

SECTION 2

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This section outlines the background information and the data which were used as a basis for our analysis of the utility systems.

2.2 STUDY AREA

The Town of Edson is located approximately 200 km west of Edmonton adjacent to Highway 16. The CNR main line runs along the existing south boundary of the Town.

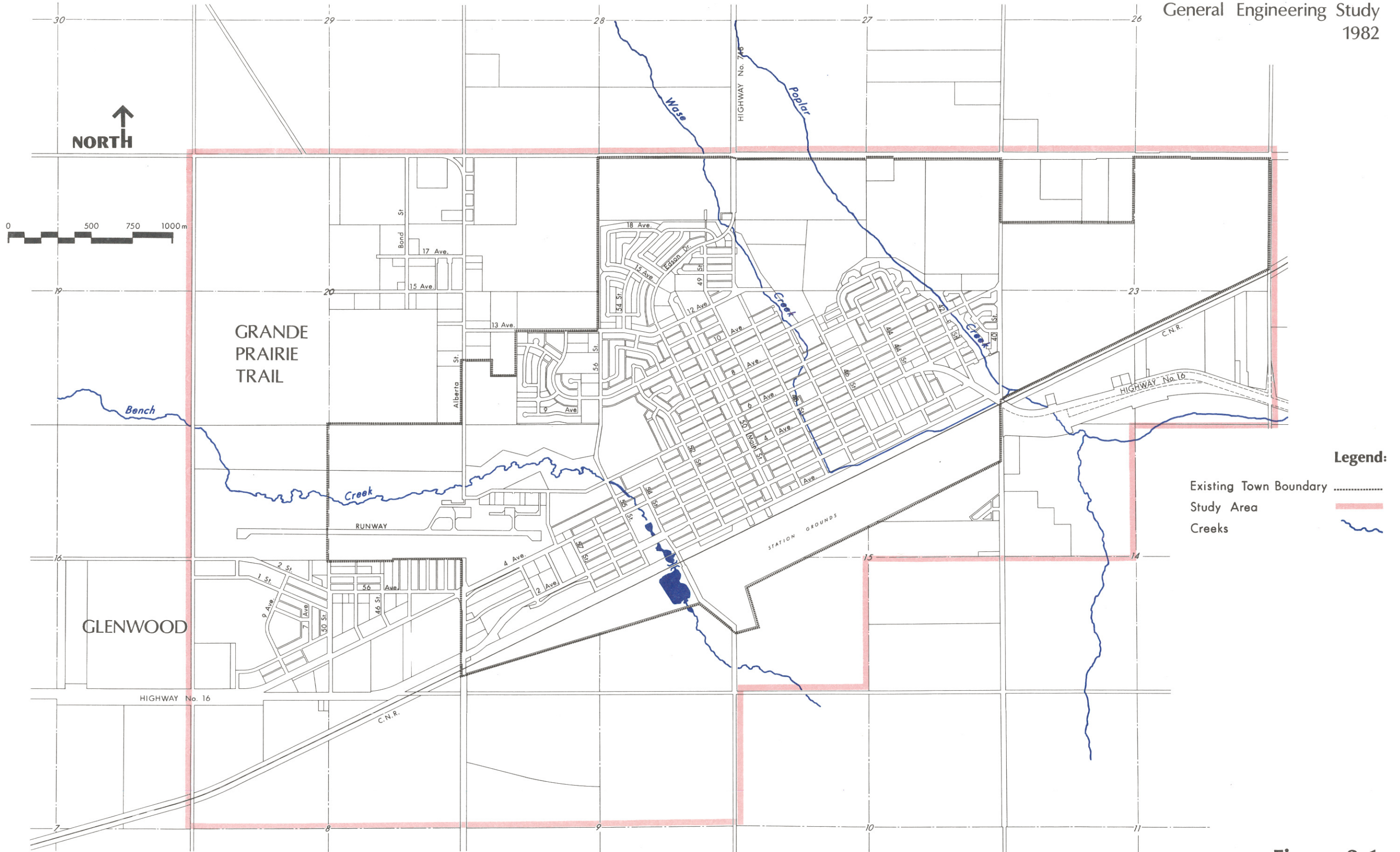
The land generally slopes from the Northwest to the southeast. The area is basically drained by three creeks, Bench Creek, Wase Creek and Poplar Creek which flow eventually to the McLeod River.

The Study Area boundaries are shown on Figure 2.1 and are the same as those proposed for annexation by the Town. They include a total area of some 20.7 square km (8 sq. miles).

2.3 PREVIOUS REPORTS

Several engineering reports prepared by SAEL for the Town of Edson, over the past years, which were used as background for this Study.

The first is the "General Engineering Report, 1976" which assessed in some detail the utility systems at that period and recommended improvements which have now been undertaken and completed.



Legend:

- Existing Town Boundary
- Study Area ———
- Creeks ———

Figure 2.1
STUDY AREA

The "Annexation Report, 1978" was prepared jointly by SAEL and Makale and Kylo Planning Associates Ltd. The engineering section of the report included an assessment of the cost of upgrading utilities and roads to Edson standards in the communities of Glenwood and Grande Prairie Trail located adjacent to Edson in ID#14. The report also dealt generally with the servicing of the entire proposed annexation area.

The "Engineering Study Update, 1979" was prepared as a separate report to provide input into the "Edson General Plan, 1979". This report updated the recommendations outlined in the 1976 report and ensured they were consistent with any changes in land use of new areas.

The "1979 Groundwater Exploration and Well Development Program" was carried out in order to assess the aquifers in the Edson area and locate a new well. This report provided data on the groundwater supply situation.

The "Edson General Plan, 1979" and the "Fringe Area Review, 1979" as prepared by Makale and Kylo Planning Associates Ltd. provided the planning and land use base for the assessment of servicing concepts and review of existing systems.

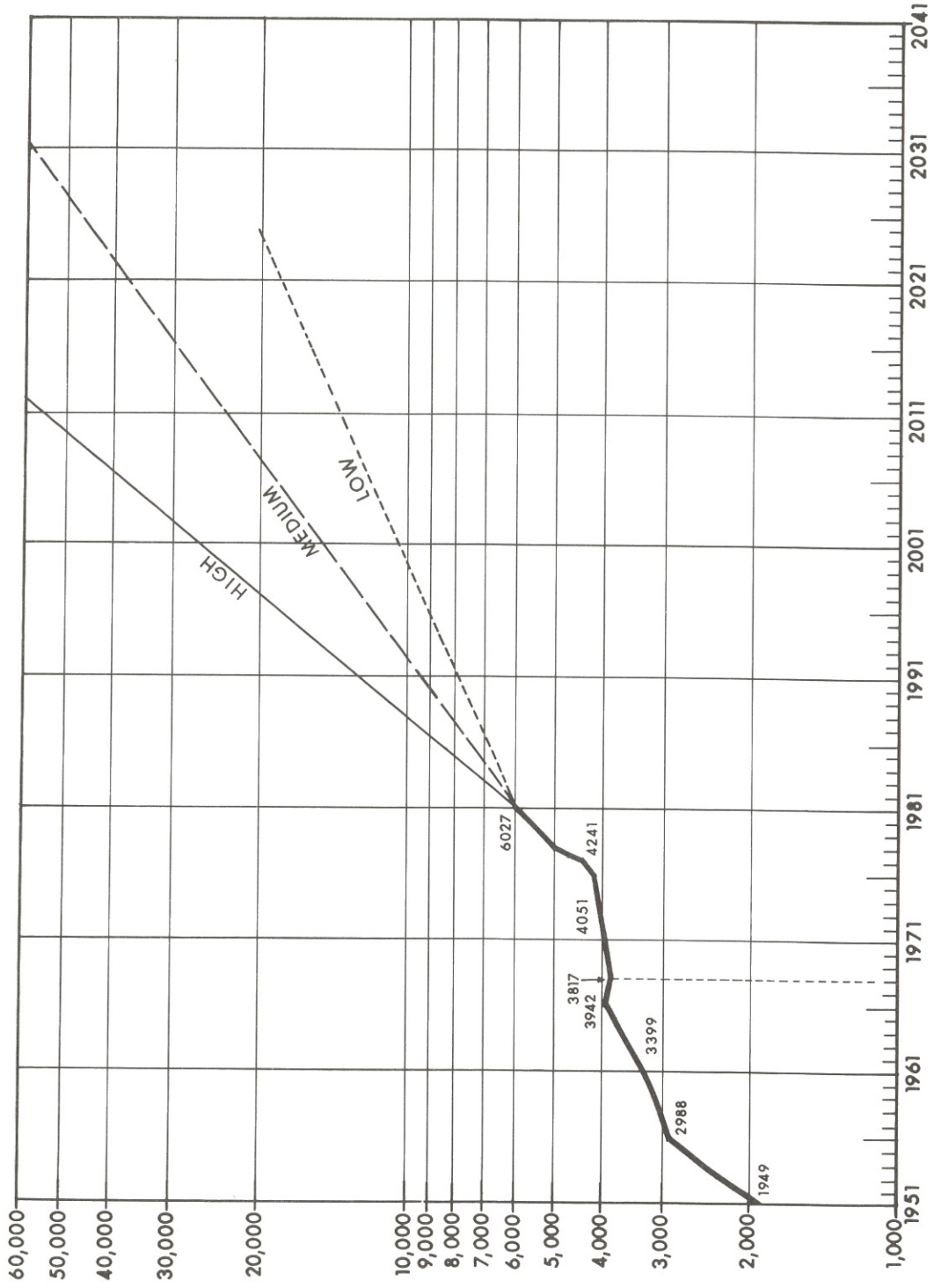
2.4 POPULATION

Makale and Kylo Planning Associates Ltd. have prepared three population growth projections based on expected developments within the Edson area. These are presented together with the historical population data in Figure 2.2.

In long term planning for infra-structure expansions it is not absolutely necessary to project growth in a fixed time frame and for purposes of this Study population levels were used.

The census population in 1981 was 6027, and the estimated population which can be accommodated ultimately in the Study Area is 25,000 (estimate by Makale & Kylo Planning Associates). Four levels of population were chosen to approximate 5 years

TOWN OF EDSON
 General Engineering Study
 1982



NOTE :
 Projections prepared by
 Makale & Kylo Planning Associates Ltd.

Figure 2.2
POPULATION PROJECTION
EDSON, ALTA

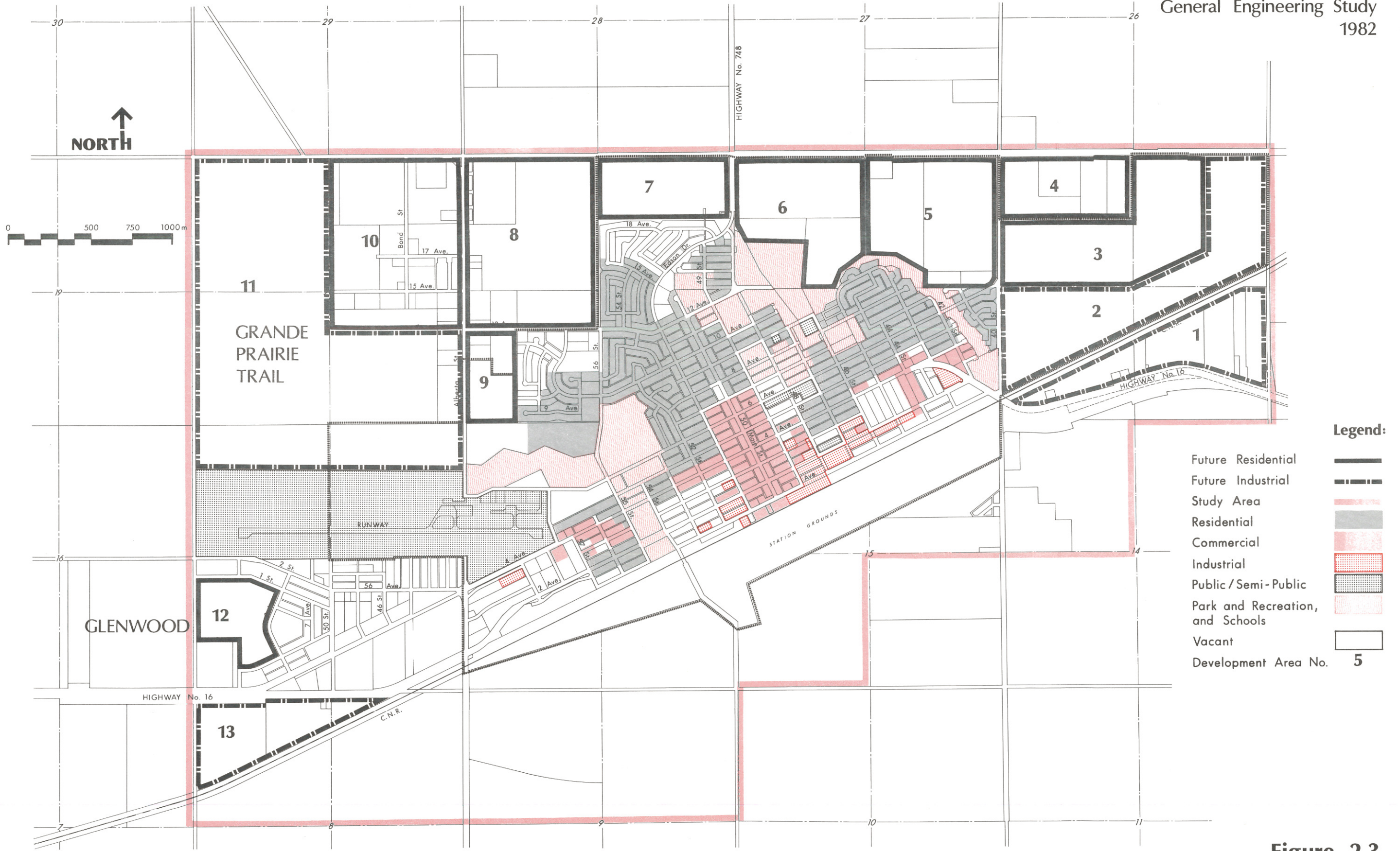


Figure 2.3
 LAND USE PLAN

growth intervals. The population levels are:

6,027 in 1981

8,100

9,200

11,500 and 25,000 ultimate for the Study Area.

2.5 LAND USE

An updated land use plan was developed by Makale and Kylo Planning Associates for the Study Area as shown in Figure 2.3.

The land use recommended for the proposed annexation area is generally industrial on the far east and west with the residential areas within the existing town expanding outwards to meet the industrial areas. No development is recommended south of the CN tracks with the exception of a strip on the east end of Edson north of Highway 16. The far northwest corner of the study area is proposed for larger industrial parcels for use as storage yards or similar uses.