

# BIWEEKLY COLLOQUIA WINTER TERM 2022/23

## Drowned Stone Age settlements at Hjarnø Latest results and future initiatives

**Monday, 05 December 2022 / 16.15 - 17.45 / Leibnizstraße 1, room 204**

**Peter Moe Astrup • Moesgaard Museum**

Marine archaeological investigations of two large submerged Ertebølle settlements near the island of Hjarnø in Horsens Fjord, Denmark have continued for more than 12 years now. These investigations began because erosion uncovered well-preserved Stone Age artifacts such as bows, paddles, and dugout canoes. In light of these finds, since 2010 Moesgaard Museum has studied two localities that lie ca. 400 m apart on the seabed. An ongoing theme of the research has been to rescue artifacts and information that are at risk of loss due to erosion, while at the same time producing an overview of the areas' contents, extent, ages, and scientific potential.

In collaboration with Flinders University and within the framework of a separate project (Deep History of Sea-Country), one shell layer from each site was investigated. Goals of this work included testing the potential of geophysical methods to detect submerged shell deposits and determine if they are of anthropogenic origin. Throughout the project the sites have been used to develop new documentation techniques and test natural science methods.

This talk will reflect on the potential of the various methods to contribute with new knowledge, as well as which questions and conditions should be prioritized in future investigations at Hjarnø and elsewhere.



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