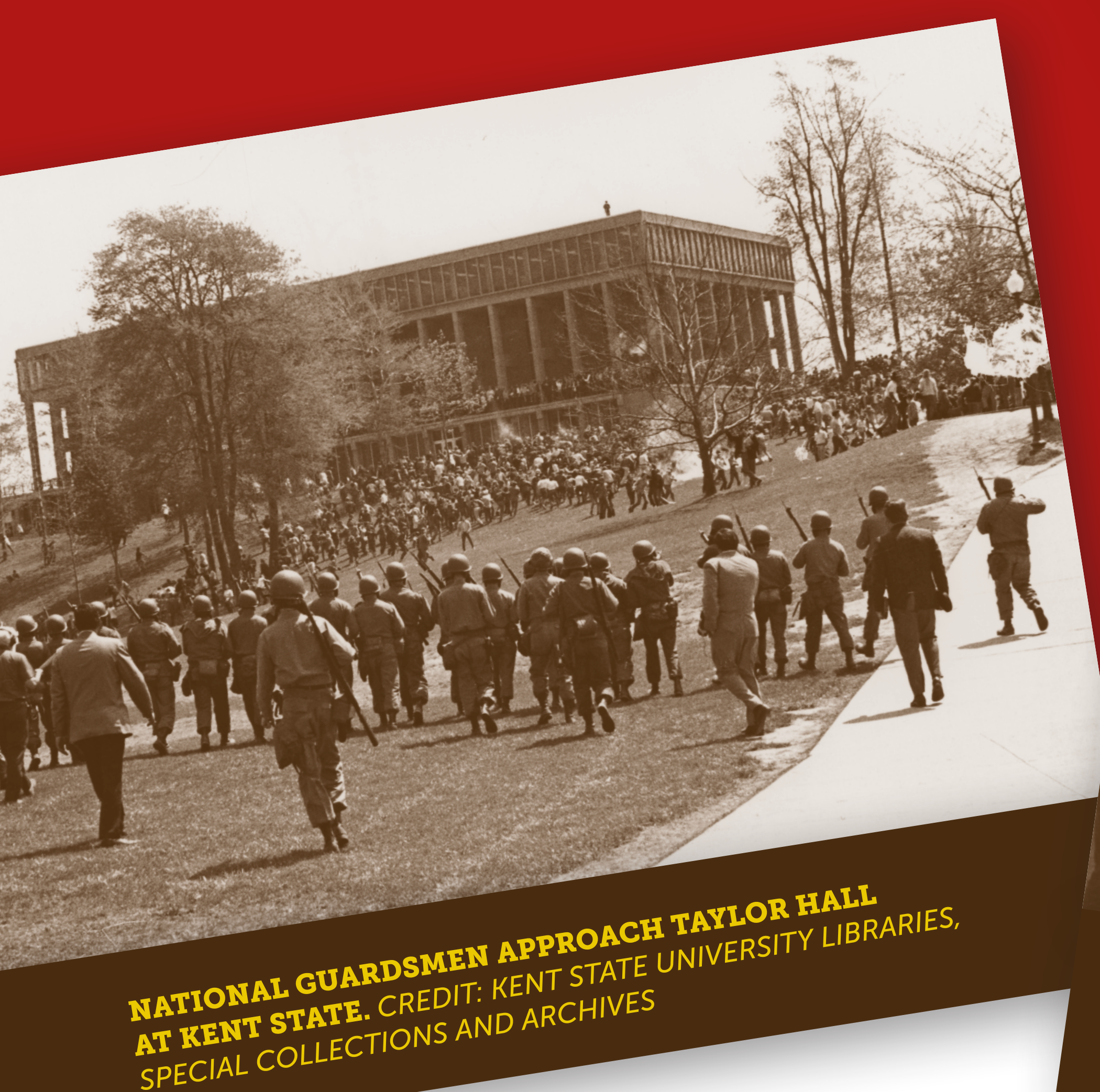
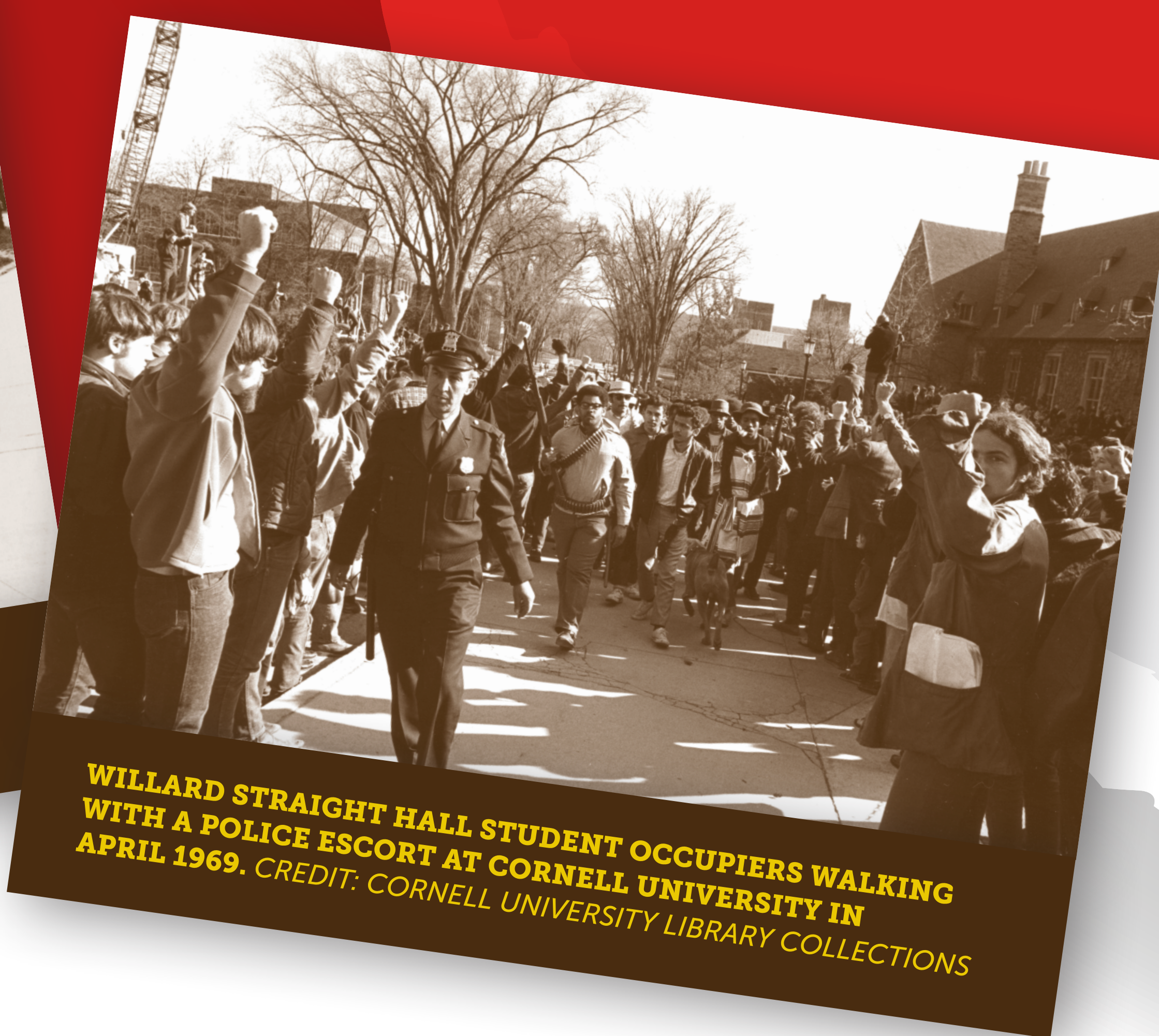


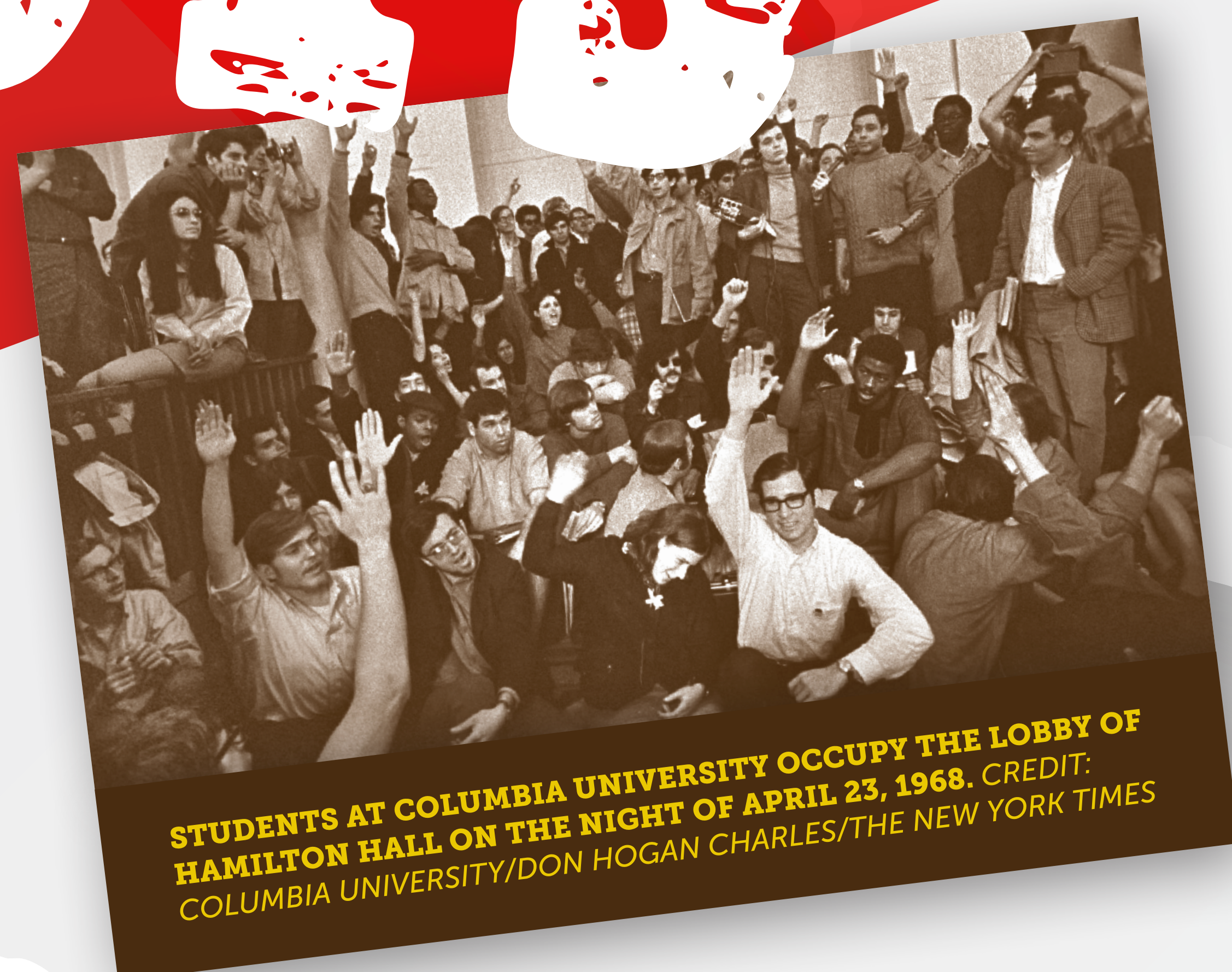
AN ERA OF CAMPUS PROTESTS



NATIONAL GUARDSMEN APPROACH TAYLOR HALL AT KENT STATE. CREDIT: KENT STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES



WILLARD STRAIGHT HALL STUDENT OCCUPIERS WALKING WITH A POLICE ESCORT AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY IN APRIL 1969. CREDIT: CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COLLECTIONS



STUDENTS AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY OCCUPY THE LOBBY OF HAMILTON HALL ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL 23, 1968. CREDIT: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY/DON HOGAN CHARLES/THE NEW YORK TIMES



STUDENT JOHN CLEARY RECEIVING FIRST AID AFTER BEING SHOT AND WOUNDED BY OHIO NATIONAL GUARDSMEN AT KENT STATE. CREDIT: KENT STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

The decade of 1965 to 1975 brought with it campus protests that ranged from large to small, peaceful to violent. Student activists protested issues relating to civil rights, race and gender, poverty, and the Vietnam War. During larger protests, students even occupied campus buildings, essentially shutting down parts of the school in an effort to bring about change. While most colleges and universities experienced some level of protests in this era, some in particular encountered larger, more violent movements, including Columbia University; Cornell University; Harvard University; Jackson State University; Kent State University; University of California, Berkeley; University of Georgia; University of Michigan; and University of Texas at Austin.

University of California, Berkeley's protest movements gained ground with the Free Speech Movement starting in 1964. In May of 1965, the first teach-ins at Berkeley attracted around 35,000 participants in 36 hours¹. The next few years saw continued protest: on October 23, 1968, Berkeley students barricaded themselves in a building to protest the Regents' refusal to allow Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver to teach a course. By February 1969, California governor Ronald Reagan had declared "a state of extreme emergency" on the UC Berkeley campus².

Demonstrations took a tragic turn at Kent State University and Jackson State University in May 1970. On May 4th, around 3,000 demonstrators and 1,000 Ohio National Guardsmen gathered on

Kent State's campus. While it remains unclear if the troops were given an order to shoot, Guardsmen opened fire and 4 students were shot and killed³. Dubbed the Kent State Massacre, it inspired 4.35 million students at 1,350 universities to participate in demonstrations in the days that followed⁴. One such protest occurred at Jackson State. Rioting on campus during the night of May 14th brought police to the scene to disperse crowds. As the police approached Alexander Hall, they fired into the building, killing 2 and wounding 12 others⁵. It is also worth pointing out the difference in media attention that these two campus attacks received; Kent State, a predominantly white university, gained significantly more press nationwide than Jackson State, a largely African-American university.

FOOTNOTES

1. HAYDEN, TOM. "HELL NO: THE FORGOTTEN POWER OF THE VIETNAM PEACE MOVEMENT." YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2017, PP. 34
2. "THE PACIFICA RADIO/UC BERKELEY SOCIAL ACTIVISM RECORDING PROJECT: ANTI-VIETNAM WAR PROTESTS." BERKELEY LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
3. HAYDEN, TOM. "HELL NO: THE FORGOTTEN POWER OF THE VIETNAM PEACE MOVEMENT." YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2017, PP. 78-79
4. HEINEMAN, KENNETH J. "CAMPUS WARS: THE PEACE MOVEMENT AT AMERICAN STATE UNIVERSITIES IN THE VIETNAM ERA." NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1993, PP. 249
5. WYCKOFF, WHITNEY BLAIR. "JACKSON STATE: A TRAGEDY WIDELY FORGOTTEN." NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR.ORG), 3 MAY 2010