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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1: Introduction -- Chapter 2: The Estado as a Proto-State Polity -- Chapter 3: The Spanish-Mapuche World of the Purén and Lumaco Valley in the 16th and 17th Centuries -- Chapter 4: Data, Methods and Background -- Chapter 5: Archaeological Material Manifestations -- Chapter 6: Environmental Responses to Climatic and Cultural Changes over the last 26,000 years -- Chapter 7: The Archaeological Record -- Chapter 8: Archaeobotanical Remains -- Chapter 9: Ceramics and Other Artifacts -- Chapter 10: Site Distribution and Settlement Pattern -- Chapter 11: The Kuel and Ceremonial Fields as Places of Patriotism and Patriarchy.
Sommario/riassunto	This volume provides an up-to-date and in-depth summary and analysis of the political practices of pre-Columbian communities of the Araucanians or Mapuche of southcentral Chile and adjacent regions. This synthesis draws upon the empirical record documented in original research, as well as a critical examination of previous studies. By applying both archaeological and ethnohistorical approaches, the latter

including ethnography, this volume distinguishes itself from many other studies that explore South American archaeology. Archaeological and traditional-historical narratives of the pre-European past are considered in their own terms and for the extent to which they can be integrated in order to provide a more rounded and realistic understanding than otherwise of the origins and courses of ecological, economic, social and political changes in the south-central Andes from late pre-Hispanic times, through the contact period and up to Chile's independence from Spain (ca. AD 1450-1810). Both the approach and the results are discussed in the light of similar situations elsewhere. Throughout its treatment, the volume continually comes back to two central questions: (1) how did the varied practices, institutions, and worldviews of the Mapuche's ancient communities emerge as a historical process that resisted the Spanish empire for more than 250 years, and (2) how were these communities reproduced and transformed in the face of ongoing culture contact and landscape change during the early Colonial period? These questions are considered in light of contemporary theoretical concepts regarding practice, landscape, environment, social organization, materiality, community, and what the author refers to as a teleoscopic political formation that will make the book relevant for students and scholars interested in similar processes elsewhere.
