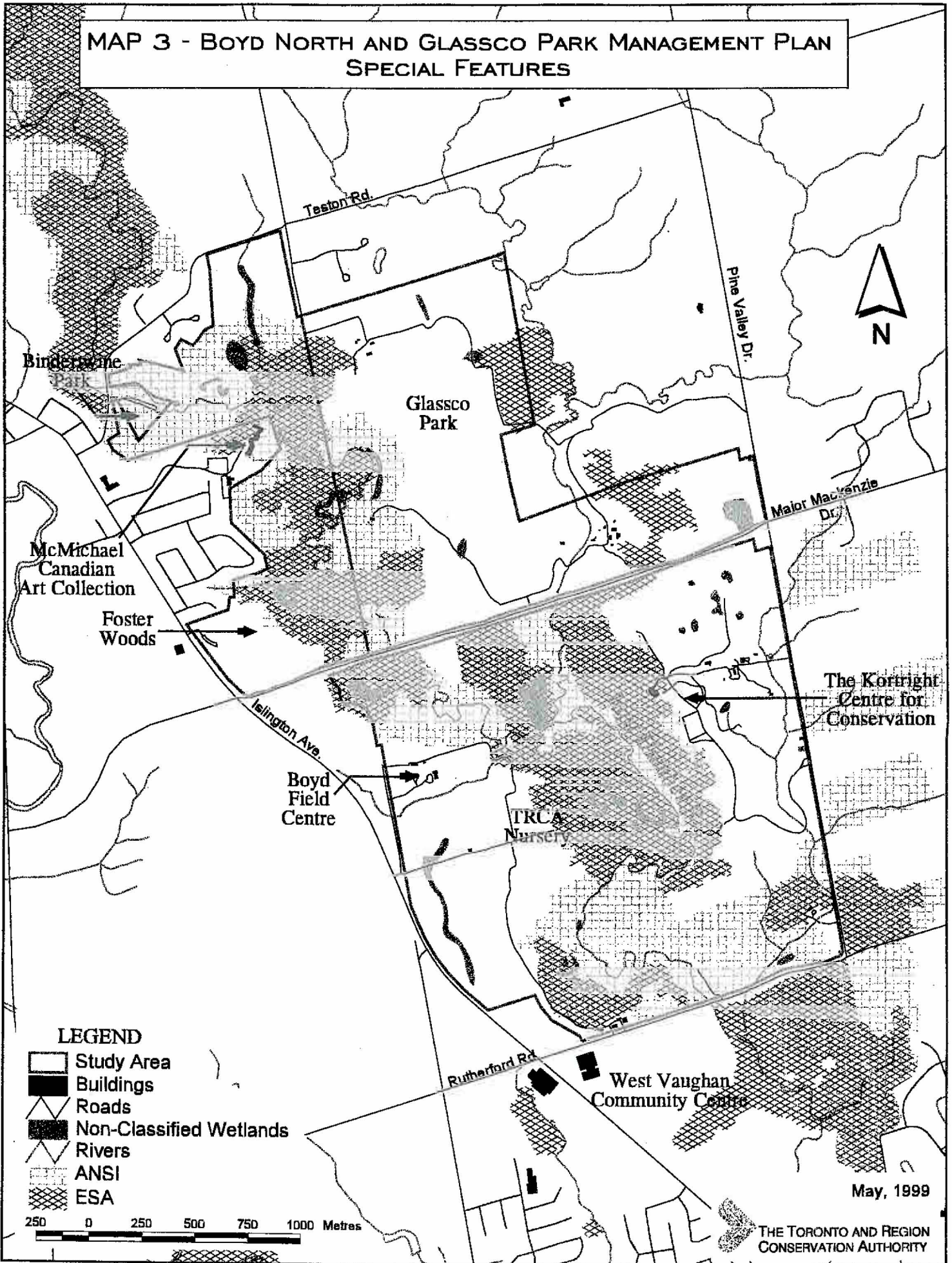
LEGEND

-  Study Area
-  Buildings
-  Roads
-  Non-Classified Wetlands
-  Rivers
-  The Kortright Centre for Conservation
-  TRCA Nursery/Environmental Services
-  Boyd Field Centre
-  McMichael Canadian Art Collection
-  Bindertwine Park
-  Foster Woods/Kleinburg New Forest
-  Glassco Park



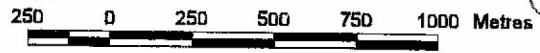
May, 1999

MAP 3 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN SPECIAL FEATURES



LEGEND

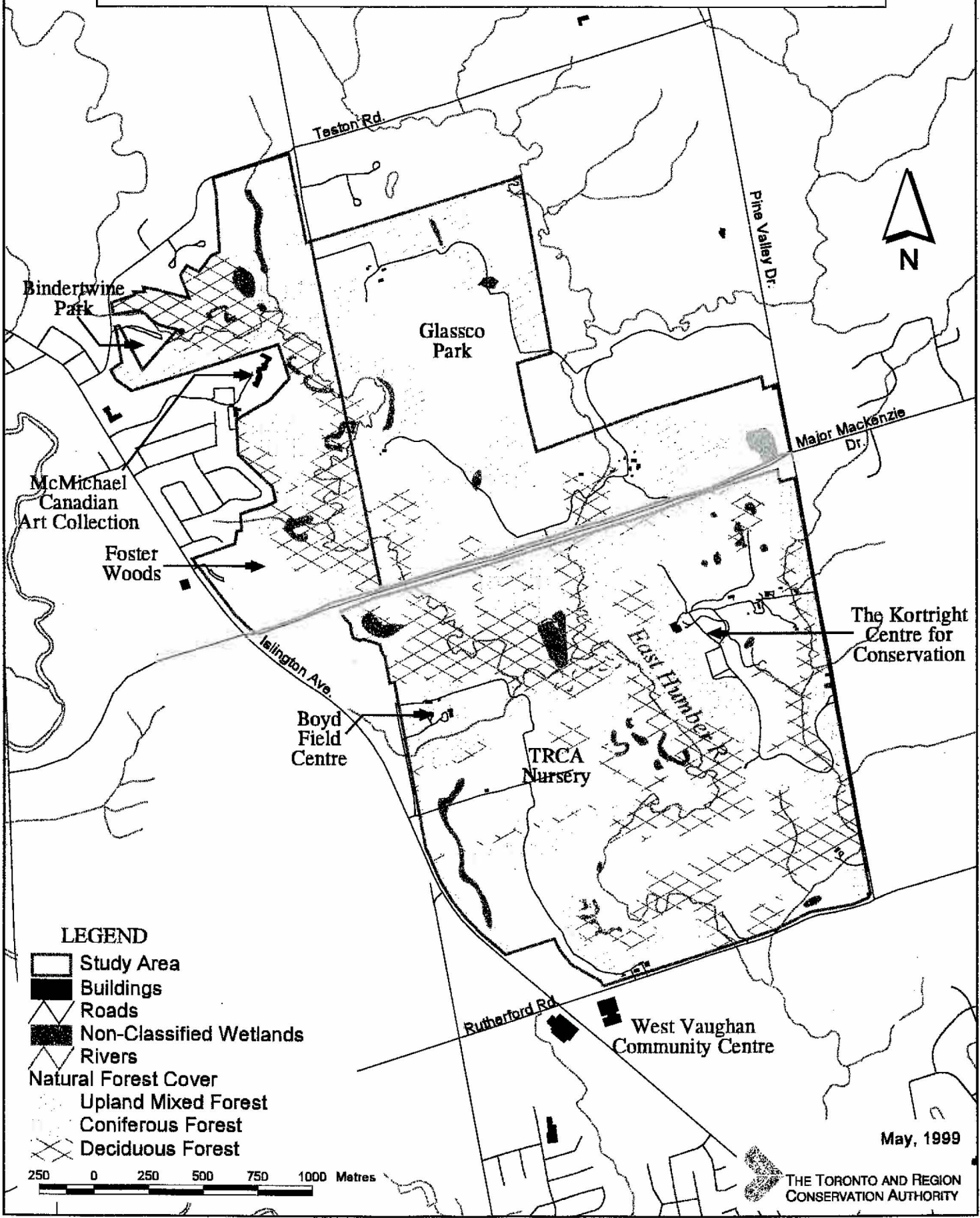
- Study Area
- Buildings
- Roads
- Non-Classified Wetlands
- Rivers
- ANSI
- ESA



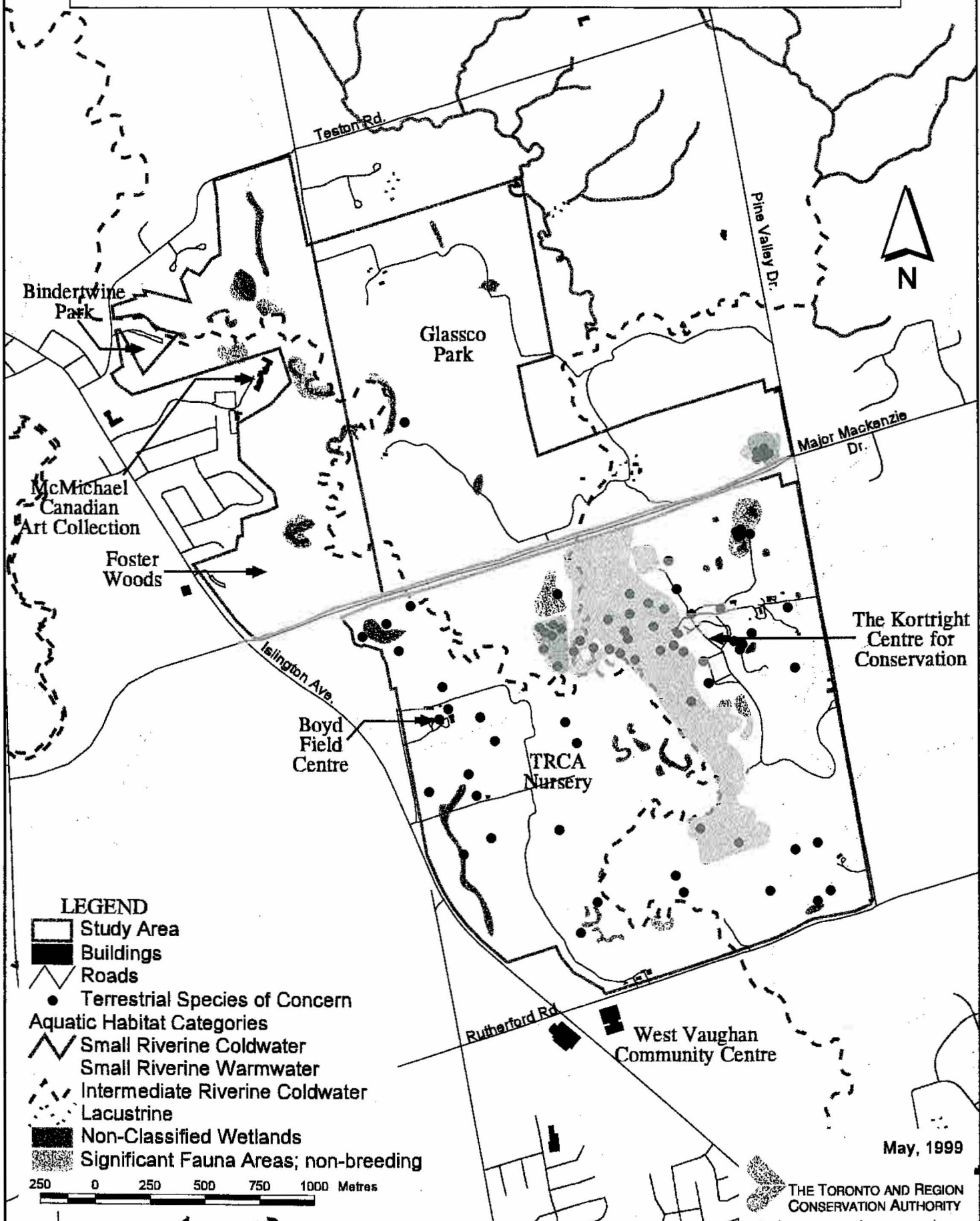
May, 1999

THE TORONTO AND REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MAP 4 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN FOREST COVER



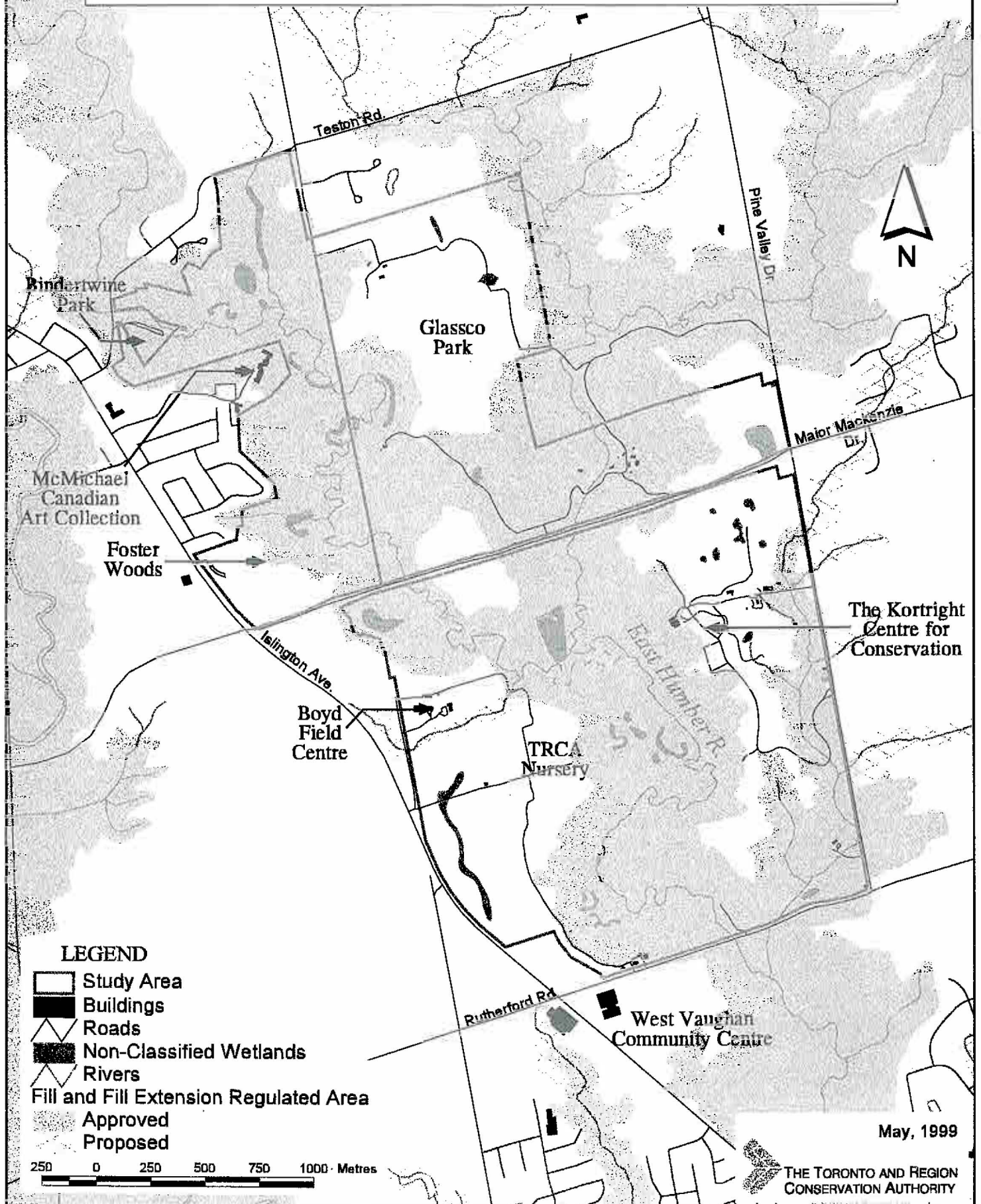
**MAP 5 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
AQUATIC HABITATS AND TERRESTRIAL SPECIES OF CONCERN**



May, 1999

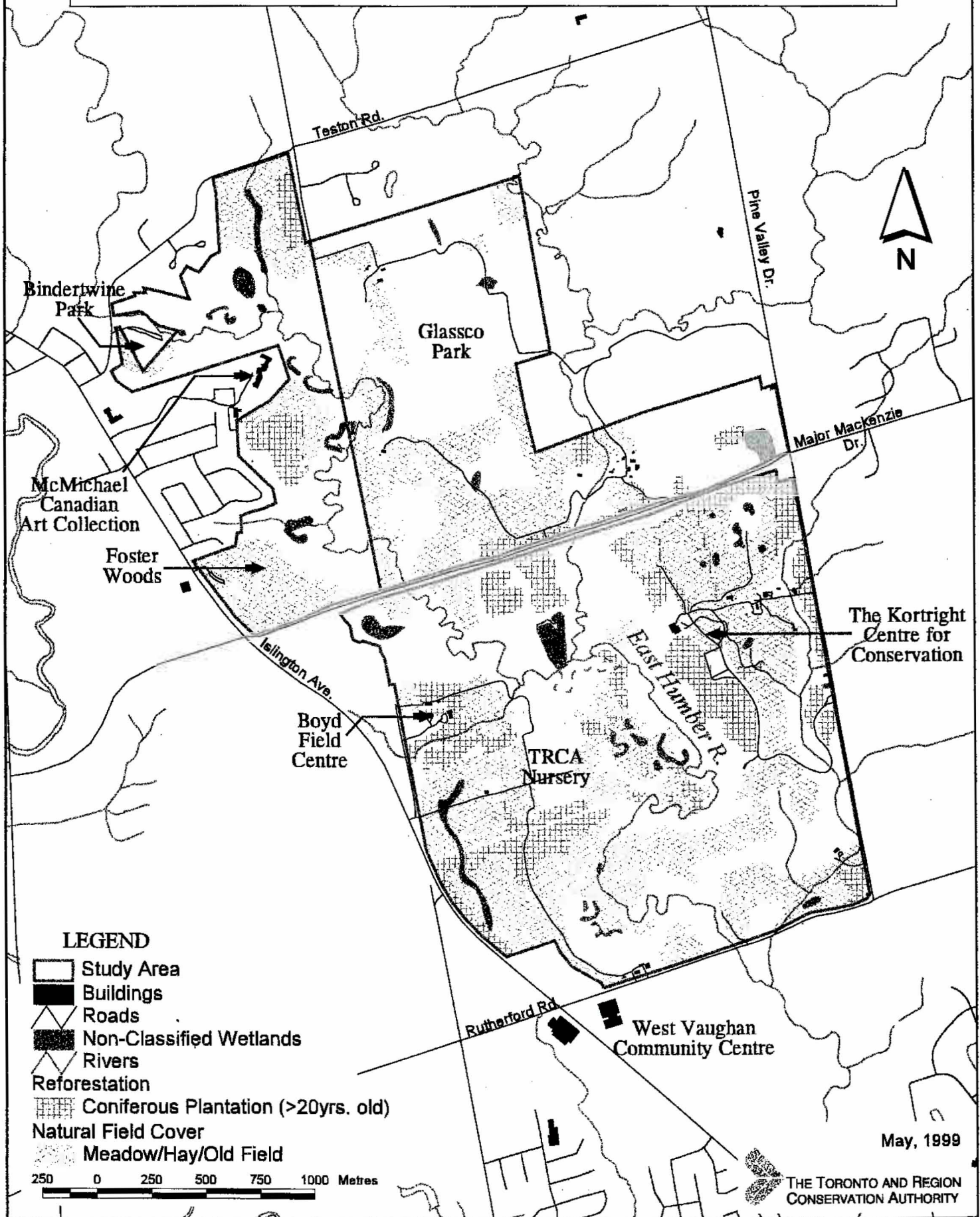
THE TORONTO AND REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MAP 6 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN VALLEY AND STREAM CORRIDORS

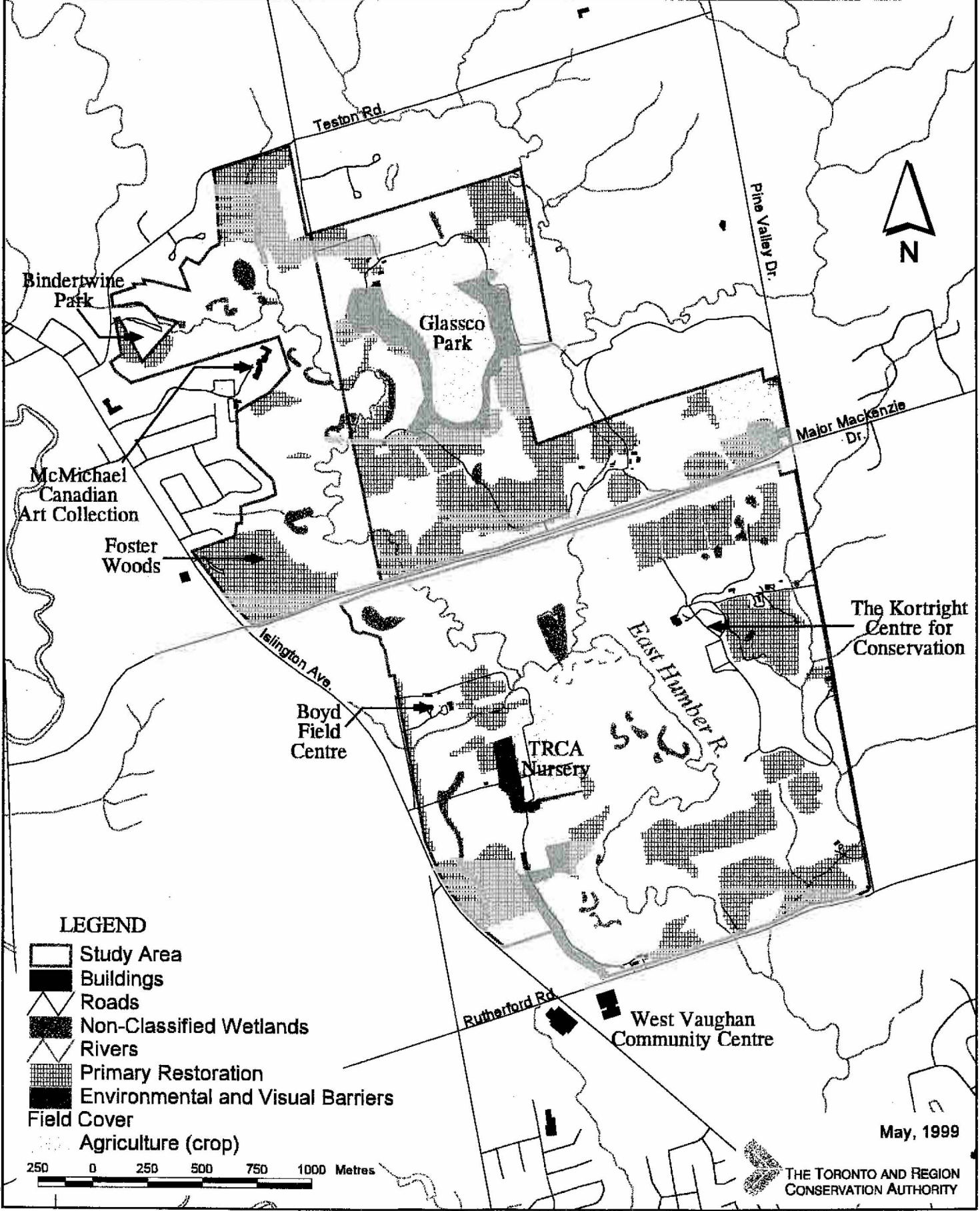


May, 1999

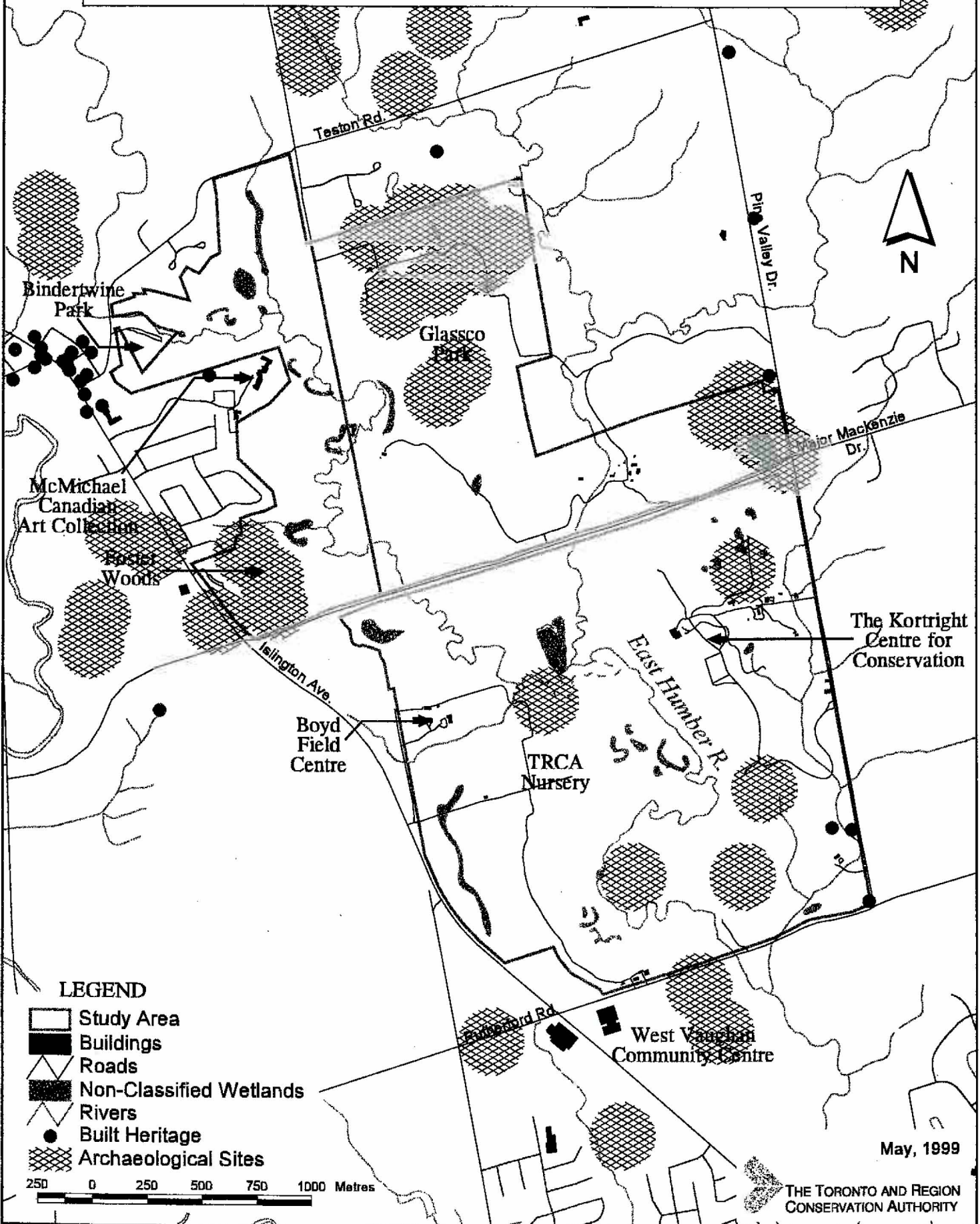
**MAP 7 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
TERRESTRIAL HABITATS AND REGENERATION AREAS**



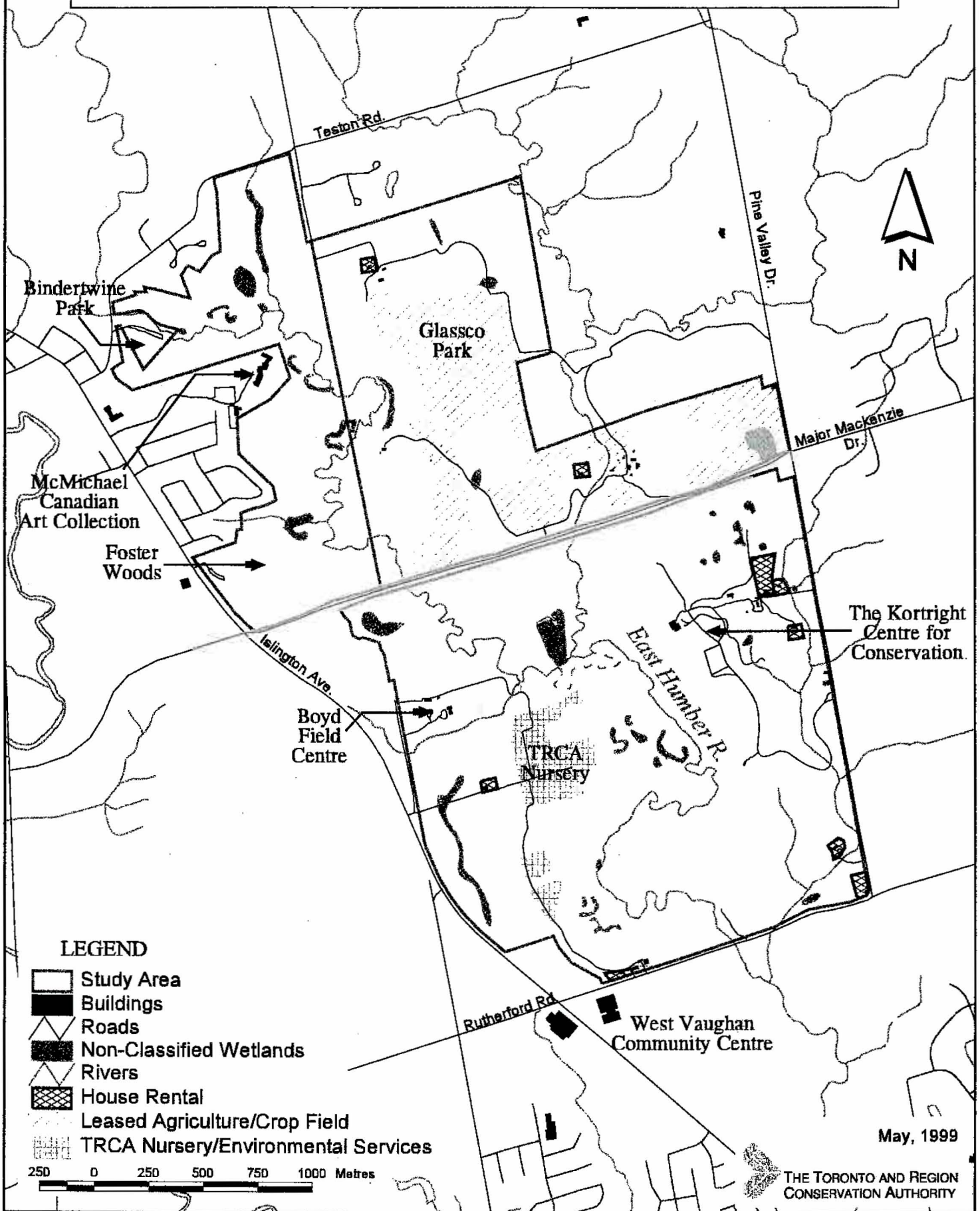
MAP 8 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN RESTORATION AREAS



MAP 9 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN CULTURE AND HERITAGE RESOURCES



**MAP 10 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
LEASED AGRICULTURAL AREAS AND BUILDINGS**



LEGEND

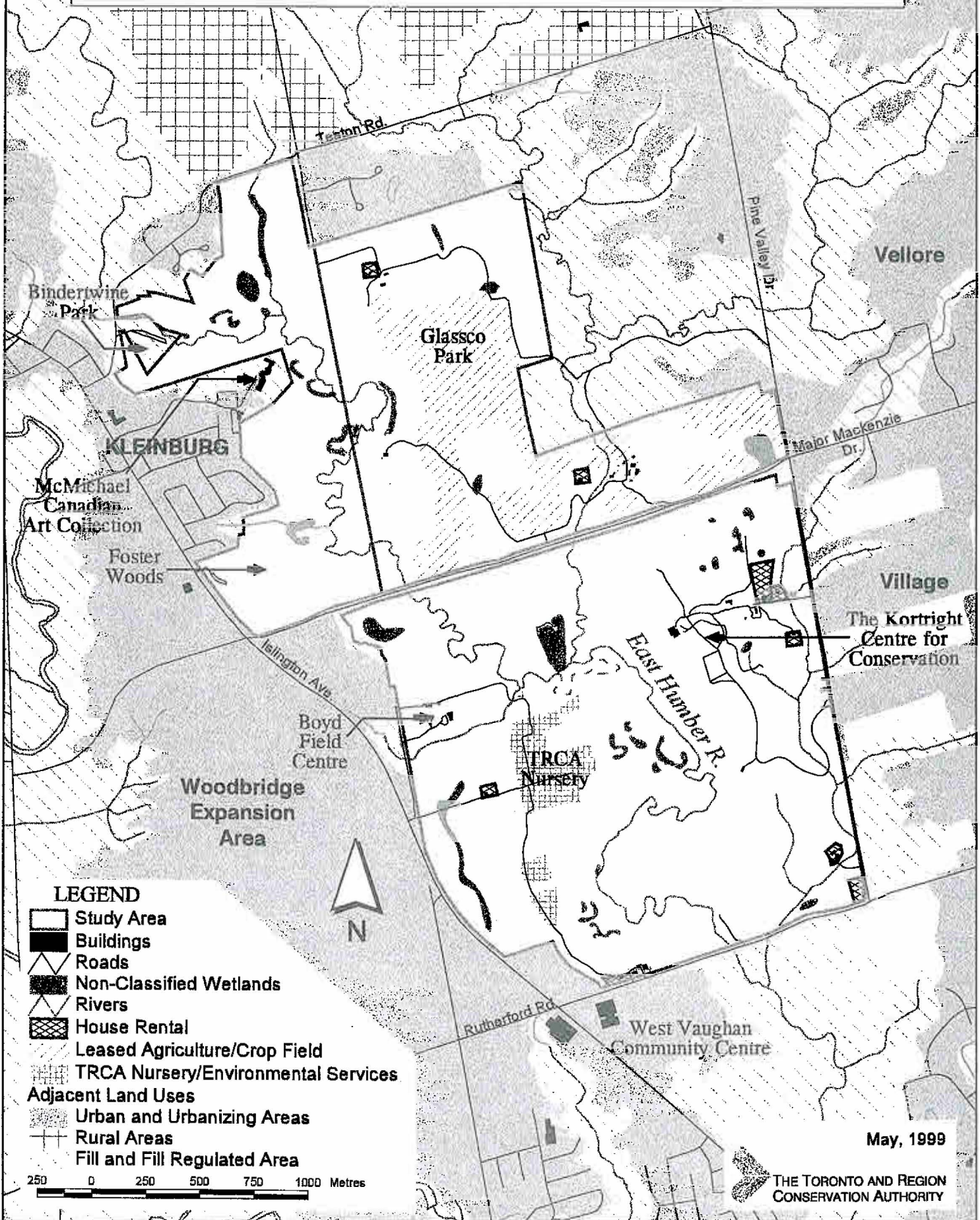
- Study Area
- Buildings
- Roads
- Non-Classified Wetlands
- Rivers
- House Rental
- Leased Agriculture/Crop Field
- TRCA Nursery/Environmental Services

250 0 250 500 750 1000 Metres

May, 1999

THE TORONTO AND REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MAP 11 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND ADJACENT LAND USES



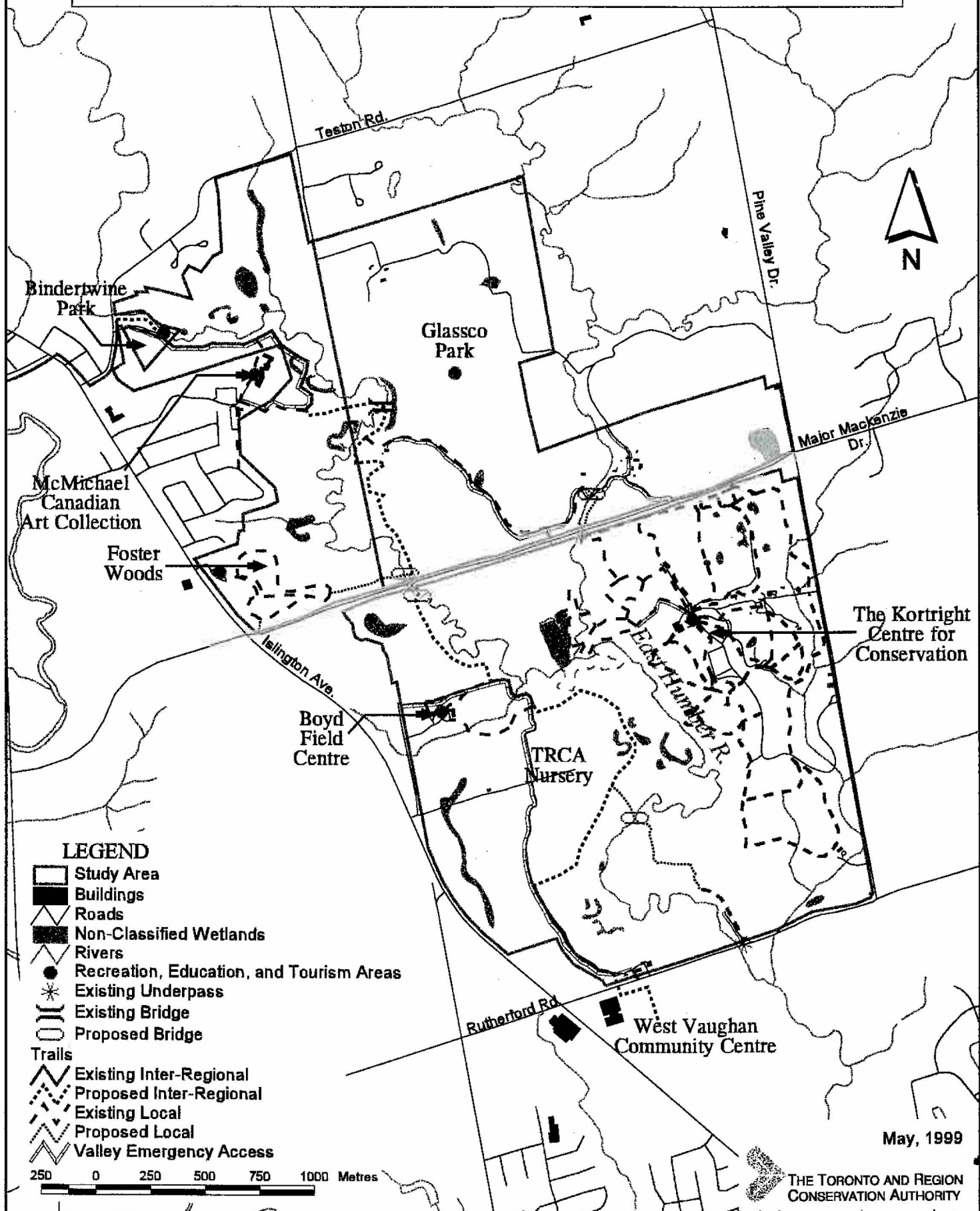
- LEGEND**
- Study Area
 - Buildings
 - Roads
 - Non-Classified Wetlands
 - Rivers
 - House Rental
 - Leased Agriculture/Crop Field
 - TRCA Nursery/Environmental Services
 - Adjacent Land Uses**
 - Urban and Urbanizing Areas
 - Rural Areas
 - Fill and Fill Regulated Area

250 0 250 500 750 1000 Metres

May, 1999

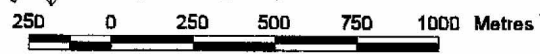
THE TORONTO AND REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MAP 12 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN RECREATION, EDUCATION, AND TOURISM RESOURCES



LEGEND

- Study Area
- Buildings
- Roads
- Non-Classified Wetlands
- Rivers
- Recreation, Education, and Tourism Areas
- Existing Underpass
- Existing Bridge
- Proposed Bridge
- Trails**
- Existing Inter-Regional
- Proposed Inter-Regional
- Existing Local
- Proposed Local
- Valley Emergency Access

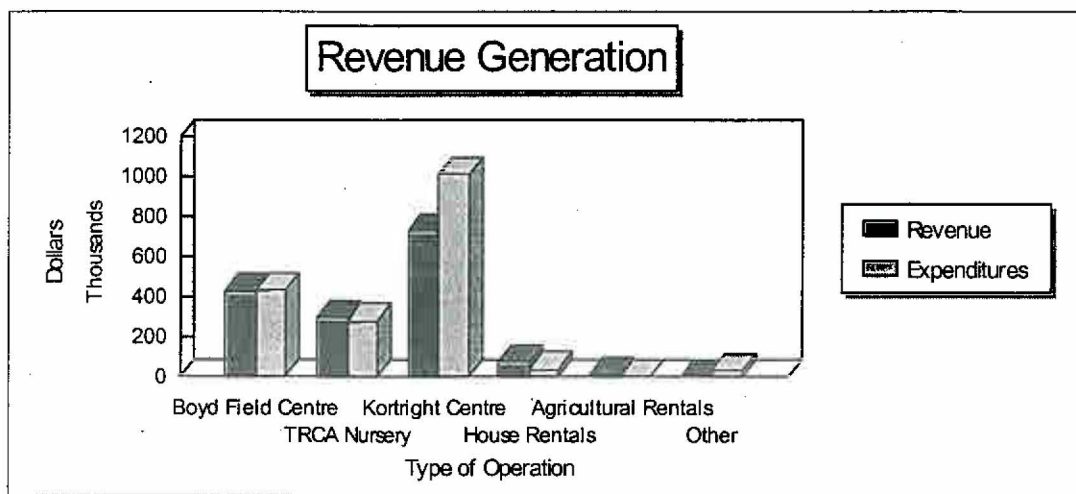


May, 1999

However, the TRCA must continue to ensure that any future uses are balanced and compatible with the protection and restoration of the natural and cultural heritage features of the site and the Humber River watershed.

Operations within Boyd North and Glassco Park have expenses, but also generate revenue through leases, agreements and user fees. Figure 3 illustrates the revenues and expenditures for the area based on 1997 actual totals. In 1997, total revenue from leased areas within the Boyd North and Glassco Park area totalled \$88,786 whereas the total expenditures were \$39,323. The land area under these lease agreements is approximately 79 hectares. In addition, it should be noted that taxes on lands not leased or used for other programs amounted to \$32,893 for 1997.

Figure 3 Revenues generated within Boyd North and Glassco Park, 1997

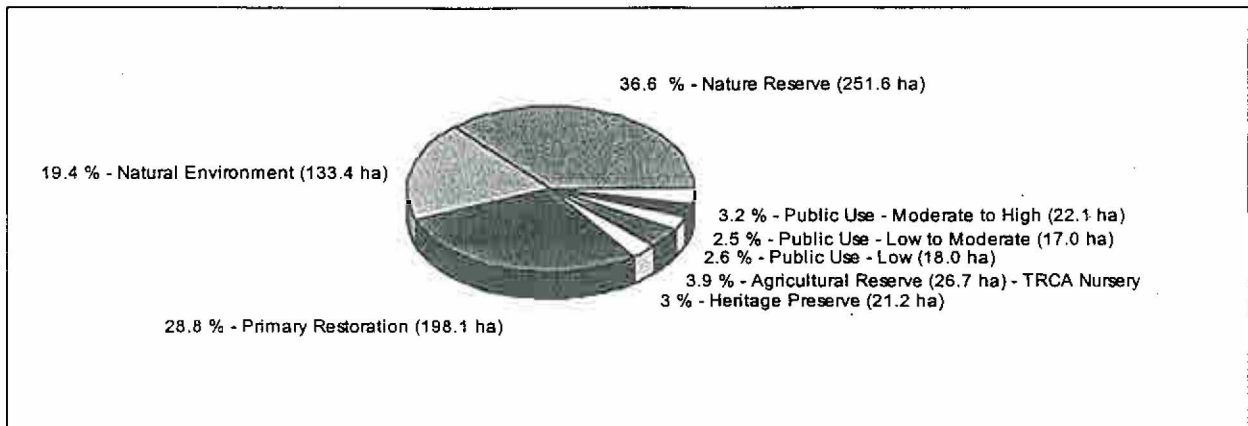


Balancing environmental, social, cultural, and economic concerns is inherent to establishing a healthy ecosystem in Boyd North and Glassco Park. Disregard for the environment will cost society more in the long - term than if protection, restoration, or conservation management techniques had been incorporated within any initial economic investment.

Proposed Resource Uses

Once the proposed management zones for Boyd North and Glassco Park were defined, a geographic analysis was performed on the newly zoned areas. As shown in Figure 4, almost 85 percent (583 ha.) of the property has been zoned as Nature Reserve, Natural Environment, or Primary Restoration. Permitted resource uses in these areas will range from no formal public use to low intensity recreational and educational uses. This is in keeping with the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee's vision to ensure there is a balance between preservation and enhancement of the natural, cultural, and heritage resources of the property and public use of the lands, with the scales tipping in favour of nature.

Figure 4: Proposed Management Zones

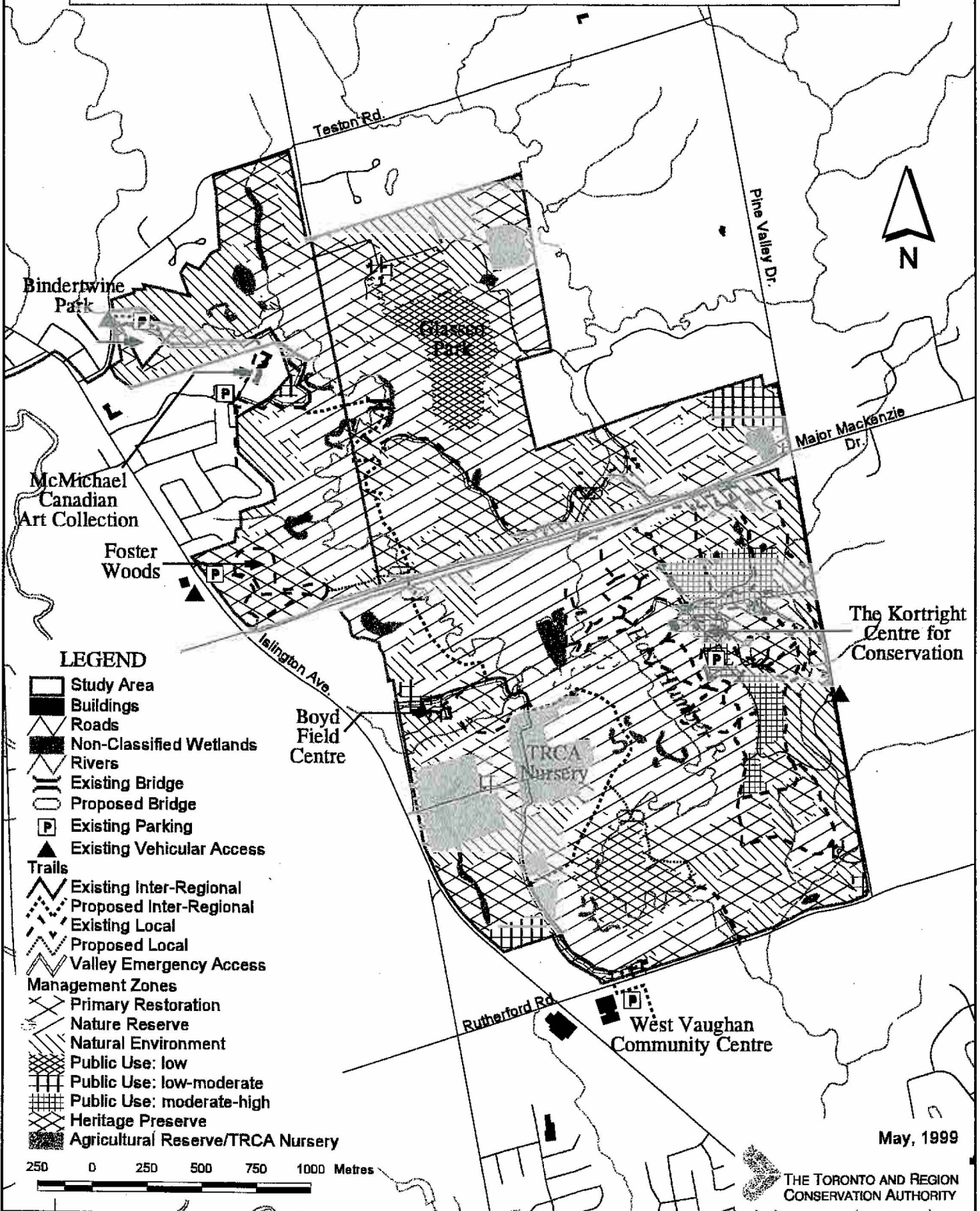


In comparison to current land uses, the resource uses proposed within the Boyd North and Glassco Park management zones will result in the amount of natural lands increasing by approximately 45 percent (see Figure 4). This will be achieved by implementing the Primary Restoration Zone in the Management Plan, in particular by creating meadows and undertaking forest regeneration on agricultural lands and old fields.

The Management Plan Zone Map (Map 13) has designated 8 percent (57.1 ha) of its total land area to Public Use Zones. A majority of these lands, 84 percent (47.9 ha.) are existing public use areas, such as Kortright Centre for Conservation or the Boyd Conservation Field Centre. Therefore, only 16 percent (9.2 ha.) of Public Use Zones has been created through this planning process and are considered to be a new area for public use.

The boundaries of the Management Zones delineated in Map 13 are approximate only. They relate to natural features, such as the edge of woodlots, fields, hedgerows, as well as the roads and utilities.

MAP 13 - BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN MANAGEMENT ZONES



CHAPTER THREE

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Management Guidelines are applied to all management zones. There are further Management Recommendations that are specific to each management zone. The management guidelines and recommendations that have been established for Boyd North and Glassco Park will ensure that the area will be a special place for future generations to enjoy environmental learning, recreational activities, natural, cultural and heritage experiences. The Management Guidelines and Recommendations were developed by TRCA staff in consultation with the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee.

3.1 MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The management guidelines have been separated into Natural Heritage; Archaeological and Historic; and Outdoor Recreation, Education and Tourism. The recommendations are specific to each management zone.

The Management Guidelines prepared for each management zone, are consistent with the provisions outlined in the Authority's *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program*, the *Strategy for Public Use of Conservation Authority Lands*, as well as the watershed management objectives outlined in *Legacy: A Strategy for a Healthy Humber*.

3.1.1 Natural Heritage Management Guidelines

The environmental management guidelines focus on the valley and stream corridors, aquatic, and terrestrial habitats. All management activities will be designed and implemented in compliance with federal and provincial legislation such as the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, *Fisheries Act*, *Conservation Authorities Act*, *Planning Act*, *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*, and *Ontario Water Resources Act*.

(a) Valley and Stream Corridor Management

The valley and stream corridor areas within Boyd North and Glassco Park will be managed according to the criteria set forth in the Authority's *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program (1994)*.

(b) Aquatic Habitat Management

The aquatic system will be managed in accordance with the Humber River Fish Management Plan and subject to the following guidelines:

- Protect and maintain fish habitat.
- Protect surface and ground water quality and quantity.
- Protect, enhance, or restore watercourses, aquatic habitat, riparian zones, and wetlands as determined through inventory and monitoring.
- Use native species in all restoration activities.
- Protect fish populations and other desired aquatic organisms through proper timing of management activities.
- Encourage conservation practices such as catch and release and the use of single barbless hooks.

(c) Terrestrial Habitat Management

Terrestrial habitats include forest, wetland, and natural field habitats, as well as the wildlife which inhabit these areas.

Forest Management

The forests will be managed subject to the following guidelines:

- Emphasis will be given to ensuring that the plant and animal communities are protected and maintained in their natural undisturbed condition.
- Emphasis will be placed on encouraging the vegetation of the area to evolve naturally over time through succession.
- Vegetation and sensitive habitat areas should be protected from further degradation resulting from the negative impacts of human activities.
- Only native species, suited to the local site conditions and complementary to the existing vegetation cover, will be considered for restoration activity.
- Absent native species may be reintroduced or existing stands managed if desired for protecting habitats.
- Forest management activities will be permitted to promote vigorous forest growth and regeneration, timber harvesting will not be allowed.
- The felling of live trees may be permitted to satisfy objectives for protecting, enhancing or restoring the natural state on the site.
- In the case where trees have to be cut, tree marking will be carried out by trained TRCA staff who are familiar with the objectives of this Plan, the Authority's forest management practices, and hazardous tree evaluation.
- Whenever possible, and where public safety is not a concern, all standing dead or damaged trees and forest debris will be left as found.
- Fertilizer use will be discouraged. If required, it must be used in accordance with the manufacturers recommended rates.
- Invasive exotic plant species will be managed according to TRCA policies.
- Pesticides may be used but are the least preferred option should non-native, invasive species require control or elimination. Integrated pest management techniques or biological controls will be used wherever possible.

Wetland Management

The wetlands will be managed subject to the following guidelines:

- Identify the presence of wetlands, map and inventory species present.
- Prohibit activities that will reduce the size or function of the wetland areas. Where inventory and monitoring indicate, undertake specific enhancement or restoration activities.
- Opportunities to improve on-site stormwater management through the use of best management practices will be sought.
- Use only native species for restoration activities.
- Protect, establish, or otherwise manage vegetation to facilitate all the life stages of fish, other aquatic organisms and wildlife populations.
- Invasive exotic plant species will be managed according to TRCA policies.

□ *Natural Field Cover Management*

The natural field areas will be managed according to the following guidelines:

- Restoration of native vegetation will be encouraged.
- Edge plantings adjacent to agricultural and forest areas will be encouraged.
- As necessary, sediment controls to protect topsoil and prevent erosion and sedimentation from negatively impacting the land or river will be required.
- Natural drainage patterns will be maintained to protect flora and fauna.
- Non-native plant species will not be deliberately introduced (with trail use, there is potential for invasive species to spread, the trail should be monitored for this).
- Fertilizers will be used in accordance with the manufacturers recommended rates.
- Invasive exotic plant species will be managed according to TRCA policies.
- Pesticides may be used but are the least preferred option should non-native, invasive species require control or elimination. Integrated pest management techniques or biological controls will be used wherever possible.

□ *Wildlife Management*

The wildlife will be managed subject to the following guidelines:

- The healthy perpetuation and diversity of native species will be encouraged.
- Wildlife populations will be protected from human disturbance through controlled and restricted public access, proper timing of management activities, and buffering between land uses.
- Dogs must be kept on leashes.
- Habitat will be protected, maintained, and enhanced to provide shelter, travel corridors, and foraging areas for wildlife.
- Non-native animal species will not be deliberately introduced.
- Lighting that interferes with wildlife behaviour will not be permitted.
- Relocation of native species to Boyd North and Glassco Park

3.1.2 Archaeological and Historic Management Guidelines

(a) **Archaeological Resource Management**

Archaeological resources will be managed subject to the following guidelines:

- All archaeological sites (known and unknown) are important cultural resources which must be preserved, either by avoidance or through excavation subject to Authority procedure when land use modification may occur. Such excavation would be proceeded by notification of appropriate agencies. In general, the Authority will protect all archaeological sites within Boyd North and Glassco Park.

(b) Historic Resource Management

Historic resources (heritage structures built by Euro-Canadians) will be managed subject to the following guidelines:

- Heritage sites will be recognized as important cultural resources.
- Heritage sites and their relationship with the environment will be identified and documented.
- Heritage sites will be protected and conserved.
- Efforts to raise awareness of the value that heritage sites contribute to recreational and environmental resources will be undertaken.
- Wherever possible, when the Primary Restoration Zone includes historic resources, heritage themes will be included in the restoration plan.

3.1.3 Outdoor Recreation, Education and Tourism

Recreation and educational facilities will be managed or developed according to the following guidelines:

- The location, design, and materials utilized in any facility, trail, access point or sign placed within any zone will, to the maximum extent possible, reflect the environmental character of the specific area.
- Wherever possible, native vegetation will be planted as a buffer between the public use and natural areas.
- Protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural resources will be a part of all public use plans.
- Public uses will focus on outdoor education and recreation.
- Public use proposals must address risks to flooding and erosion, as outlined in the Authority's *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program (1994)*.
- Public use proposals will include stormwater management, erosion and sediment controls, and fencing in their designs.
- Public use proposals will be reviewed in conjunction with the municipality to ensure that their needs for recreational and educational facilities are considered.
- The lot grading and drainage patterns will be maintained to protect flora and fauna.
- Setbacks shall be established from natural area zones to prevent public uses from conflicting with the flora and fauna, wherever necessary.
- Public use proposals will consider the sensitivity of the natural areas prior to providing access to such areas.
- Planning for any future public use will involve public consultation and environmental evaluation through the screening process outlined in the Authority's *Strategy for Public Use of Conservation Authority Lands (1995)*.
- Consideration for the environment will be a primary concern in this process.
- Any development must be compatible with the ecological function of Boyd North and Glassco Park and the vision and objective of this Plan.
- The planning and development of any new trail will be subject to the procedures set forth in the Authority's *Trail Planning Guidelines (1992)* and the guidelines of the *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program (1994)*.

3.2 MANAGEMENT ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS

Within the eight management zones, specific resource management activities are encouraged.

3.2.1 Nature Reserve Zone

Resource management activities that are encouraged in the Natural Reserve Zone include environmental management projects that are designed to protect, enhance, or restore natural features, landforms, species or habitats. This includes forest tending, fish habitat improvement, and revegetation activities. All trails should be monitored to ensure that invasive species are not being spread throughout the area.

The Nature Reserve Zone will support none to low intensity recreational and educational uses. Specific access points and permitted uses must be determined for each Nature Reserve Zone. Pursuant to the provisions of the *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program* low intensity recreational and educational uses may include local trails, nature viewing, photography, research, interpretive signage, wildlife viewing, and canoeing. The inter-regional trail will be permitted within this zone subject to detailed trail routing studies being undertaken and field checked to identify the most appropriate route with the least impact. Also, the same level of trail investigation work will be required to locate any proposed local trails within this zone.

3.2.2 Natural Environment Zone

Resource management activities that are encouraged in the Natural Environment Zone include environmental management projects that are designed to protect, enhance, or restore natural features, landforms, species, or habitats. This includes forest tending, fish habitat improvement, and revegetation activities. All trails should be monitored to ensure that invasive species are not being spread throughout the area.

Within the Natural Environment Zone low intensity recreational and educational uses will be permitted. Existing uses such as agricultural fields and properly sited local trails, may remain in the Zone. However, as the need and opportunity arise, agricultural land may be renaturalized and trails relocated.

Pursuant to the provisions of the *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program*, low intensity recreational and educational uses may include horticulture, silviculture, wilderness camping, local trails and complimentary structures (shelters and washrooms). While it is preferred that these shelters and washrooms be located in the Public Use Zones, under specific conditions they could be considered appropriate in the Natural Environment Zone. The inter-regional trail will be permitted within this zone subject to detailed trail routing studies being undertaken and field checked to identify the most appropriate route with the least impact. Also, the same level of trail investigation work will be required to locate any proposed local trails within this zone.

3.2.3 Primary Restoration Zone

Resource management activities that are encouraged in the Primary Restoration Zone include environmental management projects that are designed to protect, enhance, or restore natural features, landforms, species or habitats. Through successful restoration activities, over time these areas are expected to evolve to a Natural Environment Zone or Nature Preserve Zone.

Many other smaller restoration activities have not been identified on the Plan. These smaller sites, as well as some of the buffer areas, will be identified on a site specific basis.

The Boyd North and Glassco Park area will be monitored for the presence of noxious weeds and they would be removed in accordance to the City of Vaughan's Weed Control Bylaw and TRCA policy.

As sites are restored, specific areas may accommodate a low level of public use. This would be determined through a site specific evaluation. For example, if a Primary Restoration Zone is sited within a Natural Environment Zone, the permitted intensity of resource use would be low intensity, as identified in Table 2.1.

3.2.4 Heritage Preserve Zone

Resource management activities that are encouraged within an Heritage Preserve Zone include environmental management projects that are designed to protect, enhance, or restore natural features, landforms, species, or habitats. This includes projects such as riparian habitat restoration, reforestation and bank stabilization. As per Authority procedure, all proposals for public use within the Heritage Preserve Zone must be coordinated through the Authority Archaeologist.

Within this zone, resource uses that are permitted range from low public use to a moderate intensity use. This includes inter-regional trails, archaeological excavations and education opportunities.

The lands identified as Heritage Preserve located on the Glassco Park property are of special character to the aboriginal community. As such, prior to any change to the current resource use, input from the aboriginal community is required. Assistance from the aboriginal community is critical to ensure appropriate management of these lands.

3.2.5 Agricultural Reserve Zone

Resource management activities that are encouraged within an Agricultural Reserve Zone include environmental management projects that are designed to protect, enhance, or restore natural features, landforms, species, or habitats. This includes the control of topsoil loss through the implementation of sound soil management and drainage practices such as conservation tillage practices, windbreak establishment, crop rotation and grassed waterways.

Cultivation and cropping should be limited to fields that are flat to gently rolling. Flood plains and all more steeply sloping areas will be managed in accordance with the natural field cover management guidelines (Section 3.1.1 c). All agricultural practices should have regard for the sensitivity of permanently or seasonally wet areas and fragile organic soils and such, areas should be managed in accordance with the wetlands management guidelines (Section 3.1.1 c). Agricultural operations within this zone must emphasize integrated pest management (IPM) techniques for the control of undesirable vegetation and pests

Permitted land uses within the Agricultural Reserve Zone include crop production, horticultural nursery operations, and associated farm buildings. Crop production of low to moderate intensity will be permitted including:

- hay, legumes, grains (grass, clover, soybeans, wheat, barley, oats, mixed grains);

- orchards, vineyards, market garden vegetation crops (e.g., tomatoes, squash, pumpkins); and,
- the propagation and culture of native trees, shrubs, herbaceous and aquatic plants for environmental regeneration purposes (e.g., TRCA Nursery and Seed Orchard).

Agricultural crops such as nursery sod farming will not be permitted. Also, the rearing and grazing of livestock or fowl for commercial purposes will not be permitted within this zone.

Recreational and educational uses of low intensity may be permitted where the potential for damage to agricultural crops is minimal.

3.2.6 Public Use Zones: Low, Low to Moderate, and Moderate to High Intensity

Resource management activities that are encouraged in the Public Use Zones include environmental management projects that are designed to protect, enhance, or restore natural features, landforms, species, or habitats. Wherever feasible, every attempt will be made to ensure that there is a net environmental enhancement within the Public Use Zones when activities are developed on the site.

Resource uses considered to be in the low to moderate intensity range will be situated in attractive natural surroundings which may include trails or sports fields.

Pursuant to the provisions of the *Valley and Stream Corridor Management Program*, low intensity recreational and educational uses may include local and inter-regional trails, nature viewing, photography, research, interpretive signage, and canoeing. Low to moderate intensity resource uses would include The Boyd Field Centre, trailheads, washrooms, shelters and residential leases. Moderate to high intensity resource uses would include the Kortright Centre for Conservation.

3.3 FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF BOYD NORTH AND GLASSCO PARK

It is imperative that the management of Boyd North and Glassco Park be based on a balance between the environmental, social, and economic elements of this fragile ecosystem. As discussed in the *Phase 1: Background Report*, the population surrounding Boyd North and Glassco Park will grow dramatically over the next 20 years. As outlined in the City of Vaughan's Official Plan, three new defined urban areas will be created adjacent to or near Boyd North and Glassco Park: the Woodbridge Expansion Area, Urban Village Area 1 (Vellore Village), and Urban Village Area 2. It is expected that these communities will accommodate a population of approximately 265,000 people. The proposed Public Use Zones within Boyd North and Glassco Park could satisfy some of the outdoor recreational needs for these new communities and for the existing residents of Kleinburg and Woodbridge. The property will also continue to provide recreational and outdoor educational opportunities for the Greater Toronto Area population through destination attractions, for example, the Kortright Centre for Conservation and through the development of new features, such as the proposed Humber Inter-Regional Trail. It is also important to note that the integrated planning process for the Management Plan identified no surplus land, and that public ownership of these lands will become more important in the future.

It is anticipated that Boyd North and Glassco Park will become a major environmental, recreation, outdoor education, and tourism centre due to its strategic location and large size. It is also

anticipated that Boyd North and Glassco Park could be significantly influenced by the character of the surrounding communities.

3.3.1 Implementation Recommendations

(a) Community Stewardship Committee

Establish a Community Stewardship Committee to assist in implementing the management plan, and ensure there is representation from the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee. This committee could assist in the review of all proposed public uses and related activities for the property. The committee should also establish various subcommittees to study specific aspects such as trails, education, and communications. An important role of the Community Stewardship Committee will also be to assist the Authority in raising funds to implement site development.

(b) Site Development and Management

A general task outline that the Community Stewardship Committee may assist the Authority to implement, is identified as follows. All priorities can be reviewed and re-evaluated in terms of their feasibility at any time throughout the process.

Phase 1

- Prepare a communications plan to raise awareness and inform surrounding communities.
- Establish a network of groups and individuals interested in participating in a volunteer program.
- Establish a private land stewardship program, which encourages landowners to preserve woodlots and other wildlife habitat on their property and initiate contacts with landowners.
- Prepare access and trail development plans.
- Rehabilitate trails in sensitive habitats or disturbed sites.
- Start construction of the inter-regional trail and other new trails.
- Build trail heads with signage.
- Monitor the trail for invasive plant material and prevent spread by using barriers etc.
- Monitor the presence of noxious weeds on site and remove in accordance with local noxious weed bylaws.
- Organize volunteers to pick invasive exotic plant species such as garlic mustard, buckthorn, dog strangling vine and purple loosestrife.
- Prepare a detailed vegetation management plan.
- Identify priority areas for restoration within the primary restoration areas.
- Conduct a heritage resources management study, including recommendations for ways to reuse existing buildings.
- Prepare natural and cultural heritage interpretative plans.
- Undertake a planning exercise for the Boyd Conservation Area (south of Rutherford Road) as the management of these lands directly influences Boyd North and Glassco Park.

- Establish a 30 m wide riparian buffer planting along each side of watercourses using pioneer species of trees and shrubs.

Phase 2

- Implement the remaining components (trail construction and bridges) of the William Granger Greenway and the inter-regional trail, some secondary loop trails may be implemented if funding or volunteer efforts are available.
- Complete the areas' signage system.
- Complete all marketing and educational literature and information for distribution purposes.
- Finalize secondary trail system implementation.
- Complete all trailhead implementation.

3.3.2 Safety and Security

Discussions have taken place with police and other emergency services providers to identify their concerns and questions regarding accessing the lands for patrol and emergency response purposes. As a result of the lands natural character, many areas are inaccessible by conventional response vehicles (Fire, Ambulance and Police). Special considerations are therefore required including:

- A trail locator system such as a series of distance markers along the trails to locate/orient trail users. This system would be designed in conjunction with emergency response agencies and may be based on systems used for numbering cottage properties and buildings along rural routes.

This trail location system would then be geographically integrated into the emergency response system of the fire, police, and ambulance departments. A fully integrated map depicting all named trails and locations of markers along each trail would be installed at all major and minor trail heads.

- Patrol and response by cruiser and conventional vehicles within Boyd North and Glassco Park is possible only on the existing roads and stone dust trails, leaving large areas of the property inaccessible and unpatrolled. Other methods of patrol and response such as on mountain bicycles, all terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, and horseback may be required to provide service to more inaccessible areas.
- Due to the large land areas between roads, emergency vehicles such as ambulance can not get to many trail locations. It is recommended that at least one helicopter landing area be defined for the property to provide this important service.
- An emergency response plan should be developed for the area with involvement from local and neighbouring emergency service providers.
- Gates should be installed at the entrances of all area parking lots. Parking lots should be closed to the public after dusk. Parking lots should be monitored for undesirable behaviour.

- Security patrol and attended security stations should be considered for the Kortright Centre, The Boyd Field Centre, and the nursery.

3.3.3 Integration with the Community

The natural, cultural, recreational, and heritage resources that exist within Boyd North and Glassco Park provide benefits beyond the TRCA property boundaries. As illustrated by the resource mapping (Maps 2 to 12), these resources extend into the surrounding landscape and integration with the community was considered throughout the planning process. In the future, much of the land surrounding Boyd North and Glassco Park will be developed for primarily residential purposes. In support of the policies of the Authority, municipalities should be encouraged to support the Authority when planning new developments, by having regard to the following recommendations when considering community design:

- Retain and create as many natural open space areas as possible.
- Maintain and enhance the natural linkages between Boyd North and Glassco Park and the new communities by striving to not isolate woodlots and other natural features.
- Create local trail systems that will connect the new community to Boyd North and Glassco Park, and eventually to the larger Humber River valley, through appropriate access points to the property.
- Establish a natural buffer between the natural areas of Boyd North and Glassco Park and urban land uses (e.g., the rear yards of a subdivision).
- Promote private land stewardship by producing materials for all property owners that increases awareness about the environmental management of their properties, and introduces them to Boyd North and Glassco Park and its valuable resources.

3.3.4 What the Community Can Do

In the near future, much of Boyd North and Glassco Park will be surrounded by residential, commercial, and office development. The opportunities for outdoor recreation, conservation education, and nature appreciation available within Boyd North and Glassco Park will provide many health and economic benefits to the community. They will also complement the existing municipal and private recreational lands and facilities in the City of Vaughan. There are many things new residents can do to ensure these new developments positively impact Boyd North and Glassco Park, including the following:

- Dumping of grass clippings, compost, horticultural debris, and garbage in the appropriate municipal locations.
- Encouraging recycling of materials.
- Planting of native species on lands adjacent to Boyd North and Glassco Park instead of planting exotic vegetation species, some of which are invasive species such as Purple Loosestrife and Norway Maple.
- Leashing pets on site to minimize disturbance to wildlife and promoting "poop and scoop" to prevent pet faeces from entering the storm sewers, the Humber River, and its tributaries after rainfall events.
- Encouraging the planting of buffers to eliminate uncontrolled access to the property and informal trails.

- Discouraging tree removal or the mowing of grassed areas within Boyd North and Glassco Park.
- Discouraging visual encroachments due to external land uses and building heights though planting buffers.

In order to promote community stewardship at Boyd North and Glassco Park, the following guidelines may be applied:

- Communicate with residents and landowners in and adjacent to the property boundary to encourage their active involvement in and support for programs within the property.
- Start the Boyd Concept Site as identified in *Legacy: A Strategy for a Healthy Humber* to encourage the community's participation in managing Boyd North and Glassco Park (e.g., "Adopt-A-Stream" or "Adopt-A-Park" type programs).
- Promote the concept of "Boyd North and Glassco Park volunteer stewards" to report or deal with actions that positively or negatively impact Boyd North and Glassco Park.
- Develop communications materials to illustrate the benefits of Boyd North and Glassco Park in addition to the issues it faces, (e.g., encroachment, garbage dumping, pets). Distribute the pamphlets, as necessary, to residents and businesses adjacent to Boyd North and Glassco Park.
- Work with local developers to prepare an information package for managing areas adjacent to Boyd North and Glassco Park and distribute it to prospective new home buyers and businesses.

3.4 MAINTENANCE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

At meeting #6/99, held on June 25, 1999, The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority approved the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan.

Resolution #A177/99

"THAT the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan, dated May 1999, as attached be approved;

THAT staff be directed to assist in the establishment of a community stewardship committee for Boyd North and Glassco Park made up of interested citizens, interest groups and organizations, to help the Authority with the detail planning, management and implementation of the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan;

THAT staff circulate the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan to the Ontario Heritage Foundation, the McMichael Canadian Art Collection and the City of Vaughan for endorsement;

THAT staff send a letter of thanks to the members of the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee for the assistance with the preparation of the Management Plan;

THAT copies of the Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan be circulated to the members of the Boyd North and Glassco Park Advisory Committee, the City of Vaughan, and other appropriate agencies, groups and individuals;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to utilize the Strategy for Public Use on Conservation Authority Lands (1995) when considering new public uses on the Authority's Boyd North lands."

The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan will undergo a review every five years. If major revisions are necessary to reflect changing environmental, social, or economic conditions, they will only be done after consultation with affected groups and individuals. Revisions of the Plan will be in keeping with the original stated vision and objective of the Plan to protect the natural and heritage values of the property.

The Management Plan identifies potential public use zones. Any specific uses proposed within these areas will be screened and assessed according to the *Strategy for Public Use of Conservation Authority Lands* (1995). A community consultation process will also be employed at this later stage of planning to ensure local and regional interests have input into the concept and detailed design review. The consultative process will include the establishment of a working group with representatives from citizens, user groups, agencies, and elected representatives.

The screening process for specific public uses will ensure that all proposed uses, facilities, and landscape changes will be thoroughly examined and designed to minimize disruption, and to protect, enhance, or restore the natural values of the area.