Peoples Party II Bibliography

This doesn’t pretend to be an exhaustive bibliography. These are simple citations for some online sources and some hard copy materials that can be found at the African American Library at the Gregory School (Gregory), Houston Metropolitan Research Center (HMRC), and other branches of the Houston Public Library.

Websites

• Bayou City History
  “The death of Carl Hampton,” by J.R. Gonzales
  HMRC has a collection of *Houston Chronicle* photographs, but we do not have the photos used here.

• It’s about time: Black Panther Party legacy & Alumni webpage
  o “The Police assassination of Carl Hampton,” by Charles (BOKO) Freeman
  o “People’s Party II,” by Robinson Block (this text also appeared in Free Press Houston (Feb., 2009), Issue #100

• Portal to Texas History
  Oral history interviews with:
  o James Aaron
  o Bobby Caldwell
  o John “Bunchy” Crear
  o Claude Frost
  o Gloria Rubac.

• “Sensei shows where Carl Hampton was killed on 38 anniversary”
  Vernon “Sensei” Benton on Emancipation (formerly Dowling) Street. The plaque shown at the beginning of the video is no longer there.

Books/Theses

Most of these books are not about the People Party II in specific but supply more context

• *Anti-Black violence in twentieth-century Texas*
  Gregory and HMRC (305.896073 A629)
  Does not talk about PII, but contains essays regarding anti-black violence in Texas, without scholarly jargon. Began as an article in the *East Texas Historical Journal*.

• *Arm yourself or harm yourself: People’s Party II and the Black Panther Party in Houston, Texas*
  HMRC (322.420973 J76)
  This booklet is a reprint of an essay taken from *On the ground: the Black Panther Party in communities across America*, edited by Judson L. Jeffries
• **Black Dixie: Afro-Texan history and culture in Houston**
  Gregory, HMRC, two circulating copies in the HPL system (976.4141 B627)
  Peoples Party II is mentioned in passing on page 164, Carl in passing on page 262.

• **Black Texans: a history of African Americans in Texas, 1528-1995**
  Gregory, HMRC, 2 circulating copies in the HPL system (976.400496 B268)
  Chapter 6 covers the 1960s and 1970s, Carl and PPII are briefly covered on page 194.

• **Blacks in Houston**
  Gregory, HMRC, and Clayton Library (976.4100496073 W794)
  Thirty-nine-page booklet created through a 1982 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

• **Fighting their own battles: Mexican Americans, African Americans, and the struggle for civil rights in Texas**
  Gregory, HMRC, 12 circulating copies in the HPL system (305.8009764 B419)
  Two and a half pages (163-165) talk about Peoples Party II.

  ![The Carl Hampton Shooting](image)

  The Carl Hampton Shooting

  The second major race-related police event took place on July 26, 1970, on Dowling Street in the Third Ward, the night Carl Hampton, a leader of Peoples Party II—a local affiliate of the Black Panther Party—was shot and killed in an armed confrontation with Houston officers.

  Police with shotguns and bayonets lined up on Elgin and Dowling and dispersed a peaceful crowd. Most of the officers stood to the side. A black leader at the scene recalled that some officers used the N-word and “the Billy stick,” while others were firm but courteous.

  Officer Bobby Blaylock—the man shot in the butt during the TSU Riot—also fired the bullets that killed Carl Hampton about one year later. Blaylock said what many HPD officers believed about the Civil Rights Era in Houston: “If we had not had Herman Short as a chief during the time of TSU and Carl Hampton, if we had had a weak chief, all hell would have broken loose in the town. It would have been like Los Angeles and Detroit. It also took a strong mayor. We had problems like those other cities, but violence wasn’t tolerated. We jumped on it quick. Every time something stirred up, we jumped on it quick and that put an end to it.”

• **Houston blue: the story of the Houston Police Department**
  Gregory, HMRC, circulating copies in the HPL system, 1 ebook (363.209764 R845)
  This book, commissioned by the Houston Police Officers’ Union, utilizes a text box (within the chapter covering the TSU riot) to address the shootout with Peoples Party II. The footnote (23) leads to a Houston Post article “Police keep watch in wake of clash” (Jul. 29, 1970) p. A4

• **The role of ideology in the growth, establishment, and decline of the Black Panther Party: 1966 to 1982**
  Accessible through the Black Studies Center database on HPL’s [African American history resources page](#). Pages 111-112 gives a brief history of PPII.
**Vertical files**
Vertical files are file folders containing newspaper clippings, pamphlets, fliers, etc. on a particular subject. Some of the articles listed below would be in these files.

**At the Gregory School**
- Organizations-People’s Party II

**At the HMRC**
- H-Black Panthers
- H-Peoples Party II
- H-Hampton, Carl

**Newspapers/periodicals**

*Dallas Morning News*
HPL has subscription database via NewsBank. Library card required for access

- “Police, militants blame each other” (Jul 28, 1970), p. 5
- “FBI study asked in Houston killing” (Jul 29, 1970), p.9
- “Houston slayings inflame tempers” (Jul 30, 1970), p.8
- “Harris jury to hold inquiry into shootout” (Aug 25, 1970), p.10
- “Constables evict Peoples Party” (May 17, 1971), p.11
- “SDS man gets delay in trial” (May 18, 1971), p. 15

*Forward Times*
On microfilm at Gregory

- “Moments after Dowling standoff” (Jul 25, 1970), p.63
- [Article about police calls] (Jul 29, 1970)
- “Diagnosis of 2828 Dowling” (Aug 1, 1970), p.3
- “Was Carl Hampton set up” (Aug 1, 1970), p.2
- “Bad to be black on Dowling” (Aug 1, 1970), p.2
- “Johnny Coward has no regrets” (Aug 1, 1970), p.4
- “I remember Carl Hampton” (Aug 1, 1970), p.5
- “Changing face of Dowling” (Aug 1, 1970), p.6
- “Diagnosis of 2828 Dowling” (Aug 1, 1970), p.3
- “Call Dowling Street investigation a ‘Cool Down’ play” (Oct 3, 1970)

**Free Press Houston**


**Houston Chronicle**

If you have a Houston Public Library card (or are interested in signing up for one), you can access HPL’s subscription to the Houston Chronicle Historical Archive 1901-2017 database on HPL’s Newspapers and other news resources page

- “Short: Black armed display clear anarchy” (Jul. 19, 1970), Sec. 1, p.1, 2
- “Black militant killed, 4 shot in gun battle: police arrest 52 in Dowling shootout” (Jul. 27, 1970) Sec.1, p.1, 2
- “Black militant slain on Dowling” (Jul. 27, 1970) Evenings paper, Sec.1, p.1, 2
- “Black amnesty among People’s Party II goals” (Jul. 27, 1970) Sec.1, p. 2
- “Short issues statement explaining shootings” (Jul 27, 1970), Sec.1, p. 2
- “Black group want ouster of Chief Short” (Jul. 28, 1970) Sec.1, p.1, 2
- “Demands are listed by black coalition” (Jul. 29, 1970) Sec.1, p.1, 2
- “300 rally to protest slaying of black militant” (Aug. 3, 1970) Sec 1, p.7
- “What happened at Dowling shootout” (Aug. 9, 1970) Sec.3, p.23
- “Grand jury to probe slaying of militant” (Aug. 12, 1970) Sec. 1, p.3
- “Officer denies ‘plan’ to kill militants here” (Aug. 25, 1970) Sec 1, p.13
- “Black merchant says militants disrupting Dowling area” (Aug. 27, 1970) Sec., p.15
- “Hampton heir vows to push freedom fight” (Aug. 29, 1970) Sec. 1, p. 12
  Dowling gunbattle: Panther says shot fired by ‘Turncoats’ (Sep. 1, 1970) Sec. 1, p.2
- “Grand Jury probe into death of Hampton resumes Thursday” (Sep. 2, 1970) Sec. 6, p.1
- “Police, Panther blame each other for scuffle” (Oct 15, 1971)
- “Leland was target of two FBI probes, U.S. records reveal” (Jul. 11, 1991) Sec. A, p. 4
- “Black coalition announces food drive to honor activist” (Jul. 18, 1997) Sec. A, p. 26
- “Hundreds honor slain black activist…” (Jul. 27, 1997) Sec. A, p.36

**Houston Informer**
On microfilm at Gregory

- “Rites held for slain leader Wed” no.31 (Aug. 1, 1970), p.1,8

**Houston Journalism Review**
On Chronicle morgue fiche at HMRC (under Houston Journalism Review)

- “Dowling Street revisited” v.1 no.1 (Jun. 1972), p.16-17

**Houston Post**
On microfilm at Central. These articles are probably in the vertical files

- “Citizens bar passage, Dowling area tense” (Jul. 27, 1970)
- “Police get support in slayings” (Jul. 29, 1970) p. A4
- “Police keep watch in wake of clash” (Jul. 28, 1970)
- “Panther leader arrested” (Oct. 15, 1971)
After the station was dynamited off the air a 2nd time, the Pacifica News Group produced Space City Blues, a 74-minute radio program on terrorism in Houston, a portion of which discusses the assassination of Carl Hampton. A recording of the program can be purchased from the Pacifica Radio Archives. The transcript was published and has been digitized (link below).

- "Space City Blues" v.1 no.9 (Jan 1971)

If you have a Houston Public Library card (or are interested in signing up for one), you can access HPL’s subscription to the New York Times historical archive database on HPL’s Newspapers and other news resources page.

- “Black militant slain by Houston police; gun fight injures 4” (Jul 28, 1970) Sec. 1, p. 1
- “Houston blacks denounce police: say they deliberately drew fire in fatal shooting” (Jul. 28, 1970) Sec. 1, p.29
- “Police in Houston cleared in slaying” (Sep. 24, 1970) Sec.1, p.31

On microfilm at HMRC, Internet archive, and freedom archives (link below)


Underground newspaper that published articles about PPII and Hampton. On microfilm at the HMRC. However, people who worked on the paper are currently digitizing them for the Internet Archive.

- “Rainbow Coalition pickets D.A.’s” v.1 no.18 (Mar 28-Apr 10, 1970), p.3
- "Peoples Party II” v.1 no. 20 (May 9-22, 1970), p.8
- “Peoples Party II: Bobby Joe Conners murder” v.1 no. 21 (May 23-Jun 5, 1970), p.8
- “People's community center: Carl Hampton raps” v.2 no.4 (Jul 18-31, 1970), p.3, 14
- “The Houston Police Murdered Carl Hampton” v.2 no.5 (Aug 1-21, 1970)
- “Carl Lives!! Power to Peoples Party” v.2 no.6 (Aug 22-Sep 4, 1970), p.4-5
- Ad for “Carl Lives!” poster v.2 no.7 (Sep 5-18, 1970), p.23
- “Grand jury report on Carl Hampton’s murder” v.2 no.9 (Oct 3-16, 1970), p.15
- “Free clinic to open” v.2 no.14 (Dec 12-21, 1970), p.5
- “Houston police harass Hampton free clinic” v.2 no.15 (Dec 23-Jan 14, 1971), p.7
- “Peoples Party pushes for control of cops” v.2 no.21 (Apr 20, 1971), p.8
- “Haile wins mistrial” v.2 no.26 (May 25, 1971), p.4
- “Louie’s nightmare” v.3 no.7 (Jul 20, 1971), p.3
- “Bartee still free” v.3 no.7 (Jul 20, 1971), p.6-7, 25
- “One year later” v.3 no.8 (Jul 27-Aug 3, 1971), p.3
- “Houston Black Panthers have new office” v.3 no.33 (Jan 27-Feb 3, 1972), p.6-7

**Voice of Hope**

Hard copy at Gregory

- “People’s Party chairman charged” v.3 no. 15 (Apr 11, 1970), p.4
- “Rally in Hermann Park” v. 3 no. 24 (Jun 13, 1970), p.4
- “Revolutionary groups armed, showdown with police predicted” v.3 no.30 (July 25, 1970), p.1,3,5
- “In commemoration” v.3 no.31 (Aug 1, 1970), p.2
• “Hampton wounded fatally during police invitation of Dowling 28” v.3 no.31 (Aug 1, 1970), p.3-5, 12

• “Black coalition formed to protest police brutality” v.3 no.31 (Aug 1, 1970), p. 6

• “Hampton’s final message” v.3 no.31 (Aug 1, 1970), p.12

• “Editorial” v.3 no.31 (Aug 1, 1970), p.14

Photographs

Thorne Dreyer Collection (MSS 0105) at HMRC. Dreyer was one of the collective of people that published Space City!. Some of the photos used in the publication are in this collection.

• MSS0105-0162, Unidentified speaker (young black man with glasses in profile) at Aug 2, 1970 People’s Party II rally in memory of Carl Hampton.

• MSS0105-0163, People outside a building with the sign "The Carl Hampton 'Free' Health Medical"

• MSS0105-0164, Bartee Haile crouching in front of a sign saying “The Carl Hampton Free Health and Medical Clinic.”

• MSS0105-0165, Carl Hampton. Just his head clipped from the photo used for the “People’s Party II formed” article.

• MSS0105-0166, "Yolanda Birdwell of Houston MAYO at Aug 2, 1970 PP II Rally in memory of Carl Hampton.

• MSS0105-0167, People’s Party II Rally - Aug. 2, 1970. Same image of the crowd in the Yolanda Birdwell photo above, clipped to not include Birdwell.


• MSS0105-0169, Two children outside a building. Can see bottom right portion of sign identifying it as People’s Party II Community Information Center. Small Carl Hampton poster to the right of the door.

• MSS0105-0170, “People’s Party II Community Information Center,” sign with black panther painted on it. Street number of 2828 barely visible. Photo is slightly out of focus. Small Carl Hampton poster to the right of the door. Probably taken the same day as photo above.