The Pacific Northwest Coast of North America is increasingly recognized for instances of exceptionally long-term (i.e. millennia-long) persistent occupation, and its Indigenous inhabitants assert powerful connections to both the places of these occupations and to histories involving people at these places. I outline a collaborative research project with the Ts'msyen Gitga'at Nation where a multidisciplinary team explores locations of intense practical and spiritual cultural salience for the Gitga'at today, which have oral histories asserting their deep-time significance, and which have extensive archaeological deposits. Through reconstructing postglacial histories of landscape and settlement change and human-environment interactions at these places I explore how human engagement with changing coastlines has played part in structuring long-term resilience of Indigenous inhabitants. This research engages with and informs the interests of multiple communities, from those of scientists striving to understand early occupation of the continent and the effects of climate change on coasts and coastal communities, to First Nations striving for territorial rights in the face of colonial institutions that have dispossessed them from their lands and downplayed the significance of their histories and cultural legacies, and to any coastal communities in general facing depleting coastal resources and looking for ways to enhance resilience and sustainability through learning from the past and from Indigenous knowledge.