



University
of Victoria

ANTHROPOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

Archaeology of the Beagle Channel: maritime hunter- gatherers at the southern end of the Americas



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11:30 am – 12:50 pm

Cornett Building: A129

This presentation offers an overview of the archaeological research program carried out in the southern coasts of Tierra del Fuego (Southern South America), providing a tour through the archaeological history of the Indigenous societies that inhabited the region during the Holocene until the contact period. For over 45 years, archaeological research in this region has produced a compendium of different lines of evidence and methodological approaches. These studies have concentrated on shell middens located in the Beagle Channel, which are the main archaeological features of past human occupations in coastal settings. Long-term historical trajectories have been reconstructed based on the relations between humans and marine ecosystems over the past 7,000 years. Recent research has documented earlier evidence for coastal use (ca. 8,000 years ago) in three different coastal locations but with very scarce organic preservation. This presentation will review these emerging results which present interesting challenges for a future agenda including long-term human influence on coastal environments.

EVERYONE WELCOME.