In 1996, a small group of Bushmen, known as the ≠Khomani San, launched a claim to South Africa’s second most important National Park. This was one of the first such land claims in Africa, and led to research, negotiation and, in 1999, a settlement.

A set of research projects - recording oral histories, mapping relationships to land and resources, filming with the community - supported the land claim, and then monitored its consequences. In today’s lecture, Hugh Brody, who co-ordinated the research projects with the ≠Khomani San from 1997-2008, will describe the process and invite discussion of how the results of such work can have maximum value, both for the people who told the stories and made the claim, and for those who wish to draw on and analyse the materials.

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