
Quentin Mackie  
Tuesday, Nov 21st, 7:30  
Cornett A129, UVic Campus, Victoria

Between about 14,500 and 10,500 years ago, relative sea levels were lower than modern near Haida Gwaii, exposing large areas of sea floor. In Juan Perez Sound in southeastern Haida Gwaii, high resolution bathymetry shows areas with intact terrestrial landforms to 150 metres below modern sea level. Archaeological evidence from nearby karst cave sites puts people on this drowned landscape by at least 12,500 years ago. Finding sites on the seafloor introduces methodological and theoretical challenges. This talk will review the rationale, methods, and preliminary findings from a 2014 expedition to seek underwater archaeological sites more than 10,500 years old on the seafloor of southern Juan Perez Sound.

Bio: Mackie is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology, University of Victoria, B.C., having received his PhD from Southampton University in England. For the past 15+ years he has often worked in Haida Gwaii in collaboration with Parks Canada archaeologists and members of the Haida Nation. Together they have found or excavated a series of sites from near the Pleistocene-Holocene boundary (the period when modern climatic and vegetation conditions were established, ca 11,000 years ago). Since 2012, together with Daryl Fedje he has also been funded by the Hakai Institute to ancient landscapes and archaeology of the Quadra Island area of the northern Salish Sea.

Also note that we have our first Archaeology Yoga Class on Nov. 14th, 2017 in COR A125 of UVic’s Cornett building. Details in associated poster.

The Archaeological Society meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month (Jan-May, Sept-Nov) at UVic’s Cornett building. For information about lectures and membership, e-mail asbcvictoria@gmail.com

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