

# Guide to the Ephemera concerning the People's Park protests

WA MSS S-4353



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2021 January

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** WA MSS S-4353

**TITLE:** Ephemera concerning the People's Park protests

**DATES:** 1968-1969

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.42 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Fliers, broadsides, posters, pamphlets, comic book, periodicals, and other ephemera concerning the 1969 People's Park protests in Berkeley, California compiled by an unidentified creator. The ephemera document meetings, rallies, fundraisers, vigils, and protests held by various groups concerning People's Park and, to a lesser extent, the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement. Organizations represented in the ephemera include Students for a Democratic Society, Young Socialist Alliance, Bay Area Revolutionary Union, Berkeley Defense Committee, Bay Area Spartacist League, Progressive Labor Party, and the People's Press Syndicate, among others.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.peoplespark>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.peoplespark>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.        box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Lorne Bair Rare Books on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2019.

## Conditions Governing Access

This material is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Ephemera Concerning the People's Park Protests is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Ephemera Concerning the People's Park Protests. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

People's Park is a tract of land in the Southside neighborhood of Berkeley, California. University of California, Berkeley acquired the land through eminent domain in 1968 and demolished several buildings before abandoning the site due to lack of funding. In April 1969, local residents and students established a park on the site for public use. In May the university announced plans to build a sports field on the site. Berkeley mayor Wallace Johnson and California governor Ronald Reagan sent police officers to destroy the park and build a perimeter fence.

On May 15, over 3,000 people protested the destruction of the park and police shot protestors with buckshot, killing bystander James Rector. Protests continued after Reagan declared a state of emergency and sent National Guard troops to Berkeley.

In 1971, the university planned to turn the site into a soccer field and parking lot. Protests continued until the city of Berkeley voted to lease the land from the university in September 1972. Volunteers rebuilt People's Park soon after. The university again attempted to turn part of the park into a parking lot in 1979, but abandoned the plans after further protests.

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## Scope and Contents

Fliers, broadsides, posters, pamphlets, comic book, periodicals, and other ephemera concerning the 1969 People's Park protests in Berkeley, California compiled by an unidentified creator. The ephemera document meetings, rallies, fundraisers, vigils, and protests held by various groups concerning People's Park and, to a lesser extent, the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement. Organizations represented in the ephemera include Students for a Democratic Society, Young Socialist Alliance, Bay Area Revolutionary Union, Berkeley Defense Committee, Bay Area Spartacist League, Progressive Labor Party, and the People's Press Syndicate, among others.

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## Arrangement

Arranged as received.

## Collection Contents

b.1	"Trashman the Avenger" comic	undated
b.1	[Roger Heyns] "Wanted for Murder" broadside	undated
b.1	"The Parking Lot That Thought It Was a Park" mimeograph	undated
b.1	Young Socialist Alliance Paul Boutelle flier	undated
b.1	"Power Is the People" flier	undated
b.1	"Don't Let Heyns Fence Us Out" rally flier	undated
b.1	"This Man is the Fall Guy for Reagan's Plot to Wipe Us Off the Streets" flier	undated
b.1	"Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace..." flier	undated
b.1	"Rally Fight Racism and Stop the War" flier	1969 January 22
b.1	Soldiers and Veterans Committee of the People, "Soldiers! Where Are You From?" flier	undated
b.1	Excerpts from <i>Voces</i> by Antonio Porchia mimeograph	undated
b.1	Sneed Hearn, "What Now?" pamphlet	1969
b.1	Berkeley High School students address to City Council mimeograph	1969 May 29
b.1	"Heyns Rejects 7 Point Peace Plan" broadside	undated
b.1	Bay Area GI-CLDC, "Celebrate the Victory of our GI Brothers the Ft. Jackson 8" flier	undated
b.1	University of California, Berkeley Students for a Democratic Society, "Support the Strike at S.F. State" flier	undated
b.1	Book Center Headquarters for Marxist Literature book list	1969 June
b.1	Bay Area Revolutionary Union, "We Will Fight and Fight From This Generation to the Next" broadside	undated
b.1	Independent Socialists Club, Building a Revolutionary Movement in America workshop flier	undated
b.1	Berkeley Defense Committee, "There's a Conspiracy Afoot" benefit dance flier	undated
b.1	Merritt College admission and registration procedures	1969
b.1	Bay Area Spartacist League, "The Park and the Revolution" flier	undated
b.1	<i>I.F. Stone's Weekly</i> volume 17, issue 10	1969 May 19
b.1	Students for a Democratic Society, "Rise Up"	undated
b.1	"Suggestions for Constructive Action in Riot Situations" flier	undated
b.1	"You Can Help" flier	undated

b.1	University of California, Berkeley College of Environmental Design resolution mimeograph	1969 May 15
b.1	"Join the Struggle for the People's Park" flier	undated
b.1	"Public Meeting Let's Open the Park to the People" flier	undated
b.1	"Regent Dutton: The People Should Have Their Park!" flier	undated
b.1	"Jesus in Berkeley"	undated
b.1	"People of Berkeley Rally Today" flier	undated
b.1	"Townsppeople...Why Are You Shopping in Berkeley Today?" flier	undated
b.1	"The Streets of Our Country are in Turmoil..." flier	undated
b.1	Bay Area Revolutionary Union, "How Can We Deal with the Pigs?" flier	undated
b.1	Service of Confession and Rededication	1969 May 23
b.1	"To the Guard: Why You Are Here" handbill	undated
b.1	Progressive Labor Party, "Fight Police Terror Smash Racism"	undated
b.1	Campus Young Socialist Alliance, "Vote Yes on the Park"	undated
b.1	People's Park Committee press release	1969 May 30
b.1	Parents for Community Peace march flier	undated
b.1	Students for a Democratic Society, "Attack the Real Enemy!"	undated
b.1	Students for a Democratic Society factory and community leafleting flier	undated
b.1	People's Park Negotiating Committee memorandum	undated
b.1	People's Park Negotiating Committee vigil flier	undated
b.1	American Friends Service Committee declaration of freedom	undated
b.1	The Berkeley Coalition, "James Rector is Dead"	undated
b.1	Friends of Progressive Labor Party, "Who is the Enemy?"	undated
b.1	People's Press Syndicate, <i>Instant News Service</i> volume 1, issue 3	1969 May 20
b.1	People's Press Syndicate, <i>Instant News Service</i> volume 1, issue 4	1969 May 21
b.1	People's Press Syndicate, <i>Instant News Service</i> volume 1, issue 6	1969 May 23
b.1	People's Press Syndicate, <i>Instant News Service</i> special issue 1	1969 May 25
b.1	People's Press Syndicate, <i>Instant News Service</i> volume 1, issue 11	1969 May 28
b.1	Outcry! From Occupied Berkeley	circa 1969
b.1	<i>The Daily Californian</i> issues	1969 May

b.1	Berkeley High Students Against Racism, "Revolutionary Activist Paper" volume 1, issue 2	undated
b.1	<i>People's World</i> volume 32, issue 21	1969 May 24
b.1	"Student Action: The Student Happenings of a World-Wide Movement"	1968-1969
b.1	<i>American Teacher</i> volume 53, issue 8	1969 April

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Geographic Names**

Berkeley (Calif.)  
California -- Politics and government -- 20th  
Century  
California -- Social life and customs -- 20th  
Century  
People's Park (Berkeley, Calif.)

### **Subjects**

Civil rights -- United States  
Parks -- California  
Peace movements -- United States  
Protest movements -- United States  
Student movements  
Vietnam War, 1961-1975 -- Protest movements  
-- California -- Berkeley

### **Genres / Formats**

Comic books  
Ephemera

### **Corporate Bodies**

Bay Area Revolutionary Union  
Bay Area Spartacist League  
Berkeley Defense Committee  
People's Press Syndicate (Berkeley, Calif.)  
Progressive Labor Party  
Students for a Democratic Society (U.S.)  
University of California, Berkeley  
Young Socialist Alliance (U.S.)