



**Report on the 2004 Stage 4 Mitigative Excavations of the
Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19), a Prehistoric Huron Village Site within the
Proposed Stone Ridge Phase I Subdivision (43T-03602),
Part of Lots 6, 7 & 8, Concession 2,
Part of the Original Road Allowance between Concessions 2 & 3,
Geographic Township of Orillia (South Orillia),
Part of Blocks 107, 112 & 115, Plan 51m-613
All of Blocks 114 & 25, Plan 51m-613,
City of Orillia, Simcoe County.**

Submitted to

**Charter Construction
P.O. Box 2088, Orillia, Ontario L3V 6R9**

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The Ontario Ministry Culture

Prepared by

AMICK Consultants Limited

760 Walker Street, London, ON N5Z 1J4
Tel: (519) 432-4435 Fax: (519) 432-6697

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Project Personnel

Consulting Archaeologist	Michael B. Henry
Project Archaeologist	Michael B. Henry
Report Preparation	Marilyn E. Cornies Michael B. Henry
Field Assistant	Bethany Howard Philip Rice Jason Wootton-Radko
Draughting/Photography	Michael B. Henry

Executive Summary

This report describes the results of the Stage 4 Archaeological Mitigative Excavations of the Alia Kendra site (BdGu-19) within the Proposed Stone Ridge Phase I Subdivision (43T-03602), Part of Lots 6, 7 & 8, Concession 2, Part of the Original Road Allowance between Concessions 2 & 3, Geographic Township of Orillia (South Orillia), Part of Blocks 107, 112 & 115, Plan 51m-613 and All of Blocks 114 & 25, Plan 51m-613, City of Orillia, Simcoe County conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited on behalf of Charter Construction. This study was conducted under Archaeological Consulting License #P058 issued to Mr. Michael Henry by the Minister of Culture for the Province of Ontario. All pertinent records, photographs and artifacts are presently in the possession of AMICK Consultants Limited until such time as they can be transferred to an appropriate institution, with the approval of the Ontario Ministry of Culture.

AMICK Consultants Limited was engaged by Charter Construction to undertake Stage 4 Mitigative Excavations of the Alia Kendra site (BdGu-19) on December 5, 2003. This work commenced May 3rd and was completed on May 21st, 2001. The site area to be impacted through development has now been fully excavated and documented. Accordingly, it is recommended that any condition respecting archaeological resources be considered as addressed and that no further studies are warranted for the proposed undertaking within the known site area.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Archaeological License Report details the conduct and findings of Stage 4 Archaeological Mitigative Excavations of the Alia Kendra site (BdGu-19) within the Proposed Stone Ridge Phase I Subdivision (43T-03602), Part of Lots 6, 7 & 8, Concession 2, Part of the Original Road Allowance between Concessions 2 & 3, Geographic Township of Orillia (South Orillia), Part of Blocks 107, 112 & 115, Plan 51m-613 and All of Blocks 114 & 25, Plan 51m-613, City of Orillia, Simcoe County conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited on behalf of Charter Construction. The subject land consists of roughly 78.91 hectares at the southwest corner of Fittons Road West and Harvie Settlement Road on the west edge of the City of Orillia (see Figure 1). All work was conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Ontario Heritage Act (RSO 1980) under Archaeological Consulting License #P058 issued by the Minister of Culture for the Province of Ontario to Mr. Michael Henry.

2.0 LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

This Archaeological License Report details the conduct and findings of Stage 4 Archaeological Mitigative Excavations of the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19) within the Proposed Stone Ridge Phase I Subdivision, Part of Lots 6, 7 & 8, Concession 2, Part of the Original Road Allowance between Concessions 2 & 3, Geographic Township of Orillia (South Orillia), Part of Blocks 107, 112 & 115, Plan 51m-613 and All of Blocks 114 & 25, Plan 51m-613, City of Orillia, Simcoe County conducted by AMICK Consultants Limited on behalf of Charter Construction. The subject land consists of roughly 78.91 hectares at the southwest corner of Fittons Road West and Harvie Settlement Road on the west edge of the City of Orillia (see Figure 1).

The subject property consists primarily of agricultural lands which were ploughed in advance of this assessment. In addition, three (3) areas of woodlot were subjected to test pit survey. The first area of woodlot is situated immediately south of Fittons Road West at the northwest corner of the Draft Plan. A large portion of this woodlot consists of swamp and was not subject to assessment. The second area of woodlot is situated centrally within the proposed Draft Plan and the third woodlot runs east to west across the south end of the property. A fourth area subject to assessment by test pit methodology is an area of a former farm complex to the west of Harvie Settlement Road and adjacent to a former gravel pit. The gravel pit was not subject to assessment due to the extensive disturbance of this area. All of the above areas and methods of assessment are illustrated on Figure 3 of this report.

The subject property is situated within the Simcoe Uplands physiographic region. The Simcoe Uplands is composed of a series of rolling till plains which were formerly islands in glacial Lake Algonquin (Chapman and Putnam 1984: 183).

3.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

As part of the present study, background research was conducted in order to determine if any archaeological resources had been formerly documented within or in close proximity to the subject property and, if these same resources might be subject to impacts from the proposed undertaking. This data was also collected in order to assist in the assessment of the archaeological potential of the subject property and in order to establish the significance of any resources which might be encountered during the conduct of the present study. The requisite data was collected from the Archaeology Unit, Heritage Branch, Ontario Ministry of Culture (OMC) and the corporate research library of AMICK Consultants Limited.

Native Occupation:

The data gathered from the Archaeological Sites Database of the OMC was limited to a 2 km radius about the subject property. As a result, it was determined that 7 archaeological sites related to First Nations activity in the area had been formerly documented. These sites are briefly described below:

Site Name	Borden #	Site Type	Cultural Affiliation
BdGu-3	Little	Village	Woodland
BdGu-5	Birch	Cabin	Woodland
BdGu-7	Kennel	Campsite	Archaic
BdGu-9	Pern	Findspot	Archaic
BdGu-10	Holly	Village	Woodland
BdGu-11	Fowler	Campsite	Palaeo
BdGu-12	Standing Tree	Indeterminate	Woodland

Euro-Canadian Settlement:

The Illustrated Historical Atlas of Simcoe County (1878) indicates that no structures were situated on Lots 6, 7 or 8, Concession 2 of South Orillia Township at that time.

Conclusion:

Background research indicates that the subject property exhibits high potential for significant archaeological resources of Native origins and relatively low potential for those of Euro-Canadian origins.

4.0 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

4.1 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment

The subject property consists primarily of agricultural lands which were ploughed in advance of this assessment. In addition, three (3) areas of woodlot were subjected to test pit survey. The first area of woodlot is situated immediately south of Fittons Road West at the northwest corner of the Draft Plan. A large portion of this woodlot consists of swamp and was not subject to assessment. The second area of woodlot is situated centrally within the proposed Draft Plan and the third woodlot runs east to west across the south end of the property. A fourth area subject to assessment by test pit methodology is an area of a former farm complex to the west of Harvie Settlement Road and adjacent to a former gravel pit. The gravel pit was not subject to assessment due to the extensive disturbance of this area.

Figure 3 of this report illustrates the subject property and the survey methods used to complete the physical assessment of the subject property. Due to the proximity of Lac du Castor with a large associated wetland area and the numerous previously documented sites, the property was tested at a five metre interval. The subject property was assessed using both pedestrian and test pit methodology. Within areas subject to test pit methodology (as indicated in Figure 3), test pits measured roughly 30 cm in diameter and were dug to sterile subsoil. The excavated earth from these units was screened through 6 mm (1/4 inch) wire mesh to ensure that any artifacts would be recovered. All units were backfilled and the sod replaced to eliminate possible injury to users of the property.

4.2 Results of the Assessment

As a result of the test pedestrian survey, two sites were discovered. In both cases, once the area of the site was identified by marking the locations of finds with nylon flags during the course of the standard pedestrian survey at a 5 metre interval, the site area was then walked at a one metre interval and all surface finds were marked with nylon flags. The area walked at a one metre interval was extended 20 metres beyond the edges of the surface scatter in order to ensure that the site edges were found. The locations of all finds were mapped. The Alia Kendra I site (BdGu-19) was discovered in an agricultural field to the west of a former gravel pit. The Alex Harvie site (BdGu-21) was discovered immediately to the south of a woodlot located in the northwest corner of the subject property. The test pit survey of this woodlot area demonstrated that this site extended northward into the woodlot. The locations of these sites are illustrated in Figure 3 of this report and a detailed plan of the Alia Kendra site (BdGu-19) is included in this report as Figure 4. This plan includes the distribution of surface finds.

4.3 Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19) Stage 3 Test Excavations

The Stage 3 strategy for the Alia Kendra I site (BdGu-19) consisted of the excavation of a series of **120** one metre squares. The squares were placed at a 5 metre interval to cover the entire site area. The one metre excavation units are illustrated in Figure 4 of this report. Square numbers were assigned based on the position of the southwest corner of each of the one metre squares along the imposed grid plan. All squares were excavated to the bottom of the topsoil layer. All excavated material was screened through ¼ inch wire mesh in order to ensure that any artifacts contained within the topsoil were recovered. Artifacts were recovered from 27 of the excavated squares.

4.4 Results of the Test Excavations

As a result of the Stage 3 Test Excavations of the Alia Kendra I site (BdGu-19) a total of 89 artifacts were recovered. The following analysis includes the Stage 2 & 3 results. The artifacts recovered consisted of the following categories: 77 fragmentary sherds; 4 body sherds, 1 fragmentary rim sherd; 1 neck sherd; 2 rim sherds; 1 piece of chipping detritus; 2 ground stone fragments; and 1 celt fragment. As in most artifact assemblages, the vast majority of the artifacts are nondiagnostics.

It is primarily through ceramics and more specifically rim sherds that we recover data relating to each individual site. The ceramics of the Alia Kendra I site account for roughly 95.5% (N=85) of the total artifact assemblage. Fragmentary sherds are those sherds which are lacking either the interior or exterior surface, are smaller than a quarter and cannot be classified as a fragmentary rim sherd. In contrast, body sherds possess an interior and exterior and are larger than a quarter. Most fragmentary sherds are fragments of body sherds. Smoothed over exteriors predominates the assemblage.

The bulk of decoration on ceramics or pottery is on the rim. It is through the decoration present on rim sherds that much of our cultural and temporal information is derived. In order to be truly analyzable, a rim sherd must exhibit sufficient portions of the interior, lip, collar, and neck to determine the decorative motif and technique employed. A sherd in which any of these traits is absent is classified as a fragmentary rim sherd. The two rim sherds can all be placed in the Huron Incised typology as defined by R. MacNeish (1952).

As illustrate in Figure 4 of this report, the distribution of materials was quite uneven. The west edge of the site produced very little material. All of the squares west of 125E produced no artifacts except for Squares 110E-90N and 110E-95N which produced a single piece of chipping detritus each. These two squares are likely peripheral or even outside of the site itself. However, this area has been included within the inferred limits of the site because numerous other sterile squares were encountered in areas that appear to be clearly within the site.

The Alia Kendra I site is a Late Woodland occupation site which appears to be related to the Huron culture and precedes contact with Europeans. This inference is based on the lack of trade goods present on the site. As a result, the site is significant as an early occupation of the Huron Confederacy in the Orillia area.

5.0 ALIA KENDRA SITE (BdGu-19) MITIGATIVE EXCAVATIONS

5.1 Methodology

The 2004 excavation strategy for the Alia Kendra site (BdGu-19) was based upon AMICK Consultants Limited 2003 report describing the results of the Stage 1-3 archaeological investigations of the subject property (AMICK 2003). This document contains and represents the extent of information concerning the site which was known in advance of these excavations. The paucity of artifacts found on the surface and within the test excavation units dug across the entire site area; as well as the lack of any evidence of subsurface remains led to a recommendation that no hand excavations were necessary in advance of topsoil stripping. Ministry of Culture staff concurred with this recommendation.

The site area was mechanically stripped of topsoil using a gradall fitted with a toothless, straight edged ditching bucket. Nearly a full hectare was stripped of topsoil. The area stripped of topsoil was based on the distribution of artifacts observed in 2002 and the limits of the test excavations in 2003. The area of topsoil stripping extended 5 metres beyond the outer rows of one metre excavation units. The limits of topsoil stripping are illustrated in Figure 4 of this report. Following the mechanical removal of topsoil from the site area, the exposed subsoil was shovel shined in order to ensure that all possible subsurface features and posts were discerned.

5.2 Results

Topsoil stripping revealed no subsurface remains and an examination of backdirt piles produced a single rimsherd. This rim is a variant of the Ontario Horizontal type.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the archaeological assessment of this property, a significant site relating to the Prehistoric Huron substage of the Iroquoian cultural complex has been identified. This site, registered within the Ontario Archaeological Sites Database as the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19) was subject to comprehensive Stage 3 Test Excavations and Stage 4 Mitigative Excavations. As the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19) has been fully excavated and recorded, it is recommended that the affected area within the proposed development be cleared of archaeological conditions and that development work be allowed to proceed.

It must also be pointed out at this time that no archaeological survey or excavation, regardless if intensity, can entirely negate the presence of archaeological deposits. This is particularly true of deeply buried remains, notably human interments. Should either cultural materials or human remains be exposed during the course of construction activities AMICK Consultants, the Regional Archaeologist/Heritage Planner for the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation and/or Cemeteries Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Affairs must be contacted immediately.

All artifacts, photographs, field notes, diagrams and records pertaining to the archaeological investigations of the subject property and of the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19) are presently stored on the premises of AMICK Consultants Limited. AMICK Consultants Limited is prepared to transfer this collection to a facility approved by the Ontario Ministry of Culture.

7.0 REFERENCES CITED

Chapman, L.J. & D.F. Putnam

1984 The Physiography of Southern Ontario (Third Edition). Ontario Geological Survey, Special Report #2. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Toronto.

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MacNeish, Richard R.

1952 Iroquois Pottery Types: A Technique for the Study of Iroquois Prehistory. Bulletin 124. Anthropological Series No. 31. National Museum of Canada.

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1993 Archaeological Assessment Technical Guidelines, Stages 1-3 and Reporting Format. OMCzCR, Cultural Programs Branch, Archaeology and Heritage Planning, Toronto.

Table 1 Cultural Chronology for South-Central Ontario

PERIOD	GROUP	DATE RANGE	TRAITS
Palaeo-Indian			
	Fluted Point	9500-8500 B.C.	Big Game hunters small nomadic groups
	Hi-Lo	8500-7500 B.C.	
Archaic			
Early		8000-6000 B.C.	hunter-gatherers
Middle	Laurentian	6000-2000 B.C.	territorial divisions arise
Late	Lamoka	2500-1700 B.C.	ground stone tools appear
	Broadpoint	1800-1400 B.C.	
	Crawford Knoll Glacial Kame	1500- 500 B.C. ca. 100 B.C.	
Woodland			
Early	Meadowood	1000-400 B.C.	introduction of pottery
	Red Ochre	1000-500 B.C.	
Middle	Point Peninsula	400B.C.-500 A.D.	long distance trade horticulture
	Princess Point	500-800 A.D.	
Late	Pickering	800-1300 A.D.	villages & agriculture larger villages
	Uren	1300-1350 A.D.	
	Middleport	1300-1400 A.D.	warfare
	Huron	1400-1650 A.D.	
Historic			
Early	Odawa, Ojibwa	1700-1875 A.D.	social displacement
Late	Euro-Canadian	1785 A.D. +	European settlement

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Part of Blocks 107, 112 & 115, Plan 51m-613 All of Blocks 114 & 25, Plan 51m-613, City of Orillia, Simcoe County.

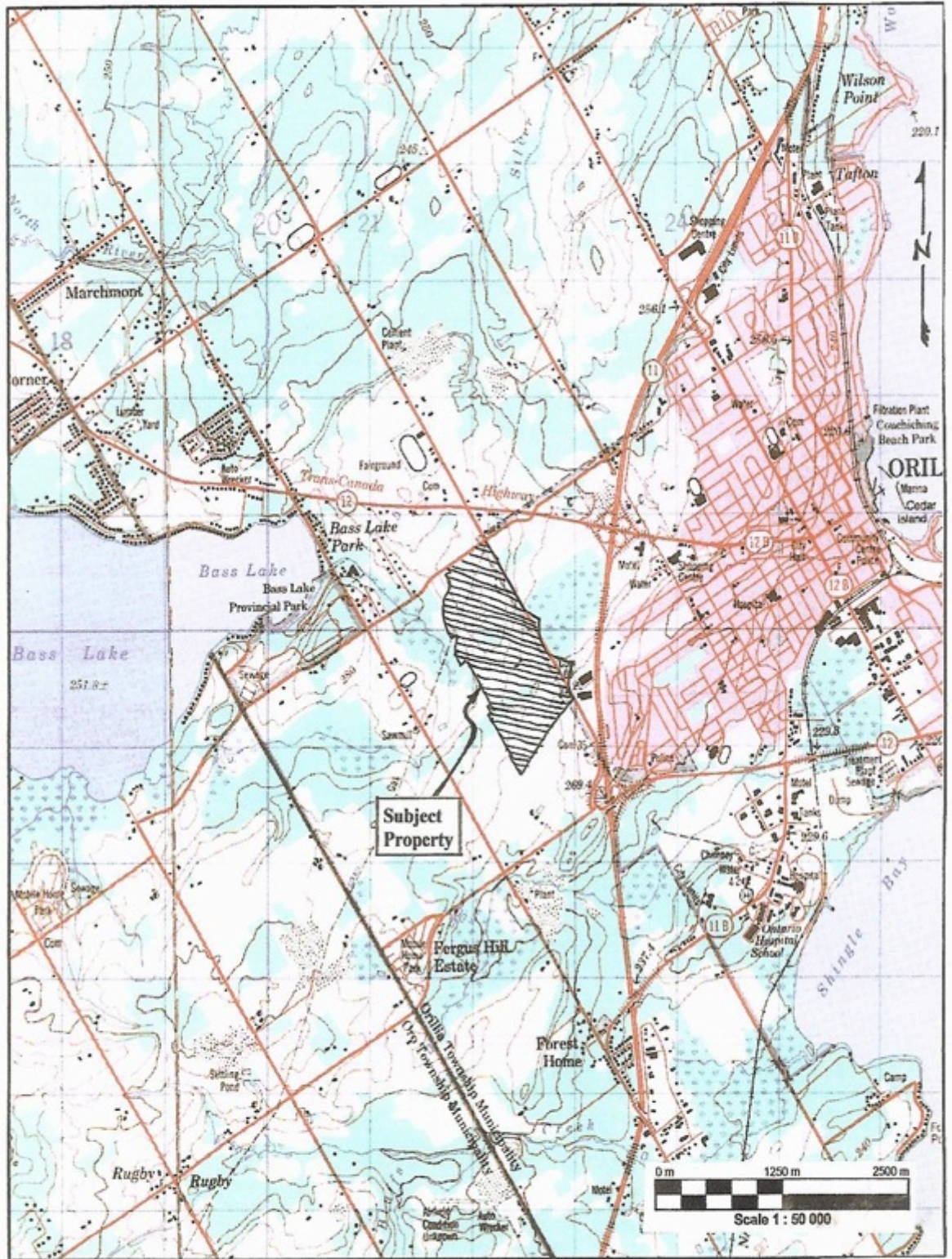


Figure 1 Location of the Subject Property

2004 Stage 4 Excavations of the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19), Proposed Stone Ridge Phase I Subdivision, Part of Lots 6, 7 & 8, Con., Part of the Original Rd. Allowance between Cons. 2 & 3, Geographic Twp. of Orillia (South Orillia), Part of Blocks 107, 112 & 115, Plan 51m-613 All of Blocks 114 & 25, Plan 51m-613, City of Orillia, Simcoe County.



Figure 2 Segment of the Historic Atlas Map (1878)

2004 Stage 4 Excavations of the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19), Proposed Stone Ridge Phase I Subdivision, Part of Lots 6, 7 & 8, Con.,
Part of the Original Rd. Allowance between Cons. 2 & 3, Geographic Twp. of Orillia (South Orillia),
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Figure 3

2004 Stage 4 Excavations of the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19), Proposed Stone Ridge Phase I Subdivision, Part of Lots 6, 7 & 8, Con.,
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Figure 4

2004 Stage 4 Excavations of the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19), Proposed Stone Ridge Phase I Subdivision, Part of Lots 6, 7 & 8, Con., Part of the Original Rd. Allowance between Cons. 2 & 3, Geographic Twp. of Orillia (South Orillia), Part of Blocks 107, 112 & 115, Plan 51m-613 All of Blocks 114 & 25, Plan 51m-613, City of Orillia, Simcoe County.



Plate 1 Topsoil Stripping of the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19)



Plate 2 Shovel Shining the Exposed Subsoil of the Alia Kendra Site (BdGu-19)