APPENDIX

This appendix includes explanations of words and terms as well as a limited number of additional resources such as suggested books, films, videos, local places of interest (including addresses and contact information wherever possible), and online sites.

While a few sources are cited within the appendix, the author’s complete bibliography is also available online.

The author gratefully acknowledges historians Holly Alonso, Leanne Hinton, Ericka Huggins, Gail Lombardi, Betty Marvin and editor Cosette Thompson who reviewed sections or the entirety of the appendix. Any errors are entirely the fault of the author.

For walking tours, contact the City of Oakland at www.oaklandnet.com/walkingtours or (510) 238-3234; for walking tours and talks, contact the Oakland Heritage Alliance (OHA) at www.oaklandheritage.org or (510) 763-9218.

Oakland History Room at the Oakland Public Library, 125 Fourteenth Street, has a wealth of books, maps, files, DVDs, and photographs of Oakland’s history.

Visit the Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street, Oakland (free admission on the first Sunday of the month).

9-11 references the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. In the aftermath of 9-11, hostility against Arab Americans and Muslims escalated.

442nd Regimental Combat Team of the U.S. Army was a unit composed mostly of American soldiers of Japanese descent who volunteered to fight in World War II (1941-1945) although their families were subject to internment. They fought with distinction in Italy, southern France, and Germany. It was the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the U.S. Military. See also Internment camps and World War II.

Adobe is a building material made with clay and often reinforced with straw, typically used during the Californio period. Adobe provides natural insulation, cool in summer and warm in winter. The Peraltas’ adobe houses collapsed in the strong earthquake of 1868. In 1870, Antonio Peralta built an Italianate Victorian house (influenced by elements of Italian architecture) which stands today at 2465 Thirty-fourth Avenue in the Peralta Hacienda Historical Park located in the Fruitvale district of Oakland. See also Anza Expeditions, Californios, and Peralta family.

Adobo is a popular Filipino dish of marinated vegetables and meat or fish. The marinade is usually made of paprika, oregano, salt, garlic, and vinegar to preserve and enhance the flavors.
Afro-Latino is a person of African and Spanish descent. From the 1500s to the 1800s, Africans were brought to the Spanish colonies as slaves. Slaves could buy or earn their freedom in New Spain more easily than in the English and French colonies. Once free, intermarriage was common. When Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821, slavery was abolished. The last Californio governor of Alta California, Pío Pico, was Afro-Latino. See also Alta California, Californios and New Spain.

Alameda is Spanish for “a public walkway shaded by trees.” The city of Alameda was founded in 1853. Once a peninsula, it was separated by an estuary after a channel was dredged from Oakland’s Inner Harbor to San Leandro Bay.

Alcatraz Island (alcatraz is Spanish for “pelican”) is located in San Francisco Bay. It is often called “The Rock.” The island was first developed in 1868 with a lighthouse, a military fortification, and a military prison. From 1933-1963, it was a federal prison. Today, it is a popular tourist attraction.

On March 8, 1964, inspired by old treaty agreements, a small group of Sioux occupied Alcatraz Island for four hours in a symbolic demonstration of Red Power. On November 20, 1969, 79 Native Americans set out for Alcatraz Island and although impeded by the Coast Guard, more than a dozen reached the island and began the occupation. More occupiers came and included members from many tribes, providing opportunities to exchange history, culture, and language across generations. After decades of subjugation at boarding schools (where Native American children were literally kidnapped from their families and community and shipped away), many occupants learned their language and crafts for the first time. (In 1894, 19 Hopi men were imprisoned on Alcatraz Island for almost a year for refusing to let their children go to a white man’s school.) The occupation’s intended purpose was to build a center for Native American Studies, a spiritual center, an ecology center, and a museum.

In November 1969 a Proclamation was issued from Alcatraz Island, ironically listing reasons why the island was well suited for a reservation: no fresh running water, inadequate sanitation facilities, no industry, high unemployment, no health care or education facilities, et al. Occupants offered to buy the island for $24 worth of glass beads and red cloth which was “more than was paid when Manhattan Island was sold.” At first, the prison’s kitchen was operational, but water was soon turned off. Eventually, electricity and telephone service were cut off. Water and food were shipped from the mainland.

Native Americans occupied Alcatraz Island from November 1969 until government officers removed remaining occupiers on June 11, 1971. The Occupation of Alcatraz was an important precedent for Native activism and spawned other important events, marches, and occupations. It also influenced the U.S. government’s decision to pass the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975. Each November on the fourth Thursday, a dawn ceremony is held on Alcatraz Island to celebrate the rights of indigenous people and Unthanksgiving Day. (Citation: “Occupied Alcatraz: Native American Community and Activism” by Janferie Stone, West of Eden: Communes and Utopia in Northern California; and Urban Voices: The Bay Area American Indian Community by Susan Lobo, coordinating editor)

Shirley Guevara (Mono tribe) was an occupant of Alcatraz Island: The
government thought they could just leave us alone, because how could we survive with nothing? Little did they know that we Indians are used to having nothing. On reservations, we’re used to getting by on scraps. So we had to rely on people coming to help, people who could see that we were doing what’s right. And they came. (Citation: “Memorial Day weekend updates & photos – Workshops held, Alcatraz Story shared.” May 30, 2011, Protect Glen Cove Sacred Burial Ground in Vallejo, CA)

See also Indian Relocation Act, Intertribal Friendship House, Native American Health Center, and Ohlone.


Alta California (“Upper California”) is today’s state of California. It was part of the Spanish Empire for 300 years. After Mexico’s War for Independence, it was part of Mexico until the end of the U.S.-Mexican War in 1848.

Amal means “hope” in Arabic.

Angel Island in San Francisco Bay functioned as a U.S. detention center (1910–1940) for immigrants, especially Asians. Approximately 175,000 Chinese immigrants passed through Angel Island. Sometimes, detainees remained two or more years in detention before their fate (of entering the United States) was decided. Poems of longing, fear, despair, and hopelessness were written and carved into the barrack walls (visible today). After the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, immigration was highly restricted with certain exceptions, such as merchants or the sons of Chinese residents in the U.S. The 1906 earthquake destroyed the birth records in San Francisco’s City Hall which led to Chinese claiming kinship with Chinese residents in the United States. Some claims were legitimate while others were “paper sons” and “paper daughters” who tried to enter the U.S. as family members. Applicants were put through rigorous interrogations to test if they were relatives.

See also Chinese and Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

Visit Angel Island State Park and Immigration Station. Contact (415) 435-5537 or tours.angelisland@parks.ca.gov

Antisubmarine net was one of many West Coast fortifications against a land or sea invasion by the Japanese during World War II. The antisubmarine net extended from the Marina in San Francisco to Sausalito in Marin County with a Navy tugboat nearby to open the net for friendly ships. Along the coast were small concrete observation posts to scan the horizon for the Japanese fleet plus antiaircraft guns, searchlights, and radar positioned on every hill that overlooked the Golden Gate, the only entrance into San Francisco Bay. Camouflage paint was used for roof barracks, and camouflage nets were stretched over fortifications. In addition, the roofs of trains were painted gray. No Japanese invasion occurred.

Supplemental reading: Rumors of Peace by Ella Leffland, is a YA novel about a young girl living in the East Bay during World War II.
Anza, Juan Bautista de (1736–1788) was a captain and later lieutenant-colonel in the King of Spain’s army. He led two expeditions through present-day northern Mexico, southern Arizona, and along the coast of Alta California. The 1775-1776 expedition included more than 240 people. In 1777, he was appointed the Governor of the Province of Nuevo México, the present day U.S. state of New Mexico.

See also Alta California, Anza expeditions, and Californios.

For more information, visit Juan Bautista de Anza National Trail. www.nps.gov/juba

Anza expeditions (Juan Bautista de Anza) occurred in 1774 and 1775–1776. The route started in present-day Mexico and traveled through southern Arizona and west to Alta California’s Pacific coast, often traveling on Native American trails which would become El Camino Real and Highway 101. The trips were long and difficult. From the Sonoran Desert, it took five months to reach Monterey. Members of the expedition were men, women, and children of Spanish, African, and Native American descent. Horses and cattle also accompanied the expedition. One important purpose was to establish permanent settlements as a buffer to the Russian and English explorations on the Pacific coast. On March 28, 1776, Anza located the sites for the presidio and mission in present-day San Francisco, California.

See also Alta California, Juan Bautista de Anza Californios, and Peralta family.

The Peralta Hacienda Historical Park at 2465 Thirty-fourth Avenue (Fruitvale district of Oakland) is a site on the Juan Bautista de Anza National Trail. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/juba and www.peraltahacienda.org.

Arabian Nights or One Thousand and One Nights is a collection of stories and folk tales compiled in Arabic during the Islamic Golden Age (from mid-seventh to mid-thirteenth centuries). These marvelous tales were collected over centuries by different authors, translators, and scholars from parts of Asia and North Africa and trace their roots back to ancient and medieval Arabic, Persian, Indian, Egyptian, and Mesopotamian folklore and literature. The first English language edition appeared in 1706.

Students may already be familiar with some of its most popular stories, such as Sindbad, Ali Babi, and Aladdin.

Automobile industry thrived in Oakland from the early twentieth century into the 1960s: Chevrolet (1916–1963) was located at Seventy-third Avenue and Foothill, now site of Eastmont Mall. Other local auto manufacturers included Durant and DeVaux (International Boulevard and Durant Avenue on the San Leandro border), Willys, Fageol, and Caterpillar Tractor. Chrysler’s Plymouth and Dodge were made in nearby San Leandro until 1954. In addition, there was a giant Ford plant in Richmond.

Visit photos and article about Chevrolet online: “Found: Earliest photo of Chevrolet’s Oakland plant?” by Daniel Strohl, Hemmings Daily, August 18, 2010.
Auxiliary Unions during World War II were formed by the exclusive all-white male unions to allow women and people of color to join the union and thereby, comply with Executive Order 8802. Auxiliary unions members usually paid dues but exercised no power, had no vote, and could not send representatives to national conventions. The practice was outlawed by the California Supreme Court in 1945 in *James v. Marinship*. Before filing the lawsuit, the plaintiff, Joe James, organized a strike by black workers at Marinship to protest the auxiliaries. Although auxiliary unions were eventually disbanded, supervisory and foreman positions in the shipyards continued to be dominated by white males. By 1942, many powerful unions supported “equal pay for equal work” for women. See also Executive Order 8802, Rosie, and Unions.

Aztec dance or Concheros dance is an important traditional dance and ceremony which has been performed in Mexico since the colonial period. The dance has strong visual markers of its pre-Hispanic roots with feathered costumes, indigenous dance steps, and indigenous instruments such as drums.

Watch Aztec dancing in Oakland on YouTube.

Ban the Box is a movement to eliminate questions about arrests, convictions, and incarcerations from job applications. “The National Employment Law Project estimates that 65 million Americans have a criminal record, counting both convictions and arrests that did not lead to convictions. Since 1994, the fraction of major employers screening for criminal records has grown from 20 percent to more than 90 percent. People of color are disproportionately convicted, and suffer more discrimination after completing their sentences. Black ex-offenders are four times less likely to get initial job interviews than their white counterparts, despite equivalent credentials and offenses.” (Citation: “Ban the Box for a Fair Chance – Breaking through ‘tough on crime’ policies to give all Americans a chance at employment” by Aaron Tanaka, YES! Magazine, online June 8, 2011)

Banneker, Benjamin (1731–1806) was born a free man in Maryland, grandson of an Englishwoman Mollie Welsh (who was deported to the American colonies to work work for seven years as an indentured servant) and an African slave (originally bought by Mollie Welsh). The slave’s name was Bannaky, changed to Banneker. After she freed Banneker, they married. Molly Banneker taught her grandson, Benjamin, to read. He attended school where his passion was problem-solving of all kinds. Although he had never seen a clock, he built a wooden clock from a watch that he had disassembled. Later in life, he spent most nights outdoors, studying the stars. He published his first Almanac in 1792 and continued to publish his Almanac until 1802. From 1791–1793, he assisted in the survey of the future site of the U. S. capital in the District of Columbia.

The first Almanac included a letter to Thomas Jefferson, protesting prejudice against the Negro: “We are a race of beings who have long labored under the abuse and censure of the world,” Banneker wrote. Jefferson not only replied to Banneker but forwarded the Almanac to Condorcet, Secretary of the Academy of Sciences in France. Afterwards Banneker’s fame spread throughout Europe (including the British Parliament where William Pitt used Banneker as proof of “Negro intelligence”). In his 1793
Almanac, Banneker suggested that the President’s cabinet include a Secretary of Peace to create free universal schooling, abolish capital punishment, and disarm the nation.

Baó is a traditional black skullcap with a topknot worn by Chinese men.

Bay Area Negro Chorus was founded in 1935 by William Elmer Keeton and originally known as the Oakland Colored Chorus. After World War II and Keeton’s death, the name was changed to the Keeton Memorial Choir. In the 1930s, it was one of hundreds of musical groups sponsored by the New Deal’s Work Projects Administration’s (W.P.A.) Federal Music Project. The chorus was composed of classical musicians from churches and music studios in Oakland and Berkeley. The chorus performed classical music and Negro spirituals. See also New Deal.

Beer gardens were owned and operated by Germans who settled in the Upper Fruitvale and Dimond districts in the late nineteenth century. The beer gardens and local hotels served patrons who traveled to East Oakland to find relief from city life. Some famous resort hotels of the period were Tepper’s and Hermitage. By 1900, Upper Fruitvale resembled a German town. The Altenheim, originally built in 1893, was a retirement home for German seniors. Rebuilt in 1908, it still stands at 1720 MacArthur Boulevard and operates as senior housing.

Bell-bottom jeans are a style of pants that flare from the knee to the ankle, popular in the 1960s and 1970s.

Beret is a French word and means a “round flat cap,” often worn tilted at the side of the head. The beret is most associated with France, Spain, Portugal, and Italy and worn by men and women. Mass production of berets began in the nineteenth century. See also photographs of the Black Panthers and Brown Berets.

Berm is an earthen embankment.

Beulah (a Hebrew word that means “promised land”) or Beulah Heights was an area in East Oakland with a cluster of charitable institutions, including Home for the Aged and Infirm Colored People (1897–1938) at 5245 Underwood Avenue (now absorbed within the grounds of Mills College).

For information on California’s early African American history, refer to The Negro Trail Blazers of California: A Compilation of Records from the California Archives in the Bancroft Library at the University of California, in Berkeley; and from the Diaries, Old Papers, and Conversations of Old Pioneers in the State of California, by Delilah L. Beasley, 1919. Available at Oakland History Room, Oakland Public Library, 125 Fourteenth Street.

Black Indians are people of African and Native American ancestry. Black Indians also refers to the tradition of African Americans parading in elaborate bead and feather regalia during Mardi Gras in New Orleans where they are called “Mardi Gras Indians.”
See also Fugitive.

Watch the documentary film, *All On A Mardi Gras Day*, that celebrates black Carnival in New Orleans (originally broadcast on PBS).

*Black Panther Party* (BPP) was co-founded by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale in 1966 in Oakland. They originally met at Merritt College on Grove Street (today’s MLK Jr. Way) in North Oakland and worked at the North Oakland Neighborhood Anti-Poverty Center. The original name was the Black Panther Party for Self Defense. *Self-defense* was a broad term that addressed defense against assault of outside forces like police as well as defense from hunger, joblessness, homelessness, and poverty.

The Black Panthers’ name (and symbol) was inspired by the Lowndes County Freedom Organization (LCFO) in Alabama, founded as a new political party to enfranchise blacks and elect African Americans to public office. In contrast to the white rooster of the Alabama Democratic Party, the LCFO adopted the black panther.

The BPP built on the significant victories of the civil rights movement while recognizing that legislation did not guarantee full equality. Most African Americans still faced chronic poverty, joblessness, poor schools, and other issues of economic injustice. The BPP’s *Ten-Point Program* was created by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale. It can be found in full at [wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Panther_Party](https://wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Panther_Party).

1. *We want freedom. We want power to determine the destiny of our black Community.*
2. *We want full employment for our people.*
3. *We want an end to the robbery by the white man of our black Community.*
4. *We want decent housing, fit for shelter of human beings.*
5. *We want education for our people that exposes the true nature of this decadent American society.*
6. *We want all black men to be exempt from military service.*
7. *We want an immediate end to POLICE BRUTALITY and MURDER of black people.*
8. *We want freedom for all black men held in federal, state, county and city prisons and jails.*
9. *We want all black people when brought to trial to be tried in court by a jury of their peer group or people from their black communities.*
10. *We want land, bread, housing, education, clothing, justice and peace.*

After several children were killed crossing Market at 55th Street in North Oakland, this small group of revolutionary activists began to escort kids across the street. They lobbied at City Hall for a traffic light and initiated the campaign “Save Our Kids.” This first community action led to a network of “community survival programs” that included free immunizations, food giveaways, free health clinics, free breakfasts for schoolchildren, free liberation schools, free pest control, and free legal aid, in dozens of BPP chapters nationwide. (Citation: “The Black Panther Legacy Tour,” pamphlet from The Dr. Huey P. Newton Foundation). Within two years, there were 45 BPP chapters across the United States.

From its inception, the BPP championed inclusiveness. “All Power to All the People” and “Serve the people, body and soul” meant race, class, and gender equality. By 1968, women represented a majority in the Party and were vital in the rank-and-file as
well as leadership. Many male members engaged in the same activities as female
members. “Serving the people was the Party’s goal, and the programs were developed to
meet the people’s needs.” (Citation: Ericka Huggins and Angela D. LeBlanc Ernest’s
essay, Want to Start a Revolution?)

The BPP spawned other revolutionary/activist groups, such as the Young Lords
Party (Chicago/New York), the Red Guard (in San Francisco), the Brown Berets (in
California and the Southwest), the White Panthers (in Michigan), and the Gray Panthers
(for senior rights). The BPP’s struggles for self-determination at home were linked to
third-world liberation movements worldwide.

BPP membership reached its peak in the late 1960s. By the early 1970s, due to
external pressures such as COINTELPRO, internal stress, deaths, trials, imprisonment,
and the challenges of coordination on a national scale, BPP chapters centralized their
activities in Oakland. Focus for some turned to voter registration and sponsorship of
political candidates. In 1972, Bobby Seale ran for Mayor of Oakland and Elaine Brown
for City Council.

Black Panthers programs included:

Free Breakfast Program ensured that local children did not go to school without
breakfast. In January 1969, the first breakfast program was established at St. Augustine
Episcopal Church in West Oakland. It became the model for the federally-funded
free/reduced breakfast/lunch programs that now serve low-income youth in the public
schools.

Black Panthers’ Free Health Clinic offered laboratory tests, check-ups,
immunizations, and information on sickle cell anemia, lead poisoning, and nutrition as
well as door-to-door services. The first clinic was George Jackson’s People’s Free Health
Clinic located on the Oakland-Berkeley border and established in 1971. The Sickle Cell
Anemia Foundation of the Black Panther Party offered free testing, genetic counseling,
and educational information. See also Sickle cell anemia.

The Black Panther, a weekly newspaper, was first published in April 1967 with
articles on local, national, and international issues.

Black Panthers’ Oakland Community School (OCS) at 6118 East Fourteenth
Street (now International Boulevard) near Seminary Avenue was founded in 1974. It
was an outgrowth of the BPP’s Intercommunal Youth Institute (IYI). Women ran the
school, but many teachers were men. The school was free and served 150 children with a
full academic curriculum (including art, ecology, Spanish, and yoga). Children were
taught according to individual skill/need with an emphasis on critical thinking and
attention to health and appearance. The school closed in 1980. (Citation: Ericka Huggins
and Angela D. LeBlanc Ernest’s essay, Want to Start a Revolution? Radical Women in
the Black Freedom Struggle)

The same site sponsored the BPP’s Oakland Community Learning Center with
adult education classes, teen programs, a free film series, self-defense classes,
community legal aid, advocacy for public housing and public assistance, and a
community forum for political discussion and action.

Black Panthers’ S.A.F.E. (Seniors Against Fearful Environment) provided escort
services to seniors (such as medical appointments); ensured that meals were delivered
(predecessor of “Meals on Wheels”); and provided buses to prisons on visitor days.
Black Panthers’ song was written by Elaine Brown and sung at the Oakland Community School.

See also Alcatraz Island for Red Power, Brown Berets for Brown Power, COINTELPRO, International Hotel for Asian Power, and Revolutionary.

Visit BPP historical markers on Market at 55th Street, the corner of the first community action, and 5622 MLK Jr. Way, the site of the first BPP office.

For Black Panther tours of West Oakland, contact: www.blackpanthertours.com

Blacksmith is a person who forges and shapes iron with an anvil and hammer, and makes, repairs, and fits horseshoes.

Boarding house rents out beds/rooms by the week or month. The rent includes meals or “board.” When Jada visited her house in 1906, beds and/or rooms were being rented and meals served to the occupants.

Borax is a chemical compound with many uses, including an ingredient in detergents and cosmetics. In the late nineteenth century, borax became a household name with the “20 Mule Team Borax,” the trademark of Francis Marion Smith's Pacific Coast Borax Company. Francis Marion “Borax” Smith, an Oakland resident, made a fortune mining borax. See also Key Route, Mansion, and Orphan.

Bracero (Spanish for “manual laborer,” brazo means “arm”) was a program (1942–1964) initiated during World War II to arrange temporary contract laborers from Mexico to work in the United States in agriculture and railroad jobs. After World War II, jobs were limited to agriculture.

Brooklyn was an early name for the part of East Oakland between Lake Merritt and about Twenty-third Avenue. It was annexed to the City of Oakland in 1872. Annexation provided valuable city services such as road maintenance, schools, and water.

Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP) was a union organized in 1925 by the railroad’s Pullman porters. Their motto was “Fight or Be Slaves.” A. Philip Randolph was the founder of the BSCP and served as president until 1968. For decades, the BSCP organized for higher pay, better work conditions, and the end of discrimination and segregation practices. BSCP’s West Coast headquarters was at Seventh and Willow Streets in West Oakland. (Citation: “A. Philip Randolph,” www.biography.com)

C. L. Dellums was a Pullman porter in Oakland and BSCP’s West Coast organizer. In 1929, he was elected vice president of the union, a position he held until 1968 when he succeeded A. Philip Randolph as president. During the BSCP’s last years, Oakland was the international headquarters. C.L. Dellums was the uncle of Oakland mayor and longtime Congressman Ron Dellums. (Citation: C. L. Dellums: The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the Fight for Fair Treatment and Civil Rights by Robert Allen)
The Pullman Company was founded in 1862 in Illinois by George Pullman where it manufactured railroad cars, including luxury sleepers featuring drapes, carpets, upholstered chairs, libraries, card tables, and deluxe customer service. When the company started, it hired former slaves who were well-mannered and accustomed to servitude. While porter was one of the best jobs available for African American men, it furthered the stereotype of “servant class.” In order to receive their pay, porters had to work either 400 hours per month or travel 11,000 miles, manning shifts that sometimes lasted twenty hours. As in the hospital industry to this day, the pay was extremely low. Porters and waiters depended on tips to survive.

The Pullman Company was the largest employer of blacks in the country. In 1926, there were 12,000 porters and waiters. By 1929, one-third of blacks in Oakland worked for the railroad as porters, waiters, cooks, baggage handlers, and laborers in the rail yards. Black women worked on the trains as maids who catered to female travelers, caring for their children, and helping women bathe and fix their hair and nails. Black personnel on the railroad formed an important network of observations and news.

Pullman operated six repair facilities across the country. One of these facilities was in Richmond, California (1910–1959).

See Unions.

Visit the statue of C.L. Dellums at the Oakland Amtrak station, Jack London Square.

Brown Berets was a Chicano/Mexican American community organization that emerged during the mid-1960s in East Los Angeles and was active in the Fruitvale district of Oakland. There were also branches outside California in cities on the East coast and in the Midwest as well as in the Southwest. The berets symbolized unity and resistance to discrimination. Like the Black Panthers, the Brown Berets struggled for social justice and provided community services.

Brown, Dr. Beth A. (1969-2008) was an African American astrophysicist in the Sciences and Exploration Directorate at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. When asked about her greatest achievement to date, Dr. Brown responded, “To me, it was convincing a young woman not to give up on her dreams to become a scientist because someone told her she couldn’t.” Online interview: http://www.physics.howard.edu/staff/Brown_bio.htm

Brown lung is a respiratory disease caused by breathing organic matter, common in the textile industry. Regulations that protect workers’ health and safety is called “occupational health.” In 1970 the Occupational Safety and Health Act was signed into law and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) established. After June 1978, a cotton dust standard protected 600,000 workers from byssinosis, and as a result, the cases of “brown lung” declined to 0.1 cases per 10,000 workers.

Brown v. Board of Education (1954) was a landmark U.S. Supreme Court case which declared state laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students unconstitutional. The decision overturned Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) that had allowed state-sponsored segregation as it applied to public education. Handed down on May 17, 1954, the Warren Court's unanimous (9–0) decision stated that “separate educational
facilities are inherently unequal.” This ruling paved the way for integration and was a major victory of the civil rights movement. See also Mendez v. Westminster and School integration.

Bullfight is a spectator sport, a fight between a bull and a matador (a person trained to fight bulls). Corrida de toros is Spanish for bullfight and plaza de toros for a bullring. Bullfighting spread from Spain to the Spanish colonies, including Alta California. During the California period, sometimes bulls fought bears. There were at least two bullrings in East Oakland: at the Peralta’s rancho (2465 Thirty-fourth Avenue) and at the current site of San Antonio Park (1701 East Nineteenth Street between Seventeenth and Eighteenth Avenues).

The man whom Jada briefly meets outside the Peraltas’ bullring is inspired by William Heath Davis (1822–1909). Davis was originally from Hawaii, and his mother was a Native Hawaiian. He first came to California as a boy and later returned to work in his uncle’s store in Yerba Buena (present-day San Francisco) in 1838. He became a successful merchant and ship owner. He married María de Jesus, daughter of José Joaquin Estudillo, from Rancho San Leandro. In 1849, they moved to San Diego where he founded New Town San Diego. William Heath Davis wrote an important memoir of early California, Seventy-Five Years in California. See also Californios and Peralta family.

Burke, Glenn (1952–1995) was born in Oakland and is buried at Mountain View cemetery in Oakland. He played major league baseball for the Dodgers and the As, the first and only major league player known to come out to his teammates and team owners during his professional career when he publicly acknowledged his homosexuality. He died from AIDS-related causes in 1995. He said his mission was to break down stereotypes about homosexuality and athletics. “Prejudice drove me out of baseball sooner than I should have.” He and Dusty Baker are credited for inventing the high five. See also his autobiography, Out at Home: The Glenn Burke Story. There is a documentary film, Out. The Glenn Burke Story. Another film is in development by actor and producer, Jamie Lee Curtis.

Bushel is a measurement. A bushel of chowder clams is approximately 100 clams.

“California” is a fictional place in a popular sixteenth century Spanish fantasy novel called Las Sergas de Esplandián (or The Adventures of Esplandián) by Garci Rodríguez de Montalvo and published in 1510. There are several theories as to the origin of the word itself. Most generally accepted is the Spanish califa from the Arabic term for a Muslim religious or state leader or caliph. Today’s California was originally part of a huge colonial empire called New Spain. See also Afro-Latino, Alta California, Anza expeditions, and New Spain.

California Cotton Mill at 1091 Calcot Place next to I-880 began operation in 1883 in the Fruitvale district and was a major employer and industry of national importance.
California Hotel on San Pablo Avenue at Thirty-fifth Street was built in 1929. “It was one of the few hotels where blacks could stay and black musicians could express their art [to black audiences]. For nearly three decades, beginning in 1936, many blacks relied on ‘The Negro Motorist Green Book: An International Travel Guide’ to help them decide where they could travel during an era of racial division....” The hotel has been renovated for 137 low-income housing units, preserving the interior’s Mission and Spanish Colonial Revival details as well as “greening” the site. People’s Grocery has established an urban farm behind the hotel. (Citation online: “Oakland celebrates groundbreaking for renovation of historic California Hotel” by Yirmeyah Beckles. Oakland North, July 26, 2012)

Californios were inhabitants of Alta California and, like the Peraltas, descended from Spanish-speaking settlers from New Spain (known as Mexico after 1821). The Californio period starts with the Anza expeditions (1774–1775) and the establishment of the missions. The first mission was founded by Junípero Serra in present-day San Diego in 1769. The Californio period ends with the U.S.-Mexican War in 1848. See also Afro-Latino, Anza expeditions, Missions, and Peralta family.

Cambodian genocide occurred in Cambodia under the rule of the Khmer Rouge (1975–1979). Approximately, two million Cambodians died from political executions, disease, starvation, and forced labor. See also Genocide.

Watch the feature film, The Killing Fields.

Cannery is a place where fruit, vegetables, fish, and other foods are canned. In 1868, Josiah Lusk opened a cannery on the banks of Temescal Creek in North Oakland. The 1882 directory lists the address as Claremont Avenue, North Temescal. Fruits and vegetables were processed from his 350-acre farm and by the 1880s it was said to be the largest cannery west of the Mississippi, employing up to 1,000 men, women, and girls. With the transcontinental railroad, canned food could be shipped all over the country.

Another large cannery, Pacific Coast Canning Company at Twelfth and Pine Streets, was owned by Lew Hing, a Chinese shipping, banking, and real estate magnate. It produced the “Buckskin” brand and employed 300 women and girls (Chinese, Italian, and Portuguese). Lew Hing’s cannery was a refuge for Chinese displaced during the 1906 earthquake.

In the early twentieth century, the East Bay was known as the canning capital of the Pacific. During the summer months, canneries operated day and night. Most workers were women. By the 1940s, there were an estimated 72 canneries in Oakland, Alameda, Berkeley, and Emeryville that processed pears, apricots, peaches, tomatoes, fish, and more. Some canneries offered housing, child care, cafeterias, and first aid. Del Monte Plant No. 35 (Emeryville) reportedly created the first canned fruit cocktail in 1934. (Citation: “East Bay Once Had a Cannery Row of Its Own / Exhibit recalls forgotten local industry” by Abby Cohn, SF Gate, May 26, 2000) See also Orchards.

Carreta is Spanish for a two-wheeled oxcart.
Casta or caste defined everyone’s social and legal status in New Spain (including Alta California) on racial grounds. Mexico had 22 defined castes that designated the ratios of European, African, and Native-American blood. For example, a mulatto (or “mule”) was half-Spanish and half-black, morisco was one-quarter black (European father and mulatto mother), albino was one-eighth black, torna atrás was one-sixteenth black, lobo was half-black and half-Native American, and so on. See also Afro-Latino, New Spain, and Slave.

Cattle hides from the large herds of cattle and the vast tracts of land were the source of the Peraltas’ wealth. Leather was used to make many things for daily life on the ranchos: clothes, boots, shoes, hats, furniture, saddles, straps, et al. Candles and soap were made from the rendered fat of the cattle or tallow. Cattle hides were called “California dollars” and the goods from Californio cattle ranches were often referred to as the “hide and tallow trade,” extending from Canton, China to Lima, Peru to Boston and spanning Russia, Mexico, the United States, and the United Kingdom. Ships from around the globe (often representing corporations) swapped finished goods for hides (dried animal skins) and tallow (melted animal) used as raw materials in industry. See also Render and Tallow.

Chabot Space & Science Center at 10000 Skyline Boulevard was founded in 1883 at 11th and Jefferson in what is now called Old Oakland. The Chabot Observatory moved to Mountain Boulevard in 1915 because of light pollution and later to Skyline Boulevard. The three telescopes at Chabot Space & Science Center are called Leah, an 8-inch refracting type (acquired in 1883), Rachel, a 20-inch refracting type (acquired in 1915), and Nellie, a modern 38-inch reflector type (acquired 2003).

On Friday and Saturday evenings, the telescopes are open and free to the public (weather permitting). Contact www.chabotspace.org or (510) 336-7300.

Charro is a Mexican horseman or cowboy who typically wears an elaborate outfit.

Chert is a hard microcrystalline rock. When broken, it can produce very sharp edges. It was used to make cutting tools and weapons. It is also called “flint” and can produce a spark if struck against another rock.

Chia is a flowering plant (Salvia hispanica) in the mint family and its seeds have high levels of antioxidants and protein and provide an excellent source of calcium, phosphorous, magnesium, potassium, iron, and zinc. Chia seeds were ground to make pinole, a meal or flour usually sweetened with spices. See Pinole.

Child labor laws prohibit or regulate employment of children. In early California, children routinely worked at the Californio missions and ranchos, and after the Gold Rush in San Francisco and other towns. The practice of indenturing Native American children was common. Children became regularly employed after the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 created a labor shortage. School closures were scheduled during harvest times so
children could participate in farm labor, including fruit-picking in Oakland’s many orchards. The first child labor law in California was approved in January 1905. It prohibited employment of children under fourteen years of age in certain specified industries. However, labor in agriculture was not included in the list. Later child labor laws also excluded occupations connected to agriculture and canning.

In 1910, over two million U.S. children were employed, including children who rolled cigarettes, engaged in factory work, worked as bobbin doffers in textile mills, worked in coal mines and on farms, and were employed in canneries. The United States Congress passed two laws, in 1918 and 1922, to regulate child labor, but the Supreme Court declared both unconstitutional. Child labor was first federally regulated in the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act.

See also Doffer and Indentured servant.

Chinese men left China by the thousands in the mid-nineteenth century for the United States because of famine, economic hardship, and civil war. They flocked to Gam Saan or “Gold Mountain” to work in the mining fields and on the railroads. Railroad executives sent agents to China to recruit them and funded their ship tickets. The Chinese took the most dangerous and lowest paid jobs, including building the first earthen dams for Oakland’s water supply at Lake Temescal and Lake Chabot and handling explosives to blast through rock for railroad tracks. The Central Pacific Railroad employed 12,000 Chinese (90% of their work force). Work was extremely dangerous and slow, sometimes advancing only a few feet per day. Workers died from accidents, avalanches, and epidemics. After the completion of the transcontinental railroad, thousands of Chinese settled in the California Delta to build levees, drain swamps (using sluice and pump technology from Asia), farm, and work in canneries. Almost every river town in the Delta had a Chinatown. They also congregated in the cities. In Oakland they were forced to leave one locale for another, finally settling at Webster and Eighth Streets in the 1870s.

The Chinese endured racist prejudice, violent attacks, and discriminatory laws. Prior to the federal Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, California issued its own restrictions, penalties, and taxes on Chinese laborers, including immigration taxes, mining taxes, expensive work permits, special licenses for vegetable vendors, restrictions on the length of the poles they carried with baskets of vegetables, ordinances against delivering laundry by foot, denial of naturalization and citizenship, ban on wives entering the United States, ban on marrying non-Chinese women, ban on property ownership and business licenses. The Chinese were terrorized by mobs, treated as scapegoats, Chinatowns burned, and residents driven out. Along with “Negroes and Indians,” the Chinese were prohibited from testifying against whites in court. Chinese children were not allowed into California public schools until the parents of Mamie Tate filed a lawsuit and won their 1885 landmark case (Tate v. Hurley) in the California Supreme Court. However, this entitled Asian children to attend “oriental” public schools only. Despite these hardships, there were many successful Chinese pioneers in Oakland. (Citation: Driven Out: The Forgotten War against Chinese Americans by Jean Pfaelzer)

See also Angel Island, Cannery, Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Coolie, Earthen dams, Gam Saan, and Transcontinental railroad.
Visit the Hall of Pioneers at Harrison Square, 275 Seventh Street, Oakland. Open to the public.

Visit the permanent exhibit, “Chinese Workers and the East Bay’s Early Water System” at East Bay Municipal Utility District, 375 Eleventh Street (2nd floor), Oakland. Contact (866) 403-2683.

The Center for Educational Telecommunications offers films of “Asian Pacific American Experience and History,” produced and directed by Loni Ding, who also teaches at UC-Berkeley.

*Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882* was the first significant federal law to restrict the immigration of a specific ethnic group. It was followed by laws that excluded or limited quotas of Japanese, Filipinos, and other Asian nationalities. The act barred Chinese immigration for ten years, followed by an extension in 1892, and made permanent by the *Extension Act of 1904*. The federal government also restricted land ownership. Specific state laws prohibited land purchase and restricted leases. The *California Alien Land Law of 1913* prohibited “aliens ineligible for citizenship” from owning agricultural land but permitted leases up to three years. This law affected the Chinese, Indian, Japanese, Filipino, and Korean immigrant farmers in California.

After the 1906 earthquake destroyed many official records, Chinese already residing in the United States were sometimes able to bring over “paper” wives, sons, and daughters as relatives. However, immigrants were detained, imprisoned for months or even years, and interrogated on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay. Chinese poems of longing, fear, and hopelessness were carved into the barrack walls on Angel Island.

The *Chinese Exclusion Act* was repealed in 1943 when the United States and China were allies during World War II. As a result, Angel Island ceased to function as a detainment center for Chinese immigrants. See also *Angel Island, Jim Crow laws, and School Integration*.

Visit Angel Island State Park and Immigration Station. Contact (415) 435-5537 or tours.angelisland@parks.ca.gov

*Chochenyo*, spoken from Fremont to Richmond, is one of eight related Ohlone languages. Although never a written language, scholars did develop a dictionary. There are no first-language speakers, but the language is being revived. (Citation: “Reviving Indian language Chochenyo” by Carl Nolte, SF Gate, Nov. 23, 2012 and *California Indian Languages* by Victor Golla, University of California Press, 2011.) See also *Ohlone*.

To learn more about Ohlone and other California Indian languages, visit the California Language Archive at cla.berkeley.edu.

*Choctaws* are Native Americans who originally inhabited central and southern Mississippi and southwest Alabama. See also *Black Indians* and *Fugitive*.
City Hall in Oakland has been near Fourteenth Street and Broadway in downtown Oakland since 1868. The present building was completed in 1914. At the time, it was said to be the tallest building west of the Mississippi River. The building was nicknamed “Mayor Mott's wedding cake” because the mayor married at the time the ornate, white, tiered building (like a wedding cake) was being constructed. In Oakland Tales when Jada and Ernesto meet Johnny, the 1914 City Hall had not yet been built.

City of Oakland. See Oakland.

Cobbler is a mender or maker of shoes (not to be confused with “cherry cobbler” on the menu at Sammy’s Sugar Shack in Oakland Tales).

COINTELPRO (Counter Intelligence Program) was a secret program (1956–1971) sponsored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and designed to investigate, harass, and even eliminate members and leaders of a variety of student, leftist, and antiwar organizations, including the Black Panther Party. In addition, individuals and organizations deemed to have communist or socialist leanings, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and various church groups, were targeted. The FBI hired informants and agents provocateurs and engaged in other illegal activities. The program was kept secret until 1971 when an FBI field office in Media, Pennsylvania, was burglarized. Several dossiers that exposed the program were stolen and the information passed to news agencies. No individuals ever claimed responsibility for this action until late 2013 (42 years after the break-in) with the publication of the book, The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover's Secret FBI by former Washington Post reporter Betty Medsger.

Condor (California Condor or Gymnogyps californianus) is one of the largest flying birds in the world. They can soar and glide for hours without beating their wings. The California condor is protected as an endangered species. During the 1980s, the few remaining wild condors were captured by preservationists in order to save the species from extinction. Carefully controlled breeding began. Captive-bred condors have been released to the wild since 1992. More condors are released each year. By 2013, there were over 400 condors. (Citation: California Department of Fish and Wildlife. www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/nongame/condor/)

Coolie is an Asian-derived derogatory term for a slave or laborer, particularly from southern China, India, the Philippines, and Indonesia. The great majority of coolies in California were men. Some were forced into slave labor while others voluntarily left their homeland to find work. Many southern Chinese emigrated as bonded or indentured servants and laborers to work on plantations, in mines, or on construction projects (such as the western portion of the U.S. transcontinental railroad). When slavery was abolished in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean, Chinese and other Asian populations were recruited to work as virtual slaves. See also Chinese.

Couves is Portuguese for kale or collard greens.
Coyote is a person who smuggles illegal immigrants into the United States, especially across the Mexican border.

Creosote is a yellowish to greenish-brown oil distilled from coal tar and used as a wood preservative and disinfectant. Wooden parts of ships were treated with creosote to deter rot. If inhaled in strong concentrations, it is highly toxic.

Cuspid is a tooth with a single point.

Damascus is the capital of the Middle Eastern country of Syria, known in Syria as ash-Sham and nicknamed the City of Jasmine.

Deep South is part of the southeastern United States where cotton and sugarcane were grown. There was slavery in both the Upper South and Deep South, but conditions were often more brutal in the Deep South. See also Jim Crow laws and Slave.

Dehumanize is to treat a person as if he or she were not fully human. See also Genocide, Ohlone, Slave, Slow Violence, and Violence.

Pedagogy of Hope by Paulo Freire on the subject of oppressor and oppressed: “No matter that the oppressor eat well, be well regarded, or sleep well. It would be impossible to dehumanize without being dehumanized....”

Doffer is a worker in a cotton mill who replaces full bobbins or cones with empty ones.

Dormer window is built into a roof and often has its own roof.

Double-V campaign was launched to bring attention to racist U.S. laws and attitudes against African Americans even as thousands enlisted in the military to fight in World War II. Double-V signified victory abroad against fascism and victory at home against racism. The campaign was initiated by a letter sent to the editor of the Pittsburgh Courier (the most widely read black newspaper in the United States) from James G. Thompson of Wichita, Kansas, and published on January 31, 1942 and April 11, 1942. The letter questioned the sacrifice of life and limb to the cause of a country that didn’t recognize “colored Americans” as full citizens. The Pittsburgh Courier suggested that readers clip out the letter and post it where others could read it. The visuals for the Double-V campaign were created by the Pittsburgh Courier’s staff artist Wilbert L. Holloway and included posters, buttons, and banners. There were 200 Double-V clubs and marches (in Harlem 1942). African American newspaper stories on the Double-V campaign were banned from military libraries, and their editors were harassed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) under threat of treasonous activities. Although President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 8802 to reduce discrimination in the Home Front war industries, it was rarely enforced. The Double V Campaign was an important step towards the civil rights movement a decade later. See also Executive Order 8802.
James Baldwin (1924–1987), a U.S. novelist, playwright, essayist, and social critic, wrote in The Fire Next Time: “The treatment accorded the Negro during the Second World War marks, for me, a turning point in the Negro’s relation to America. To put it briefly, and somewhat too simply, a certain hope died, a certain respect for white Americans faded. One began to pity them, or to hate them. You must put yourself in the skin of a man who is wearing the uniform of his country, is a candidate for death in its defense, and who is called a ‘nigger’ by his comrades-in-arms and his officers; who is almost always given the hardest, ugliest, most menial work to do; ... who does not dance at the U.S.O. the night white soldiers dance there, and does not drink in the same bars white soldiers drink in; and who watches German prisoners of war being treated by Americans with more human dignity than he has ever received at their hands....”

Douglass, Frederick (1817-1895) was born a slave in Maryland. He escaped from slavery and became an influential Abolitionist writer and lecturer.

Listen to his speech, “The Meaning of July Fourth for the Negro” (July 5, 1852), read by James Earl Jones at www.youtube.com/watch?v=8tTkHJWxfP0

Dray is a heavy cart without sides, used to haul goods.

Dust Bowl refers to the severe drought that occurred in the central United States during the 1930s. See also Great Depression and Okie and Arkie.

Earthen dams are dams with a main section of earth, sand, or rock, and a core of impervious material such as clay or concrete. Chinese built Oakland’s Temescal and Chabot dams. They lived in camps, slept in tents, and cooked over open fires. They used horses to trample the dirt until it turned as hard as cement, a process called “puddling.”

See also Chinese and Coolie.

Visit a permanent exhibit, Chinese Workers and the East Bay’s Early Water System, East Bay Municipal Utility District, 375 Eleventh Street (2nd floor), Oakland. Contact (866) 403-2683.

Eight-hour day refers to the victory working men and women won to restrict their work hours to eight per day. Different trades and occupations succeeded at winning the eight-hour day at different times throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Embarcadero is Spanish for a pier, wharf, or landing place, especially on a river or inland waterway. In Oakland, the Embarcadero refers to the Inner Harbor from Market Street in West Oakland to Union Point in East Oakland.

EPIC stands for End Poverty in California, the political platform of Upton Sinclair’s 1934 campaign for governor.

See also Great Depression and New Deal.

Erhu is a Chinese violin with two strings. It is usually played with a bow while sitting.
Executive Order 8802, Prohibition of Discrimination in the Defense Industry (June 1941) by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, banned discriminatory employment practices by federal agencies and all unions and companies engaged in war-related work. The order also established the Fair Employment Practices Commission to enforce the new policy. The order was issued after pressure from A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

See also Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Double-V campaign, Kaiser shipyards, and Rosie.

Executive Order 9066. See Internment camps.

Fairyland is a children’s amusement park and beloved Oakland landmark beside Lake Merritt. It opened in September 1950. The charming theme park was created as a safe, clean, and fun haven for children. In 1958, Bruce Sedley (also known as “King Fuddle”) invented the souvenir key to unlock the series of metal boxes of stories and songs found throughout the park. The Storybook Puppet Theater is one of the oldest ongoing puppet theaters in the United States. Before Walt Disney built Disneyland, he was supposed to have been inspired by Fairyland.

For information, contact (510) 452-2259 and www.fairylandinfo@fairyland.org

Fandango is a dance party as well as a lively Spanish dance, popular with Californios and often accompanied by castanets and tambourine. “The very nature of the Californios, their love of music and dance and finery, their generosity and hospitality — all inherited from their Spanish forbearers, quickly led to the development of a splendid form of celebration — the fandango. The fandango was the major social event of the Californios and one was held for every possible occasion.” (Citation: “The Early California Fandango” by Richard Duree at http://www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/articles/fandango_duree.htm)

Farm workers in California are mostly migrant workers, often working under harsh conditions for low wages. In the 1930s, there were active and ultimately unsuccessful campaigns to organize farm workers for workers’ rights. In the 1960s, Filipinos and Mexicans began to organize strikes to bargain for higher wages and union recognition. In September 1965, the Filipino farm workers of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee were the first to strike in the grape fields of Delano, California. Led by Manong* Larry Itliong, Manong Phillip Vera Cruz, and Manong Peter Velasco, 1,500 Filipino farm workers went on strike. Several weeks later, Cesar Chavez’s National Farm Workers joined them to form the United Farm Workers (UFW). (*Manong is a Filipino term of respect for an older male family member.)

Filipino workers had already organized in the sugarcane fields in Hawaii where they forced the elimination of the (back-breaking) short hoe, requiring them to stoop in order to work.

After wine growers raised wages but refused to acknowledge the UFW, Chavez and the union launched a grape boycott campaign. Between 1966-1970, shoppers were asked to boycott non-union table grapes. Farm workers from the Central Valley relocated to cities in the northern and eastern areas of the United States to represent the UFW’s boycott efforts. In the 1970s, union contracts with vegetable farmers were successful but
not grape growers. Today, there are very few farm union contracts left, but the UFW survives as an organization.

See also Filipino.

**Supplemental reading:** Francisco Jiménez’s books, *The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child* and *Breaking Through* describe a Mexican boy’s childhood and teenage years as the son of migrant farm workers.

*Fascism* is a political philosophy, movement, or regime that exalts nation and often race above the individual and stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition.

*Feathered hats* were very fashionable in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Wealthy women had their hats handmade by a milliner, but by 1900 there were ready-to-wear feathered hats available for sale to working-class women (and likely made by factory girls).

Bentley’s Ostrich Farm was located at *East Fourteenth and High Streets*. Admission was ten cents. The farm housed 75 ostriches as well as a showroom where plumes, boas, stoles, and other feather items could be purchased. They cleaned, curled, dyed, and “willowed” ostrich feathers.

The number of wild birds slaughtered in the United States for hat decoration was staggering. An 1886 report estimated five million birds a year (scholars have recently surmised three to four times that number). The most popular species for milliners were egrets, herons, ostriches, peacocks, birds of paradise, grebes, terns, and blackbirds. Wild birds were also eaten.

California club women committed themselves to bird protection which overlapped with their interests in natural science and the Audubon Society. In 1895 in the *San Francisco Examiner*, Catherine Hittell said, “...A meadow lark, cooked, gives one person pleasure for, at most, ten minutes. A living one gives pleasure to a whole community all its life long.” (*California Women and Politics*). In 1901, California passed a law that made it illegal to kill meadow larks.

See also Suffrage and Suffragette.

*Fedora* is a low felt hat with the crown creased lengthwise.

*Feng Ru* (1883–1912) migrated from China to San Francisco. After the Wright brothers' successful airplane flight in 1903, Feng Ru decided to devote himself to aviation. Following the 1906 earthquake, he left San Francisco for Oakland where he founded an “aeroplane” factory, the Guangdong Air Vehicle Company. He made his own plane and motor. His inaugural test flight occurred in Oakland on September 21, 1909, likely the first flight on the West Coast. He stayed aloft for twenty minutes despite harsh winds. In August 1912, he was killed in an aerial exhibition in China.

See also Oakland Airport.

Visit a bronze bust of Feng Ru, the “Father of Chinese Aviation,” Laney College, 900 Fallon Street, Oakland.
Filipino people inhabit the Philippine Islands in the western Pacific Ocean. These thousands of islands were colonized and controlled by Spain from 1521 until the Spanish-American War in 1898. Although the Philippines claimed independence from Spain, they were conquered and colonized by the United States (1898-1902), leading to a violent struggle of resistance by the Filipino people and transforming Mark Twain into a tireless, outspoken, and powerful critic of U.S. foreign policy. He wrote, “I have read carefully the treaty of Paris [between the United States and Spain], and I have seen that we do not intend to free, but to subjugate the people of the Philippines. We have gone there to conquer, not to redeem.... And so I am an anti-imperialist. I am opposed to having the eagle put its talons on any other land.” (New York Herald, October 15, 1900)

Over the centuries, Filipino people have immigrated to the United States under various laws and quotas. In World War II, there were special Filipino fighting units (200,000 fought and over half died). Despite U.S. promises to the American nationals, in the 1946 Rescission Act, Congress denied Filipino soldiers all their military benefits.

In the twentieth century, labor activity and unionizing had a strong history in the Filipino community, both in union campaigns of the 1930s and those of the 1960s. In 1965, thirty percent of grape workers were Filipinos. The Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee was the first to strike in the grape fields of Delano, CA. Led by Manong Larry Itliong, Manong Phillip Vera Cruz, and Manong Peter Velasco, 1,500 Filipino farm workers went on strike. Several weeks later, Cesar Chavez’s National Farm Workers joined them to form the United Farm Workers (UFW). (Citation: “We are America: Resistance and Resilience,” curated by Terry Bautista, a collaborative project with Filipino Advocates for Justice and the Oakland Asian Cultural Center)

See also Farm workers.

Flagman is a person who gives signals with a flag especially on railroad lines, such as warnings, stopping points, and track changes.

Foos or foosball is tabletop soccer. Also called “baby-foot” in France where it was invented.


Freedom papers or manumission papers had to be carried by freed slaves at all times to ward off slave catchers and bounty hunters. See also Fugitive.

Fugitive is someone who has escaped from a place or is in hiding. When Sammy talks about fugitive slaves, he is referring to black slaves who escaped. Although filled with dangers, there were several routes that could lead to freedom: north to free states and Canada on the “Underground Railroad,” south to Mexico where slavery was abolished after the Mexican War of Independence (1821), and into Native American settlements where slaves were often hidden and accepted into tribal life.

In the United States, runaway slaves was a contentious subject between the North
and the South for decades. Abolitionists wanted northern “free” states to guarantee safety and security to runaway slaves. However, professional slave catchers and bounty hunters went to the North to find slaves and force them to return to their owners. Sometimes they captured free people of color and sold them.

California was admitted to the Union as a “free” (non-slave) state on September 9, 1850 as part of the Compromise of 1850, which strengthened the Fugitive Slave Act. The Fugitive Slave Act forced escaped slaves to return to their owners, putting escaped slaves and their families in the North in jeopardy.

See also Black Indians and Slave.

Twelve Years a Slave is an autobiography by Solomon Northup (published in 1853), and a 2013 Oscar-winning film about Solomon Northup, based on the true story of a free man of color who is kidnapped and sold into slavery.

Gamen literally means “giving up” in Japanese, but in the internment camps, the word was transformed into meaning “bearing it” or enduring the seemingly unbearable with patience and dignity. The art created at the internment camps is called gamen. The participants in the art classes were mostly untrained, but many teachers were skilled and even renowned artists, such as Chiura Obata.

See also Internment camps, Obata, and Topaz.

Gam Saan (“Gum Shan,” “Gumshan”) or Gold Mountain is how the Chinese referred to California and later British Columbia, Canada after gold was discovered. Besides work in the mining camps, many Chinese were recruited to work on the transcontinental railroad.

See also Chinese, Coolie, and Transcontinental railroad.

Genocide is the killing of a large group of people, especially those of a particular ethnic group or nation. During the colonization of North America, Native Americans and Africans, victimized by the slave trade, suffered genocide.

See also Cambodian genocide, Holocaust, Indian, Ohlone, and Slave.


Geta is a Japanese wooden shoe or clog with a thong that passes between the first two toes.

Goat Island was once a name for Yerba Buena Island in the San Francisco Bay. “Yerba buena” is of Spanish origin and refers to several aromatic plants, mostly in the mint family. Originally, Yerba Buena was the name of the city of San Francisco. The name was passed along to the island after the official boundaries of the city and county of San Francisco were established in February 1850. It was Yerba Buena Island until 1895 when it was called Goat Island. The name was inspired by a large number of goats pastured on the island since the Gold Rush. It was changed back to Yerba Buena Island in 1931.
Golden Gate is the strait that connects the San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. It was known as the Golden Gate long before the name gained popularity during the 1849 Gold Rush. The Golden Gate Bridge, which spans the strait, was completed in 1937.

Golden State Warriors is a professional basketball team based in Oakland. It was founded in Philadelphia in 1946 as the Philadelphia Warriors, and a charter member of the Basketball Association of America. In 1962, the team relocated to San Francisco and became known as the San Francisco Warriors. In 1971, the Warriors changed their name and during the 1971-72 season, played almost all home games in Oakland.

Great Depression was a worldwide crisis of economic depression and mass unemployment that began with the stock market crash in 1929 and continued through the 1930s. These desperate economic conditions led to the rise of fascism in Italy, Spain, and Japan and Nazism in Germany. The alliance of fascist powers and their conquest of other countries ultimately led to World War II.

In California, Upton Sinclair, the famed socialist writer, founded the End Poverty in California or EPIC movement to address the challenges of the Great Depression. EPIC is regarded as an influence on the “New Deal” programs enacted by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, programs that put millions of Americans back to work.

See also EPIC.

For a list of Oakland sites constructed under the New Deal, see New Deal.

Green building refers to a structure and a process that is environmentally responsible and resource-efficient throughout a building’s life-cycle: from siting to design, construction, operation, maintenance, renovation, and demolition.

Grizzly bears (California grizzly or Ursus arctos californicus) were everywhere in California until they were hunted into extinction. One of the last California grizzly bears was killed in 1894 near Los Angeles. The California flag has an emblem of the bear, dating back to the Bear Flag Revolt in 1846 when Americans rebelled against the Mexican government and declared California independent of Mexico.

Guitarrón is a large bass guitar traditionally played in mariachi bands.

Gunwale (pronounced gun-nel) is the upper edge of the side of a boat or ship.

Haiku is a Japanese poem that consists of 17 syllables arranged in three lines of five, seven, and five syllables. Themes often include an observation of nature or a season as linked to the human condition.

Harlem (named after a city in The Netherlands) is a section of northwest Manhattan in New York City. It has been an African American enclave for decades and internationally celebrated for its music, night clubs, artists, and writers.

Heinold's First and Last Chance is a saloon located on Webster Street in Oakland’s Jack London Square. It is housed in the original building with the original furnishings and
gaslights. It was constructed in 1880 allegedly from an old whaling ship and used as a dormitory for workers of the nearby oyster beds. In 1883, Johnny Heinold purchased it for $100 and converted the building into a pub. Its central location on the waterfront made it a popular first and last destination for a drink.

When Jack London was a boy, he frequented at Heinold’s. Later, he worked on ships and gathered materials for his stories. At 17, he told Johnny Heinold that he wanted to attend the University of California in Berkeley. Heinold lent London the money that he needed for tuition.

See also Jack London.

Hide and tallow trade. See Cattle hides.

High Street Bridge connects Oakland to the island of Alameda at High Street. However, Alameda was not always an island. Narrow portions of the Inner Harbor were dredged in the 1890s to facilitate ship traffic from San Francisco Bay to San Leandro Bay. The present High Street Bridge was built in 1939 as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal public works projects.

See also Great Depression and New Deal.

Hijab is a head scarf worn by some Muslim women.

Himhen (pronounced eeeehm-hem) is number one in the Chochenyo language; uTrin (pronounced oot-treen) is number two; and number three is kaphan (pronounced kah-pahn). (Author’s source: Vincent Medina, who is featured in “Reviving Indian language Chochenyo” by Carl Nolte San Francisco Chronicle November 23, 2012)

See also Chochenyo.

Hishmen is a traditional Ohlone name and the Chochenyo word for “sun.” (Author’s source: ibid.)

Holocaust is a great or complete devastation or destruction, especially by fire or nuclear war. It also means a “burnt offering.” The mass slaughter of European Jews in Nazi concentration camps is referred to as “The Holocaust.”

See also Genocide.

Horseless carriage was a name for the earliest automobiles. Besides gasoline-powered engines, there were also steam and electric cars. Until the twentieth century, horses typically pulled carriages, wagons, and buses. Goods and services were delivered by foot, bicycle, and horse. A quarter of all U.S. agriculture was devoted to feeding horses used in transport. Horse manure contributed heavily to urban sanitation problems and air pollution.

Huchiun and Jalquin were two small tribal communities who lived in what is now called Oakland. Together with many other small tribes in the Bay Area, they formed a confederation called Ohlone. These small tribes often spoke different languages and
observed different customs. In general, communities had 60 to 100 inhabitants and were scattered every few miles.

See also Ohlone.

*I AM AN AMERICAN* is a photograph by Dorothea Lange, taken on March 30, 1942 at the corner of Eighth and Franklin Streets in Oakland. Her notes for the photo read: *Japanese owned Grocery Store. It has been closed. Owner voluntarily evacuated at the last moment before the “Freezing<?> order” to Fresno where he has relatives. He is UC graduate, born in California. I asked him “who put up that sign?” He said “sign painter but I paid for it, the day after Pearl Harbor.”* In the photograph, a large “I AM AN AMERICAN” banner hangs beneath a “SOLD” sign.

ICE commonly refers to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the principal investigative arm of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. “ICE’s primary mission is to promote homeland security and public safety through the criminal and civil enforcement of federal laws governing border control, customs, trade, and immigration.” (Citation: U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Overview)

The Latino community often uses the term *la migra* to refer to ICE agents.

*Ice house.* Before refrigeration, there were special insulated buildings and caves where winter ice might be stored for long periods of time before melting. Refrigeration was a subject of interest in the mid-1700s, but the process of liquifying gas (essential to refrigeration technology) was not patented until 1876 by German engineer Carl von Linden. After the Civil War, interest grew in transporting perishables by train. Various systems of ventilation, icing, and insulation were tried. However, most were not viable. By 1880, Swift and Company was using refrigerated train cars to transport meat. Vegetables, poultry, dairy products, fruit, and fish followed.

See also Orchard.

*Idora Park* was a seventeen-acre amusement park in North Oakland, bordered by Fifty-sixth and Thirty-eighth Streets and Telegraph and Shattuck Avenues. It was owned and operated by the Realty Syndicate from 1904 to 1929. In the aftermath of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, Idora Park was a refugee camp.

See also Key Route, Mansion, and Orphan for a brief description of Realty Syndicate’s F. M. “Borax” Smith and his enterprises.

*Indentured servant* or *laborer* is required to work for a certain number of years to pay off a debt or as a punishment. It is estimated that in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries approximately half of the (white) European immigrants to the American colonies were indentured servants. Unlike slaves, the terms of the indenture included eventual freedom (often after seven years). Instead of prison, “criminals” might be sent to fill the labor force in the new colonies. Others came voluntarily as “contract laborers.”

*Indian* is the common designation for the Native peoples of the Americas. It is the English translation of the Spanish *indio*, which first occurred in a letter (February 1493) by Christopher Columbus.
Anthropologist Alfred L. Kroeber, Director of University of California-Berkeley Museum of Anthropology (1909-1967), estimated there were 133,000 Native Californians in 1770. By the end of the nineteenth century, the population had been reduced to 25,000. A majority probably died from disease, but they were also enslaved, massacred, chased off their lands, and ceased to form families.

Native American historian, Jack Forbes (University of Davis, 1969-1994) wrote: “The bulk of California's Indians were conquered, and died, in innumerable little episodes rather than in large campaigns. It serves to indict not a group of cruel leaders, or a few squads of rough soldiers, but in effect, an entire people; for ...the conquest of the Native Californian was above all else a popular, mass enterprise.” From Gold, Greed & Genocide: Dreams Of White Cousins by Jack Forbes. www.1849.org/ggg/dreams.html

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the General Assembly at United Nations headquarters in New York City on September 13, 2007 (144 countries voting to support, 4 voting against including the United States, and 11 abstaining). In December 2010, President Obama announced that the United Stated had changed its position on the Declaration and now supported it. Refer to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the website www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf

The 2010 census registered 723,225 American Indians and Alaska Natives in California with 48,493 in the Bay Area and 3,040 in Oakland. Instead of “Indian,” many indigenous peoples prefer to be known as “Native American” or “First Nations.”

Watch Injunuity, a series of animated films about contemporary Native life and reflections on the past and future at www.injunuity.org

Indian Relocation Act of 1956 (also known as Public Law 959 or the Adult Vocational Training Program) was in effect from 1956 into the 1970s. Its intention was both to encourage and coerce Native Americans to relocate from life on the reservations to mainstream urban centers. In addition to receiving a one-way bus ticket, relocatees were promised temporary housing, job counseling, educational opportunities, community and social resources, and stipends until employment was secured. These promises were often broken, and many relocatees were lonely, scared, and homesick. For those who found work, it was usually low-paying and low-skilled. Those who had hoped to study in colleges or nursing schools discovered the law did not pay tuition for such programs.

(Note: Dillon Meyer was Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the early 1950s and a leading proponent of the “termination” programs that were part of the government's policy to end federal responsibilities for Indian tribes. During World War II, Dillon Meyer had been in charge of the Japanese Americans’ relocation to internment camps.)

The Intertribal Friendship House at 523 International Boulevard and YWCA helped to ease the fear and isolation. Many decided to return to their reservation. For those who stayed, intertribal marriages created a new generation of Native Americans. (Citation: Indian Country Diaries: “The Urban Relocation Program” and Urban Voices, Bay Area American Indian Community by Susan Lobo, coordinating editor)

The 1956 Act represented a reversal of policy in the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, sometimes known as the “Indian New Deal” that returned and secured certain rights to Native Americans, including tribal self-government. This policy ostensibly supported tribalism and reservation life; however, it was highly contradictory
since Native American children were routinely kidnapped from their families and community and sent to boarding schools hundreds or thousands of miles from home where their Native language and customs were forbidden. (Note: In 1894, nineteen Hopi men were imprisoned on Alcatraz Island for almost a year for refusing to let their children go to a white boarding school.)

**See also** Alcatraz Island, Indian, Intertribal Friendship House, Native American Health Center, and Ohlone.

*Indio* is Spanish for “Indian” or Native American.  
**See Indian.**

*International Hotel (I-Hotel)* in San Francisco was located at Kearny and Jackson Streets in what was once known as Manilatown. It was a residency hotel for mostly Filipino men. In addition to living quarters, there were a variety of activist organizations and projects in the I-Hotel. Threat of eviction and demolition became a flashpoint for Asian and Asian American activism. With much resistance, eviction occurred on August 4, 1977. The building was demolished in 1981. The lot remained empty until 2003 when construction began for low-cost housing. At the time, two of the original 196 tenants were still alive and given priority for housing.

*Internment camps* imprisoned approximately 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans during World War II as a reaction to the December 7, 1941 attack, on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, by the Japanese military. Two-thirds of internees were United States citizens, and one-third were under the age of eighteen. Executive Order 9066 was signed by President Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, authorizing the War Department to establish military areas or “prohibited zones,” thus leading to the removal from the West Coast of Japanese and Japanese Americans. Time between the government order and the evacuation date was as short as forty-eight hours. Arrangements had to be made quickly to sell, liquidate, or transfer homes, businesses, and almost all belongings, usually at a significant loss. The families did not know where they were going or for how long. They took only what they could carry, including their bedding.

At first, families were relocated to temporary detention camps such as fairgrounds, racetracks, or Civilian Conservation Corps camps. By the summer of 1942, they were transferred to ten permanent internment camps located in remote areas of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming, with mostly harsh environments and poorly constructed housing, surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by military police. The Japanese Americans were called “enemy aliens,” and the average stay in the camps was three to four years.

During World War II, some German and Italian first-generation immigrants living in the United States were interned, many unjustly. However, most German and Italian “aliens” might be required to leave coastal areas but were not confined in camps or arrested (unless charged with a crime). Italian-owned boats, commonly used for fishing throughout the Bay Area, especially at Fisherman’s Wharf in San Francisco, were docked during the war. It is interesting to note that very few Japanese or Japanese Americans were removed from Hawaii.

Some Japanese American families were able to relocate on their own to the East
Coast or Midwest and avoid internment camps. College students were also permitted to transfer from West Coast schools to the East and Midwest. However, in many cases, older sons and daughters in college chose to go with their families to the internment camps.

During Congressional hearings on reparations, Ron Dellums (former U.S. Congressman, Mayor of Oakland, and nephew of C.L. Dellums of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters) “recalled his exasperation in 1942 at the relocation of a childhood friend of Japanese ancestry who was taken from their West Oakland neighborhood.” In 1988, the United States government issued an apology to the 82,000 surviving internees and $20,000 reparation payments for each internee. (Citation online: “House Approves Compensation For Interned Japanese Americans” by David Willman. Philly.com, *The Inquirer*, September 18, 1987)

See also *Gamen* and *Topaz*.

**Supplemental reading:** Books about a young person’s experience of the camps include *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston, *Journey to Topaz* by Yoshiko Uchida, and *Camp Notes and Other Writings* by Mitsuye Yamada. Watch the PBS documentary film, *Mitsuye and Nellie: Two Asian-American Woman Poets*.

*Intertribal Friendship House* was founded in 1955 by the American Friends Service Committee (an organization affiliated with the Religious Society of Friends or Quakers that works for peace and social justice). Its mission was to welcome Native Americans who had relocated from reservations, mostly in the middle part of the country, to cities on the East and West coasts such as Oakland, and who had generally arrived with one-way tickets and in many cases, little or no English skills. The Intertribal Friendship House was one of the first urban Native American centers in the United States, with a mission to provide Native American newcomers with a place to gather, exchange information, and maintain cultural traditions and ceremonies; and to provide youth programs, counseling, crisis intervention, and activities for elders. The YWCA was an important residential center for many of the relocated women, sponsoring dinners and dances through the Four Winds Club. The first location of the Intertribal Friendship House was *Telegraph Avenue* and *Twenty-ninth Street*. It then moved to *Fallon and Seventh Streets*. Now located at 523 International Boulevard, it hosts an array of public events. Information at [www.ifhurbanrez.org](http://www.ifhurbanrez.org)

See also *Alcatraz Island*, *Indian*, *Indian Relocation Act*, *Native American Health Center*, and *Ohlone*.

*Janus* is the ancient Roman god of transitions: gates, doors, passages, beginnings and endings, war and peace. He is usually depicted as having two faces since he looks to the future and to the past. The Romans named the month of January (*Ianuarius*) in his honor.

*Jemison, Dr. Mae C.* is a chemical engineer, scientist, physician, teacher, and astronaut. She completed astronaut training in August 1988 and became the fifth African American astronaut and the first African American female astronaut in NASA history. (Citation online: About.com Space / Astronomy)
Jim Crow laws were state and local laws and policies in the southern states, mandating racial segregation in public facilities. The process began in the 1870s (at the end of the Reconstruction period following the Civil War) and continued into the 1960s. Their intention was to intimidate and subjugate African Americans by segregating buses, schools, hotels, restaurants, restrooms, drinking fountains, benches, et al. Other laws effectively disfranchised most blacks and many poor whites through a combination of poll taxes, literacy and comprehension tests, and residency and record-keeping requirements. Segregated facilities and restriction existed in other parts of the country, including California. These laws were overturned in 1954 with the Brown v. Board of Education decision, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In California, school segregation was ruled illegal in 1947 in the landmark case Mendez v. Westminster.

The term “Jim Crow” may have originated in sheet music written by Thomas Dartmouth “Daddy” Rice in the late 1820s. Rice was one of the first white minstrels or performers to put on “blackface.”

“Come listen all you galls and boys,
I'm going to sing a little song,
My name is Jim Crow.
Weel about and turn about and do jis so,
Eb'ry time I weel about I jump Jim Crow.”

Between 1890–1920, approximately two million African Americans fled the South to escape Jim Crow. They might find that they had traded life under the “Lords of the Land” in the South for the “Bosses of the Buildings” in the North as movingly described in 12 Million Black Voices by Richard Wright. Wright writes about the North, “It seems as though we are now living inside of a machine; days and events move with a hard reasoning of their own....No longer do our lives depend upon the soil, the sun, the rain, or the wind; we live by the grace of jobs and the brutal logic of jobs. We do not know this world, or what makes it move. In the South life was different; men spoke to you, cursed you, yelled at you, or killed you. The world moved by signs we knew. But here in the North cold forces hit you and push you. It is a world of things....”

A second great wave of migration (1940–1950) occurred during World War II and following when 1.5 million African Americans left the South for the North and West. However, California wasn’t everything that the newcomers envisioned. Here’s one description of the difference, “Back home I could work at a restaurant but couldn’t eat there. Here [in Oakland], they wanted my business but wouldn’t hire me....”

The U.S. military was segregated until Executive Order 9981 (July 26, 1948) when President Truman abolished racial discrimination in the armed forces. See also Chinese, Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Deep South, Dehumanize, Mendez v. Westminster, School Integration, and Second Gold Rush.

Jingletown is an area of East Oakland on the estuary near the California Cotton Mill and canneries. It was largely a Portuguese neighborhood in the early twentieth century and later became predominately Mexican.

Jinns are magical spirit creatures.
*Jitney* is a vehicle, such as a car, bus, or van, that transports passengers on a route for a small fare.

*Jocho* is Spanish slang for hotdog (as in sausage).

*Jockeys* are people who ride racehorses. The California Jockey Club (in Emeryville) was a horse-racing venue from 1890-1910. A famous African American jockey from Oakland was Jess “Longshot” Conley who won the Kentucky Derby in 1892 when he was fifteen.

*Kaiser shipyards* in Richmond were the nation’s largest shipyards with a peak of 90,000 workers. In the early 1940s, Kaiser sent recruiters around the country to entice workers to come to Richmond to work in the shipyards. To transport workers, a 14-mile extension of the Key Route system, called the Shipyard Railway, traveled between Richmond and Oakland. Kaiser also pioneered group medical coverage. Medical insurance cost fifty cents a week. Over 92% of workers enrolled in the plan. On site were six first aid stations, a nearby Richmond Field Hospital, and a full service hospital in Oakland for more serious injuries. Childcare cost fifty cents a day and an extra ten cents for breakfast. Centers operated twenty-four hours.

Inspired by the model of Ford Motor Company assembly plants, Kaiser revolutionized ship manufacturing by prefabricating sections of ships. Kaiser workers were highly productive. During World War II, the Richmond shipyards set two significant records: building more ships than any other U.S. shipyard (747); and building a ship in the fastest time on record: 4 days, 15 hours, 26 minutes.

Although Kaiser hired women and people of color, there were still discriminatory practices at all the shipyards despite President Roosevelt’s Executive Order 8802. In addition to Kaiser shipyards in Richmond, there were other private and military shipyards in the Bay Area, including Oakland.

See also Executive Order 8802, Key Route, Moore Dry Dock Company, and Rosie.

Watch the documentary film, *The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter*, directed by Connie Field.

Visit Rosie the Riveter / WWII Home Front National Historical Park at 1414 Harbour Way South in Richmond, California. Contact (510) 232-5050.

Visit SS Red Oak Victory ship at 1337 Canal Boulevard, Richmond, California. Contact (510) 237-2933.

*KDIA* was a black-oriented radio station in the Bay Area. For twenty-five years, KDIA was synonymous with soul music. Descended from the pioneering Oakland station KLS, it became KWBR in 1945 and featured programs that targeted local African American audiences at the end of World War II. On September 4, 1959, KWBR became KDIA, leveraging its dial position–1310 AM–into its identity as “KDIA Lucky 13.” (Citation online: “Bay Area Radio History | KDIA | KLS | KWBR”)

*Key Route* (or Key System) was a transit system based in Oakland that extended to other parts of the East Bay and San Francisco. It was owned and operated by the Realty Syndicate of
Francis Marion “Borax” Smith and Frank C. Havens. In addition to streetcars, the Key System operated commuter trains that traveled over the San Francisco Bay on a pier or mole where Key System ferries waited to transport passengers to San Francisco. Key System’s faster, cleaner, and quieter electric cars spurred Southern Pacific to convert its steam-powered engines to electric in 1910. In the early 1900s, it cost ten cents and took thirty minutes to go from Berkeley or Oakland to the San Francisco Ferry Building. Before the popularity of automobiles, the Key Route and Southern Pacific operated 1,600 weekday runs on trains and streetcars in, out, and around Oakland. Upon completion of the Bay Bridge, the Key Route and Southern Pacific ran commuter trains on the bridge’s lower deck back and forth to San Francisco.

The Key System was also essential to Oakland’s large real-estate ventures. It acquired more than 13,000 undeveloped acres in Oakland and Berkeley and subdivided many of today’s residential neighborhoods. It also established two large hotels, one of which survives as the Claremont Resort. The Key Route Inn at West Grand and Broadway burned down in the early 1930s. From 1904 to 1929, the Realty Syndicate also operated a major amusement park in North Oakland called Idora Park.

See also Idora Park and Mole.

Khmer Rouge. See Cambodian genocide.

KPFA (94.1 FM) was the first listener-supported radio station in the United States, founded in the aftermath of World War II by pacifists and conscientious objectors as a haven for free expression and dissent. Still located in Berkeley, California, KPFA was launched on April 15th, 1949 as the flagship of the Pacifica Radio Network. In addition to news and music, programming has included drama, poetry, and storytelling for the young. (Citations: Pacifica Radio: The Rise of an Alternative Network by Matthew Lasar, Philadelphia, Temple University Press, 1999; conversations with Iain Boal)

Kufi is a short, brimless, round cap worn by many populations in Africa and the African diaspora.

La migra is Spanish-language term for ICE or Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents.

Lake Merritt, centrally located in Oakland, was once a marsh. Several creeks poured in from the Oakland hills and seawater flowed in with tides from the San Francisco Bay. With the arrival of the Californios from Mexico, the marsh was referred to as Laguna Peralta or the San Antonio tidal slough. As Oakland’s population grew, the marsh was used as a sewer, which was especially unpleasant for residents of Clinton and San Antonio near the eastern shore. Dr. Samuel Merritt, a mayor of Oakland who owned property at the shore's edge, wanted to clean up the water. In 1868–1869, he funded and constructed a dam between the estuary and bay. Sewage was directed elsewhere. Thick wetlands still fringed the shores and attracted large numbers of migratory birds. To protect the birds from duck hunters and stop the noise and danger of gunfire close to the city, Dr. Merritt proposed to turn the lake into a wildlife refuge. The state legislature voted Lake Merritt Wildlife Refuge into law in 1870, making it the first such refuge in the United States.
Leaching is a process by which water soluble substances are washed out. For example, after acorns are shelled, they must be leached to remove the bitter tannins. There are hot water and cold water techniques for leaching.

Lindy Hop is a popular American dance that originated in Harlem in 1927 and is still danced today. See also Swing dance.

Watch the Lindy Hop on YouTube.

London, Jack (1876–1916) was a novelist, journalist, and activist who achieved worldwide fame from his books. He passionately championed unions and workers’ rights and ran for mayor of Oakland as the Socialist candidate in 1901 and 1905. His books include Call of the Wild and White Fang. Valley of the Moon features West Oakland workers and labor strikes.

Lumps or “taking your lumps” means to accept a forthcoming punishment (for example, as a fighter being able to accept swelling in parts of the body).

Lupin or lupini bean is a large bean (or legume seed) found in some species of lupine flowers. These beans are often brined like pickles and served as snacks.

Macadam is a kind of pavement made with crushed stones bound with tar or asphalt. It was invented in 1820 by Scottish engineer, John Loudon McAdam.

Mansion is a large, impressive house. Lake Merritt was once surrounded by mansions and gardens. East Oakland was also home to mansions and large estates. The grandest was perhaps a 42-room home called “Oak Hall” built on a 53-acre estate called “Arbor Villa.” It belonged to Francis Marion “Borax” Smith and overlooked Park Boulevard (formerly Fourth Avenue). The entrance to the estate was at Eighth Avenue and East Twenty-fourth Street. See also Idora Park, Key Route, and Orphan.

For information on tours that may include home visits, contact the City of Oakland at www.oaklandnet.com/walkingtours or (510) 238-3234; and Oakland Heritage Alliance (OHA) at www.oaklandheritage.org or (510) 763-9218.

Check for information on tours and public access to visit: Camron-Stanford House at 1418 Lakeside Drive; Cohen-Bray House (1884) at 1440 Twenty-ninth Avenue in East Oakland; Dunsmuir House and Gardens at 2960 Peralta Oaks Court; Pardee Home Museum at Castro and Eleventh Street, home of the former Mayor of Oakland and State Senator Enoch Pardee and his son George Pardee, Governor of California; and Preservation Park, a collection of sixteen historic houses, at Thirteenth Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Way
*Mantilla* is Spanish for a lace or silk scarf worn by women over the head and shoulders, especially in Spain. *Alta California* was a part of New Spain with many traditions and customs coming from Spain.

*Mantra* is a word, phrase, or sound repeated to aid concentration in meditation (originating in Buddhism and Hinduism).

*Marcus Books* is a long-established bookstore with an African American focus, founded by Julian and Raye Richardson in the Fillmore district of San Francisco. They opened a second store in Oakland in 1976 at 3900 Martin Luther King Jr Way. Information on events is available at [www.marcusbookstores.com](http://www.marcusbookstores.com) and (510) 652-2344.

*Markouk* is a kind of Middle Eastern flatbread (similar to pita).

*Mausoleum* is a building to house tombs, typically for powerful families.

*Memory boxes* and *hope boxes* are part of the art and healing program designed and taught by Amelie Prescott at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School for Science and Technology in the Lower Ninth Ward, New Orleans.

Contact [www.moschukmainstitute.org](http://www.moschukmainstitute.org)

*Mendez v. Westminster* was a lawsuit brought by the Mendez family against the Westminster school district that prohibited Mexican children from attending a “white” school. This landmark case in Orange County, California, ultimately led to the desegregation of all California schools in 1947, signed into law by Governor Earl Warren. Unlike legal arguments previously used against segregated schools that demonstrated their inferiority, *Mendez* opposed segregation as a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment (which grants citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the United States and protects the civil rights of all Americans regardless of race or gender).

When Earl Warren became Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, he presided over the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision that ruled segregation illegal in all U.S. schools. Attorney Thurgood Marshall participated in the *Mendez* appeal and later successfully argued *Brown* before the U.S. Supreme Court. Marshall was also the first African American appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. (Citation: “Before Brown, There Was Mendez, The Lasting Impact of Mendez v. Westminster in the Struggle for Desegregation” by Maria Blanco, Immigration Policy Center, Perspectives, March 2010)

See also *Chinese, Jim Crow laws,* and *School Integration*.

Refer to the website “Civic Resources for Texas Students and Teachers.”

*Mexican War of Independence* from Spain helped to abolish slavery in 1821. In 1824, Mexico's Constitution effectively freed existing slaves.

*Middle Harbor Shoreline Park* is at 2777 Middle Harbor Road, Oakland 94607 (towards the end of Seventh Street) near the Port of Oakland and former eastern terminus and mole for the Southern Pacific.

See also *Mole.*

-33-
Military bases active in the Oakland area during World War II were Alameda Naval Air Station, Oakland Army Base, and Oakland Naval Supply Base. See also Jim Crow laws and Oakland Army Base.

Missions of Alta California were churches and large agricultural tracts, established to convert the indigenous people to Christianity. Native American converts farmed mission land and tended mission herds. From 1769–1823, Native Americans under Spanish and Mexican rule built twenty-one missions, one day’s walk apart between San Diego and Sonoma. The priest most identified with the California missions was Junípero Serra (1713–1784), a Franciscan friar born in Spain, who came to Mexico around 1749 and then to Alta California in 1769 where he established the first of the California missions in San Diego. Religious practice was an integral part of the Peralta’s daily life. Family weddings, baptisms, and burials were most closely associated with Mission Santa Clara. They also had connections with the Mission San José (located in present-day Fremont). See also Alta California and Peralta family.

Mitchell, Maria (1818–1889), astronomer, was born in Nantucket, Massachusetts. She was mostly self-educated. Her father built an observatory on their roof with a four-inch telescope. He used the observatory to perform star observations for the U. S. Coast Guard. Often making her own observations, Maria practically memorized the sky.

On October 1, 1847, she discovered a star where there had been no star before. The following evening when the star had moved, she was sure it was a comet. Meanwhile, the King of Denmark had offered a gold medal to a person who discovered a comet seen only through a telescope. In her honor, the comet was named “Miss Mitchell’s Comet.” She became the first woman member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1848) and a professor of astronomy at Vassar College. In protest against slavery, she stopped wearing cotton clothes. Along with her friend, suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton, they co-founded the American Association for the Advancement of Women.

Mochi is a sticky Japanese rice cake.

Mojado means “wet” in Spanish. “Wetback” is sometimes used as a pejorative term for an immigrant who illegally crosses a border by swimming or wading. It originated with Mexicans swimming across the Rio Grande to the United States.

Mole is a solid earth structure (like a berm) that serves as a pier or breakwater or causeway from the shore into the water. The 3.26 mile Key Route mole from the Oakland waterfront stretched into San Francisco Bay almost to Yerba Buena (Goat) Island. At the end of the mole, passengers would debark and take a Key Route ferry to the Ferry Building in San Francisco. There was also a Southern Pacific (SP) mole and ferries to San Francisco. Some of SP’s ferries were the largest in the world and could transport a loaded freight train. Port View Park at the end of Seventh Street is on the site of the SP terminal. See also Key Route.
“Mongolian” is a derogatory term for Asians, especially Chinese. The term was commonly used in racist laws and restrictive real estate covenants. *Oriental* is also derogatory. For decades, Chinatowns were the only places where the Chinese were allowed to live. After the California Supreme Court declared exclusion of Asian children from public schools unlawful in 1885 (*Tape v. Hurley*), school boards established special schools for “Mongolians.”

See also Chinese, Redlining, Restrictive covenant, and School integration.

*Moore Dry Dock Company* started in San Francisco but was destroyed after the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. It reopened in Oakland in 1909 at the foot of Adeline Street in West Oakland. Moore Dry Dock was very active during World War I, employing 13,000 workers and building 30 ships between 1917–1920. Moore Dry Dock also built structural steel, including Park Street Bridge (1934–1935) and the High Street Bridge (1938–1939) between Oakland and Alameda. During World War II, 37,000 workers constructed cargo ships, troop transport ships, submarine chasers, and ocean tugs. Although Moore hired many African Americans, hardly any were promoted to supervisor. At all the shipyards, there were discriminatory practices against women and people of color.

There is a photograph of Paul Robeson (1898–1976) singing at Moore Dry Dock in September 1942. Robeson was a renowned singer, a star of stage and film, an NFL athlete, a lawyer, and a political activist. During the McCarthy era, he was blacklisted and persecuted by the U.S. government.

*Mountain View Cemetery*, a 226-acre cemetery in North Oakland at 5000 Piedmont Avenue in North Oakland, was built in 1863 under the California Rural Cemetery Act of 1859 and designed by Frederick Law Olmsted (the landscape architect who designed New York City’s Central Park). Many of California’s important historical figures are buried at Mountain View, including some of the wealthiest Californians in a section known as “Millionaires’ Row.”

Free Saturday tours of Mountain View Cemetery usually occur twice a month, often with special themes. Contact www.mountainviewcemetery.org or (510) 658-2588.

Nearby at 4499 Piedmont Avenue is a crematory and columbarium which includes Chapel of the Chimes, designed by Julia Morgan. Check for concerts and events at Chapel of the Chimes at www.oakland.chapelofthechimes.com or (510) 654-0123.

*Movie theaters* in Oakland were once widespread throughout the city. Before television and watching movies at home, going out to the movies was popular entertainment, especially during the middle decades of the twentieth century. Some theaters were palaces like the Fox, the Paramount, and the Grand Lake. Others were neighborhood theaters.

See *Theatres of Oakland* by Jack Tillmany and Jennifer Dowling.

*Muslim Americans* practice the religion of Islam. The U.S. Muslim population increased greatly in the twentieth century with rising immigration and high conversion rate, including the Black Muslim movement.
Native American Health Center (NAHC) is located at 3124 International Boulevard in the Fruitvale district. The NAHC focuses on the health and healing of the entire being: physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional. Treating trauma is a major factor in the healing process that includes the terrors of the colonial and post-colonial eras, the effects of boarding schools over generations, and the relocation policies that split up families and removed young people from their elders. The NAHC sponsors classes and workshops. Also available is a media center where personal stories are recorded.

For a schedule of community events, visit www.nativehealth.org

Navigation Trees (also called Landmark Trees) were used by European sailors as guideposts around Blossom Rock off Yerba Buena Island. Blossom Rock was a major hazard because it was submerged five feet underwater and undetectable. The trees were giants: over 33 feet wide and 300 feet high and 2,000 years old. The original trees were cut down around 1851. The top of Blossom Rock was blown off in 1870.

In 1828, British sea captain, F.W. Beechey, wrote about Blossom Rock and the trees used to steer clear of it: “After passing the fort, a ship may work up for anchorage without apprehension…. The only hidden danger is a rock with one fathom on it at low water … between Alcatraz and Yerba Buena Islands; it has seven fathoms alongside it, the lead therefore gives no warning. The marks when on it are the north end of Yerba Buena Island in one with two trees (nearly the last of the straggling ones) south of Palos Colorados, a wood of pines situated on the top of the hill, over San Antonio, too conspicuous to be overlooked....”

How do these redwoods grow so big and live so long? These families of trees (redwoods, sequoias) absorb little moisture so they don’t rot. They have little resin so they don’t burn easily while competitive trees around them do burn. Although perhaps none were as big as the Navigation Trees, there were forests full of enormous redwoods. It took teams of men to fell one giant tree and cut it into logs. There were sawmills in the Oakland hills. Once milled, the logs were rolled through the creek beds, ruining the water flow and fish habitats, or taken out by ox-drawn wagons to Oakland’s Embarcadero.

A Blossom Rock Navigation Trees historical marker is located in the Madrone Picnic Area, Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Redwood Regional Park, 11500 Skyline Boulevard, Oakland.

New Deal was a series of programs (1933–1938) developed in President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s administration to address poverty and unemployment during the Great Depression. Oakland sites built during the New Deal include the Alameda County Courthouse, Woodminster Amphitheater and Cascade, High Street Bridge, Caldecott Tunnel, Sausal Creek culverts, Morcom Rose Garden, Arroyo Viejo Park, Lake Temescal building, and sidewalks with WPA stamps. Schools include Piedmont Elementary, Chabot Elementary addition, Sherman Elementary, Roosevelt Middle, and Fremont High. See also EPIC and Great Depression.

New Spain (1519–1821) was a huge colonial empire ruled by the King of Spain, comprising present-day Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, parts of New Mexico, Colorado,
Wyoming, Texas, and Louisiana as well as Florida plus the Spanish West Indies (Caribbean) and East Indies (including Philippines). Spain ruled Alta California for 300 years before Mexico fought and won its independence in 1821.

*Nomad* is a member of a group of people with no fixed home. Nomads move according to the seasons from place to place in search of water, food, and grazing land. “Nomad” can also refer to a person in our own society who wanders around or has no roots.

*Oak trees* once defined the forests and woodlands of California. Twenty different types of oak trees are native to California. The oak trees of California take the form of true trees as well as shrubs. Some lose their leaves; others are evergreen. They often grow where water is scarce. Among the native oaks of California are the black oak, the blue oak, and the canyon live oak. In the early mapping of the Bay Area, no site was as dense with oak forest as the shoreline and center of Oakland.

The single oak tree most associated with Oakland grows in front of Oakland’s City Hall. It is a coast live oak and was planted in 1916 in honor of Jack London soon after his death. At the time, the tree was probably ten years old and transplanted from an Oakland park.

Watch *Saving the Bay–The Oaks of Oakland* at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7O3kKzfHn8

*Oakland* was founded in 1852. The first city plan laid out seven squares.

Visit *Jefferson Square, Harrison Square, Lafayette Square, Lincoln Square, and Madison Square*.

Visit the *Oakland History Room, Oakland Public Library, 125 Fourteenth Street*.

*Oakland Airport* was built in 1927. At the time, it was said to be the longest runway in the world and the most modern airfield in the United States. Fifty thousand people attended its dedication (September 27, 1927) with Charles Lindburgh, an international celebrity for the first solo flight across the Atlantic.

The long runway enabled safe takeoffs for fuel-heavy aircraft. Several historic flights began or ended in Oakland: Albert Francis Hegenberger’s and Lester J. Maitland’s first trans-Pacific flight to Hawaii in June 1927 (25 hours, 50 minutes); Charles Kingsford Smith's U.S.-Australia flight in 1928 and first around-world flight in 1930; Amelia Earhart’s first solo flight from Hawaii to Oakland in 1935 and her final flight in 1937. Earhart intended to return to Oakland after circumnavigating the globe but was lost at sea.

The Dole Air Race or Dole Derby was an air race across the Pacific Ocean from Oakland to Hawaii in August 1927. An estimated crowd of 75,000 persons came to the Oakland airport for the send-off. Of eleven airplanes certified to compete, three crashed before the race, two crashed at takeoff, and two disappeared during the race. Another plane, forced to return for repairs, took off to search for the missing and was never seen again. Two of the eight planes landed in Hawaii.
During World War II, the Armed Forces temporarily took over the airport and developed a Naval Air Station.

See also Feng Ru.

Oakland Army Base (OAB) spread over 425 acres and was “home to the largest military port complex in the world” (according to Global Security.org). Built on tidal wetlands, the U.S. government claimed the land and began construction in early 1941. Although only 25% complete, the base opened December 8, 1941 immediately after the December 7th attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Construction was not completed until 1946. During World War II, tens of thousands of troops and at least twenty-five million tons of supplies passed through OAB to the war’s Pacific Theater. The OAB functioned as a giant transportation depot. Many Liberty and Victory ships (built at the Kaiser shipyards in Richmond) were loaded with troops and war materiel at the OAB. There were five piers at the OAB, and it took three days (72 hours) to load a ship. Railroad cars also converged at OAB with tons of goods that could be stored in one of seven giant warehouses on Maritime Street. The OAB was a “purple” command post, meaning the colors of army green and navy blue blended to create a joint post for Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. (Citation: The Oakland Army Base, An Oral History. Martin Meeker, editor)

Not only military personnel but thousands of civilians (such as, longshoremen and teamsters) worked at the OAB and other Bay Area military bases. During World War II, a high school senior reported that he made seventy-five cents an hour at the OAB compared to one dollar per day working as a gas station attendant (Peter Lew, The Oakland Army Base, An Oral History). Also during World War II, Italian prisoners-of-war were held at the OAB.

OAB sent goods and materiel across the Pacific in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

“It was not just a port operation; it was the headquarters for the western area of the Military Traffic Management Command, and as such, really had responsibility for movement of defense logistics from the Mississippi River all the way around to the Indian Ocean.” (Bob Nordan, The Oakland Army Base, An Oral History).

The base had housing, a gym, a bowling alley, a craft shop, and GED classes. All enlisted personnel without a GED were highly encouraged to complete requirements for a high school diploma; and the OAB eventually contracted with Oakland Technical High School to provide teachers. Those with high school diplomas were afforded an opportunity to attend college. Columbia College (from Columbia, Missouri) set up a college program at the OAB; and local teachers from Vista College taught courses, such as upholstery, woodworking, pottery, ceramics, and jewelry making at the OAB craft shop. At the end of World War II, activity slowed but increased again during the Korean War (1950–1953), and peaked during the Vietnam War. The OAB officially closed on September 30, 1999, and Oakland lost many well-paying jobs.

“It [OAB] had a kind of a love/hate relationship with Oakland, because of the prevailing political sentiment against the Vietnam War. A lot of people didn’t want a military base in Oakland. At the same time, it provided a tremendous amount of employment...” (Bob Nordan, The Oakland Army Base, An Oral History).

“We used to go over to the base when we were kids, and when the soldiers would
get through eating, we’d go through the chow line....All the kids from around the West
Oakland neighborhood did this, and particularly us in the projects....” (Leo Robinson, *The
Oakland Army Base, An Oral History*).

**Entrance at 1400 Maritime Street.** Development plans and related materials can be
found at: [http://www.oaklandglobal.com/](http://www.oaklandglobal.com/)

*Oakland Athletics* (often abbreviated to A’s) is a professional baseball team based in Oakland,
and plays its home games in the Oakland Alameda Coliseum. It was originally founded
in Philadelphia in 1901 as the Philadelphia Athletics. The team left Philadelphia for
Kansas City in 1955 and became the Kansas City Athletics before moving to Oakland in
1968.

*Oakland Ballet Company* was founded in 1965 by Oakland native, Ronn Guidi, and is currently
under the direction of Graham Lustig. The Oakland Ballet Company is dedicated to
performance, training, and an enduring commitment to arts education.

*Oakland Larks* was a team in the West Coast Baseball Association (WCBA) founded in 1945.
The Larks played their first game to a huge crowd in Oaks Ball Park. Opening-day starter
was Lionel Wilson, who became Oakland's first African American mayor. After one
season, the league folded because of financial instability. However, the Larks continued
to play as a barnstorming team. While WCBA survived only a few months, it paved the
way for integration in the Pacific Coast League. Before World War II and prior to the
Larks, Oakland also had semi-pro African American baseball teams, such as the Black
Colored Giants, Oakland Pierce Giants, and the Athens Colored Elite.

*Oakland Oaks baseball* team (or Acorns) was a minor league baseball team and part of the
Pacific Coast League. They played their home games at Freeman’s Park, **Fifty-ninth
Street and San Pablo Avenue** from 1899-1904 when they moved to Idora Park. In 1907,
they returned to Freeman’s Park until 1913 when Oaks Ball Park was built in Emeryville.
They shared Oaks Ball Park with the Oakland Larks. In 1955, it was torn down for a
Pepsi-Cola bottling plant; later replaced by Pixar Animation Studio.
See also *Idora Park* and *Oakland Larks*.

*Oakland Public Library* opened to the public as the Oakland Free Library on November 7, 1878.
It was the second public library in California (after Eureka). “Free Reading Rooms” were
branches that provided no circulating books but newspapers and magazines that could be
read on-site.

The Oakland Free Library was personified in its earliest years by its librarian, Ina
Coolbrith, a well-known poet later appointed California's first Poet Laureate. The first
Main Library (1878–1902) was situated on the north side of Fourteenth Street on the site
of the present City Hall. The second Main Library (1902–1951) still stands at
**Fourteenth Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Way** (formerly Grove Street), now
home of the [African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO)](http://www.oaklandpubliclibrary.org/).
The present Main Library between **Fourteenth and Thirteenth Streets** and Oak and
Madison Streets opened in 1951.
Library services for children began in 1904 with the opening of the Main Library at Fourteenth and Grove Streets. A Children's Room quickly became a center for activities and programs.

**Oakland Raiders** is a professional football team based in Oakland. The Raiders began playing in 1960 as a member club of the American Football League (AFL). They have been a member club of the National Football League (NFL) since the 1970 AFL-NFL merger.

**Obata, Chiura** arrived in the United States in 1903 (at age 17) and went first to Seattle, then San Francisco where he worked as a domestic servant. He was one of the founders of the Fuji Club, the first Japanese American baseball team in the United States. In 1906, he made on-site sketches of the aftermath of the San Francisco earthquake. From 1932–1953 (excluding his internment during World War II), he was on the faculty of the art department at the University of California-Berkeley. In April 1942, he was interned temporarily at the Tanforan Race Track in San Bruno. By May, he and fellow artists had created an art school at the camp with their own money and outside donations. In September 1942, he was moved to the Topaz War Relocation Center in Topaz, Utah where he founded and directed the Topaz Art School with over 600 students. He became a U.S. citizen in 1954.

**Obsidian** is a hard, dark, glasslike volcanic rock. It can be extremely sharp and was often used for blades, arrowheads, and the tips of spears.

**OG** is slang and means “original gangster” or “old gangster.”

**Ohlone** is a confederation of small Native American tribes. For 2,500 years they have lived in the Bay Area from the Carquinez Straits to the Monterey area, including Oakland. Before the Spanish arrived, they lived in small communities with 60–100 inhabitants that were scattered every few miles. Their language and customs often varied.

With the arrival of the Spanish, the Ohlone way of life was destroyed. Their languages, customs, and skills were dismissed as inferior. European diseases like measles ravaged their population. Cattle and horses ruined the plant cycle of grasses. To survive, the Ohlone worked at the missions, *ranchos*, and *pueblos*. The missions tried to convert the Native Americans to Catholicism. Many converted while others resisted. There were rebellions and uprisings. The *Californio* period was filled with hardship, disease, deprivation, and extreme servitude for the Ohlone. However, the Ohlone who lived on the *Californio ranchos* sometimes had fewer restrictions than the Ohlone at the missions.

After the U.S.-Mexican War (1848), the Ohlone were generally treated worse by Americans than by *Californios*. Although slavery was illegal in the new state of California (1850), de facto enslavement of Native Americans persisted. Natives were forced off their lands by miners, ranchers, and farmers. Subsequently, they were sent to reservations and *rancherías* (Spanish word for a small Indian settlement) located in isolated areas and lacking resources.

Today, none of the Ohlone tribes have gained federal recognition as a tribe, but some are seeking it. See also Dehumanize, Genocide, Shellmounds, and Slave.

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Watch **Injunuity, a series of animated films** about contemporary Native life and reflections on the past and future at [www.injunuity.org](http://www.injunuity.org)

**Ohlone games.** The Ohlone had many games for all ages. *Trallik* is played with sticks that are rolled like dice. *Wannuk* is a guessing game. Another game is similar to hockey where women and men run back and forth, holding curved sticks to knock a wooden ball into a goal.

**Okie and Arkie** were derogatory names for migrant families from Oklahoma and Arkansas, states devastated by the Dust Bowl during the 1930s. Many farmers came west to California. Even larger migrations occurred in the 1940s to take advantage of the economic boom during World War II. **See also Dust Bowl and Great Depression.**

**The Grapes of Wrath** by John Steinbeck is a famous novel about the Okies and the Great Depression. American **folk singer and songwriter, Woody Guthrie**, wrote about the plight of Okies.

**Orchard** is an agricultural area to grow fruit and nut trees. Fruitvale was famous for its orchards. Henderson Luelling transported 700 Bing cherry trees overland for 2,000 miles to East Oakland and planted them in 1856 **beside Sausal Creek uphill from the Dimond District.** He shipped Bing cherries to the East coast and named the area Fruit Vale (later Fruitvale). He was also famous for growing a 200-pound beet! And a 31-pound carrot! Friedrich Rhoda, another East Oakland pioneer, planted 2,000 Royal Ann cherry trees in 1859. His cherries were the first fruit to travel across the country where they sold for $5 per pound. A Rhoda house is thought to stand at **Whittle and Wilbur near Dimond Park.** Solomon E. Alden planted extensive orchards along **Temescal Creek in North Oakland** in the 1850s. **See also Cannery.**

**Orphan** is a child whose parents are deceased or unable to raise their child. From 1901–1913, Mary R. Smith (first wife of millionaire F. M. “Borax” Smith) founded the Mary R. Smith Trust for Orphan Girls. Ten elaborate cottages were built to house “friendless” girls (as they were called), including designs by architects Julia Morgan, Bernard Maybeck, and Walter J. Mathews (who also designed the Smiths’ own house). Supervised by a house mother, each cottage contained a piano, a sewing machine, a garden, and fruit trees. The girls had access to a public school education plus a doctor and a dentist. They were taken on summer excursions. They were taught skills to enable them to become self-sufficient adults. Several of the cottages are still located on or near Park Boulevard, close to the site of the Smiths’ former home.

Since 1978, the spike in the U.S. prison population has orphaned millions of children. In 2012, there were 1,571,031 inmates in U.S. prisons.

**Papai** means “daddy” in Portuguese.

**Paper clip campaign** was a project started in 1998 by middle-school students in Whitwell, Tennessee, who created a monument for the Holocaust victims in Nazi Germany.

*Penny arcade* was a popular, affordable form of amusement in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Typically, it offered dozens of miniature novelties inside glass boxes. For a penny, you turned a crank to animate photographs into little movies, or waited for a fortune to drop from a crystal ball, or listened to a player-piano thump out the latest hits, or squeezed flippers on a pinball machine.

Visit **Musée Mécanique, The Embarcadero, San Francisco**. Exhibits now cost a quarter or fifty cents.

*Peon* or *peón* is a pejorative term for a day laborer or unskilled farm worker in Mexico and the southern United States, often held in servitude by a creditor. This form of slavery is common all over the world and is called “debt bondage.”

The **Peralta family** owned all the land (44,800 acres) between El Cerrito and San Leandro, including Oakland. Don Luis Peralta arrived in *Alta California* with his parents on the Anza expedition. After more than three decades of military service to the Spanish crown, in 1820 he received an immense land grant from the Spanish Crown as a reward. In 1821, the Peraltas built an adobe house on the site of the **Peralta Hacienda Historical Park** at **2465 Thirty-fourth Avenue** in what is now called the Fruitvale district of Oakland. This was the first non-Native American family home in the region. After marrying Maria Antonio Galindo, Antonio Peralta (son of Don Luis Peralta) came to live on this **rancho** in 1828. His three brothers soon joined him. Later, the three brothers would build their own houses.

In the 1830s and 1840s, the Peralta herds had grown to 8,000 head of cattle and 2,000 horses. By 1842, Don Luis might have been concerned about the encroachment of the Americans and perhaps as a precaution, divided his land holdings among his four sons in formal agreements. Antonio Peralta received 16,067 acres of land: Sixty-eighth Avenue to Lake Merritt and up to Indian Gulch (known today as Trestle Glen) plus the peninsula of Alameda. Vicente Peralta settled in the Temescal district in North Oakland, Domingo on Codornices creek in what is now Berkeley, and Ignacio in what is now San Leandro (the first brick house in Alameda County). The four Peralta sisters tried to sue their brothers for shares of the land but lost in court.

After a small group of Anglo-American settlers staged an uprising in 1846 in Sonoma (called the “Bear Flag Revolt”), declared the California Republic, and helped to launch the U.S.-Mexican War (1846–1848), newcomers to California squatted on the Peralta’s land, built dwellings, stole and killed Peralta cattle, and even sold parcels of land and pocketed the profits. With the Gold Rush in 1849, the non-native California population exploded from 1,000 to 25,000 in a short period of time. Although the 1848 treaty between Mexico and the United States honored the land titles of the **Californios**, these families had to prove the validity of their titles in court. Litigation was tied up for years. By the time the courts ruled that **Californios** were the legal owners, the land had slipped into others’ hands, either paid as legal fees or sold for living expenses. At the time of his death in 1879, Antonio Peralta owned his Italianate Victorian house (built in 1870 and part of the Peralta Hacienda Historical Park) and twenty-three acres of land. Members of the Peralta family lived on the premises until 1897.
See also Anza expeditions and Californios.

Visit Peralta Hacienda Historical Park at 2465 Thirty-fourth Avenue to see the house museum, grounds, and special exhibits. Contact www.peraltahacienda.org or (510) 532-9142.

Phnom Penh is the capital and largest city of Cambodia.

Pinole is the Spanish version of an Aztec or Nahuatl word, pinolli. It is a coarse flour made from ground and toasted kernels and often mixed with herbs and ground seeds. It can be eaten by itself or used as the base for a beverage. See also Chia.

Pole vendors sold vegetables door-to-door throughout Oakland from baskets hung on poles over their shoulders. Because of the anti-Chinese sentiments and laws, they were often harassed, forced to pay an extra tax (“pole tax”), or forbidden to sell goods without a horse and buggy. Pole tax is not the same as “poll tax,” which requires a payment to vote.

Posole (pozole) is a traditional Mexican soup made with hominy or coarsely ground corn, meat, chiles, and other spices.

Preservation Park is a collection of sixteen houses, rehabilitated as an outdoor museum and offices. Five of the houses are in their original location, survivors of 1970s “redevelopment.” Eleven were moved to the site prior to the construction of I-980 (Grove-Shafter Freeway) to save them from demolition. Financed by a public-private partnership, all sixteen houses were rehabilitated and renovated. See also Mansion.

Visit Preservation Park located between Twelfth to Fourteenth Streets between Castro Street and MLK, Jr. Way.

Presidio is the Spanish word for a military fort.

Pueblo is the Spanish word for a town or civil settlement. Most pueblos were affiliated with missions and presidios.

Pullman Palace Car Company. See Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (BSCP).

Queue (French word) is a long braid of hair worn down the back of the neck, once common for Chinese men.

Rainbow Coalition was coined by Fred Hampton (1948–1969). He was deputy chairman of the Illinois chapter of the Black Panther Party and leader of the Chicago chapter. He was renowned for his ability to forge alliances with other groups, such as the Young Lords, Young Patriots, Students for a Democratic Society, Blackstone Rangers, Brown Berets, and Red Guard Party. In May 1969, Hampton called a press conference to announce that a truce had been declared among this “rainbow coalition.” (Citation: The Assassination of
Fred Hampton: How the FBI and the Chicago Police Murdered a Black Panther by Jeffrey Haas)

Watch the documentary film, The Murder of Fred Hampton and the documentary series, Eyes on the Prize.

Ramada is Spanish for an open or semi-enclosed shelter roofed with brush or branches, designed especially to provide shade and to function as an outdoor living area.

Ranchos were family villages at the center of open range that sustained large herds of cattle, sheep, and horses. The ranchos provided almost everything. They grew most of their food; tanned leather for their shoes, boots, clothes, beds, and saddles; and made their soap, candles, and clothes. Landless Mexicans and Ohlone did most of the work. Ohlone women tilled the fields, sheared sheep, cut lumber, built houses, made tiles, ground grain, and took care of the rancho children, such as the Peralta children. The Spanish and later Mexican governments encouraged settlement of territory now known as California by the establishment of large land grants called ranchos (from which the English word “ranch” is derived). Of over 800 grants, Spain made approximately 30 between 1784 and 1821. The remainder were granted by Mexico between 1833 and 1846. The ranchos established land-use patterns that are recognizable in California today. See also Peralta family.

Ration coupons were issued during World War II for gasoline, sugar, coffee, shoes, butter, and meat (except horse meat) among more than a dozen other commodities. There were many shortages during the war. Cars, bicycles, vacuum cleaners, tires, and flashlights ceased production. People collected and recycled metal, paper, waste fat, nylon, silk, rubber, and tinfoil. People were encouraged to take public transportation or carpool. Food shortages were increased by the restricted use of gasoline and rubber tires to transport food. A slogan of the era was Use it up / Wear it out / Make it do / Do without.

Reading the world is a term used by Paulo Freire (1921–1997), Brazilian educator, philosopher, and activist. “This movement from the world to the word and from the word to the world is always present, even the spoken word flows from our reading of the world. However, we can go further and say that reading the word is not merely preceded by reading the world, but by a certain form of writing it, or re-writing it, that is, of transforming it by means of conscious practical work. For me, this dynamic is central to the literacy process.”

Reata is a Spanish word for a lasso or rope used to catch animals. The Ohlone often made reatas with four strings of ox-hide, dried in the sun and then soaked in water.

Rebozo is a Spanish word for a long scarf covering the head and shoulders, traditionally worn by Latina women.

Redlining refers to the practice of denying, or charging more for, services such as lending, banking, insurance, access to health care, and even supermarkets. In urban areas where people of color lived, red lines on a map indicated where they could not qualify for loans to buy or improve property. This practice contributed to the deterioration and
impoverishment of large sections of U.S. cities. “Although informal discrimination and segregation had always existed in the United States, the specific practice called ‘redlining’ began with the National Housing Act of 1934, which established the Federal Housing Administration (FHA).” The Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibits redlining based on race, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or ethnic origin.

In 1963, California passed the Rumford Fair Housing Law. The law remains in effect. William Byron Rumford was one of the first African Americans elected to statewide office as a member of the State Assembly (1948–1966). His 1959 Fair Employment Practices Act was also landmark legislation against discrimination. See also Restrictive covenant.

Red Road is a philosophy inspired by beliefs found in a variety of Native American spiritual teachings about the right path of life.

Render (in cooking) is to extract fat from meat by melting or cooking slowly over a low heat, a process used in making candles and soap. The fat is called “tallow.” During the Californio period, cattle hides and tallow were exported all over the world. See also Cattle hides and Tallow.

Restorative healing circles are gatherings in schools, community centers, juvenile justice centers, and places of worship, where adults and young people can meet to safely express their feelings and help each other heal themselves and their communities. Unlike the legal system of retributive justice and “zero tolerance” policies in schools that ask: what law (or rule) has been broken? who broke it? and what should punishment be? Restorative justice asks: who was harmed? who takes responsibility for the harm? how do all those affected come together to heal the harm?

(Author’s source: Community Works West and RJOY, Oakland.)

Restorative justice (RJ) offers a vision and practice for responding to crime and similar injustices; and seeks to bring balance, repair, healing, and possibly reconciliation to victims (or surviving family members) and offenders who are willing to engage in restorative work. RJ, according to Howard Zehr, requires at minimum that we address the victims’ harms and needs; hold the offenders accountable to put right these harms; and involve victims, offenders, and communities in the process (from The Little Book of Restorative Justice by Howard Zehr). RJ creates a structure and support for helping persons in broken relationships move toward wholeness and healing. RJ is distinguished in several respects from traditional ways of conceptualizing and practicing justice. It is based on a variety of roots, including justice practices of ancient cultures, faith traditions, and secular ethics.

An example is the “victim-offender dialogue,” or sometimes called the “victim-offender mediation.” When both victim (or surviving family members) and offender agree to do so, they prepare for a face-to-face meeting with the assistance of a trained facilitator. In that meeting, the offender takes responsibility for the harm done; the victim details the effects of the harm done to her/him; and both work to find mutually acceptable ways to repair or address the harm, recognizing that full repair is usually not possible. In criminal cases where the offender is incarcerated in a California state prison, victims (or surviving family members) may contact the Office of Victim Services at the
California Department of Corrections to request assistance in looking into the possibility of having a victim-offender dialogue.

Office of Victim Services at (877) 256-6877 (toll free); Office of Victim Services, P.O. Box 942883, Sacramento, CA 94283-0001; and victimservices@cdcr.ca.gov

Restrictive covenant is a provision in real estate contracts to exclude certain ethnic groups from buying, renting, or occupying properties in specific neighborhoods. In California, African Americans, Asians, Latinos, and Native Americans have encountered this form of discrimination. Some African Americans have said this practice of discrimination was positive in one respect by keeping the black middle class and professionals in the old neighborhoods.

Here is an example of such a covenant: “...no part of said property or any portion thereof shall be...occupied by any person not of the Caucasian race, it being intended hereby to restrict the use of said property...against occupancy as owners or tenants of any portion of said property for resident or other purposes by people of the Negro or Mongolian race.” In 1918, on the day that an all-black Army unit left Oakland to fight in World War I, the City Council passed an ordinance forbidding blacks from buying property in the Santa Fe district north of Forty-seventh Street.

Regarding restrictive covenants and the FHA (Federal Housing Administration): “[T]he most objectionable feature of FHA operations was its acceptance and championing of race restrictive covenants. This was probably inevitable once the government had turned the agency's operations over to the real estate and home finance boys. FHA has a bible. It is the Underwriting Manual. In its pages, it stipulated that care shall be taken to rate loans on the basis of certain criteria; one of these was protection from adverse influences....One of the adverse influences specifically spelled out was ‘inharmonious racial groups.’” (Citation: quoted from The Negro Ghetto by Robert C. Weaver).

The practice was ruled illegal in 1948 by the U.S. Supreme Court in the case Shelley v. Kraemer. In 1963, California passed the Rumford Fair Housing Law. The law remains in effect. The law was sponsored by William Byron Rumford, an African American member of the State Assembly (1948–1966). The federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 was passed to fight the practice.

See also Redlining.

Revolutionary means committed to transforming society and/or government in order to create a new society or government. (Citation: A People’s History of the United States, 1492–Present by Howard Zinn; Why Civil Resistance Works: The Strategic Logic of Nonviolent Conflict by Erica Chenoweth and Maria J. Stephan)

See also Alcatraz Island, Black Panther Party, Brown Berets, International Hotel, and Rainbow coalition.

Rez is an abbreviation for “Indian reservation.”

See also Alcatraz Island, Indian, Indian Relocation Act of 1957.

Rosie the Riveter was the symbol of women working in the Home Front shipyards and other war industries during World War II. “Rosie” was part of the government’s campaign to lure
women into the workplace. The name “Rosie the Riveter” was first used in 1942 in a popular song of the same name (written by Redd Evans and John Jacob Loeb). The fictional character of “Rosie the Riveter” was the ideal woman worker who was loyal, efficient, patriotic, and pretty. After Norman Rockwell’s image of “Rosie” appeared on the cover of the Saturday Evening Post (May 29, 1943), the image became widely publicized. This led to other “Rosie” images.

Women also joined the auxiliary branches of the military that included Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAC), Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), and Women Accepted for Volunteer Military Services ( WAVES), the Marines, and Coast Guard. A total of 350,000 women served during World War II, mostly working as clerks, typists, and mail sorters. They were not assigned to direct combat, but their work was often dangerous, especially members of the medical corps.

Frances Mary Albrier (1898–1987) was a civil rights activist. During World War II, she was refused employment as a boilermaker at the Kaiser shipyards in Richmond despite her certification as a welder. She was told that without a union for blacks or women, she could not be hired in such a capacity. She complained that such a decision violated Executive Order 8802. In February 1943, she became the first African American woman to be hired at the Kaiser Shipyard Number Two. Six months later, an auxiliary union for women and people of color was formed.

The first women who worked in the shipyards were initially treated like other minorities and given the most menial jobs. However, many eventually became welders in the shipyards. There were also other manufacturing jobs, such as assembling jeeps and tanks, and food processing at the many canneries throughout the East Bay.

After the war and as men returned home, many women were laid off or returned to lower-paying, traditional female jobs. In the 1970s, during the Women’s Liberation campaigns for equal pay for equal work, “Rosie” was resurrected with the World War II “WE CAN DO IT!” poster.

(Citation: Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park website)

See also Auxiliary Unions, Executive Order 8802, and Kaiser shipyards.

Supplemental reading: Rumors of Peace by Ella Leffland, is a YA novel about a young girl living in the East Bay during World War II.

Watch the documentary film, The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter, directed by Connie Field.

Visit Rosie the Riveter / WWII Home Front National Historical Park at 1414 Harbour Way South in Richmond, California. Contact www.nps.gov/rori or (510) 232-5050.

Sampan (Chinese word) is a small boat used in China and Japan. It is usually propelled with an oar from the stern (rear) and often has a sail and a small cabin composed of mats. Sampan is a Chinese word and literally means “three planks.”

Scab is an employee who works while others are on strike, or someone hired to replace a striking worker.
See also *Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Farm workers, Strike, Unions, and Wildcat strike.*

**School integration.** The Brooklyn Colored School in Oakland at **Tenth Avenue and East Eleventh Street** operated until 1871 when African American families successfully petitioned the school board to integrate Oakland public schools. Chinese children were not allowed into the California public school system until the 1885 landmark case *Tape v. Hurley* in the California Supreme Court. Afterwards, segregated public schools for Chinese children were established. Ida Louise Jackson (1902–1996), the first African American teacher in the California public school system, was hired in 1926 to teach in Oakland. *Mendez v. Westminster* was a 1947 ruling that led to the desegregation of all California schools (before *Brown v. Board of Education* desegregated U.S. public schools in 1954).

See also *Chinese, Jim Crow laws, and Mendez v. Westminster.*

**Scottish Rite Center,** built as a Masonic lodge in downtown Oakland, is also used for theatrical performances and other events. It is located at **1547 Lakeside Drive on Lake Merritt.**

**Second Gold Rush** is used to describe the huge, diverse migration to the Bay Area of men and women seeking jobs in the war industries during World War II. In 1943, the *San Francisco Chronicle* published an article with the headline: “The Second Gold Rush Hits the West.” (Citation: *The Second Gold Rush: Oakland and the East Bay in World War II* by Marilyn S. Johnson)

**Selma to Montgomery** marches, “Bloody Sunday” (March 7, 1965) and the two marches that followed, were attempts to walk from Selma to Montgomery (the capitol of Alabama) to protest the violation of voting rights for blacks and attacks on civil rights’ workers. The response of Alabama law enforcement against non-violent protestors was vicious. Images of police brutality, printed in newspapers and shown on television across the country and around the world, helped change public opinion about the challenges that African Americans faced in the southern states. After witnessing the TV coverage of “Bloody Sunday,” President Lyndon Baines Johnson met with Alabama Governor George Wallace to try to persuade Wallace to stop the harassment of the protesters. On March 15, 1965, Johnson presented a bill to Congress which later became the *Voting Rights Act*. Here is an excerpt of President Johnson's speech to Congress: *Even if we pass this bill, the battle will not be over. What happened in Selma is part of a far larger movement which reaches into every section and state of America. It is the effort of American Negroes to secure for themselves the full blessings of American life. Their cause must be our cause, too, because it is not just Negroes but really it is all of us who must overcome the crippling legacy of bigotry and injustice. And we shall overcome.*

*Sepia-tint* is a photographic printing process used in the nineteenth century. See also *Tintype.*

**Seventh Street** was the main business street of West Oakland. It thrived as a vibrant music and entertainment scene with over forty nightclubs and bars. Music legends such as Count Basie, Billie Holiday, Ray Charles, and Big Mama Thornton played on Seventh Street. It
was the birthplace of West Coast blues, fusing Texas blues and urban swing. The legendary Saunders King had a nationwide hit with “S.K. Blues,” one of the first records to feature an electric guitar. Lowell Fulson’s “San Francisco Blues,” Bob Geddins (“the Godfather of Oakland Blues”), Big Town Records (Seventh and Center), and Wolf Records (Seventh and Willow) were seminal musical influences on both contemporary and younger generations. The center for Mexican music was at Seventh and Market with a Spanish-language music store and barbershop. The music scene continued to thrive throughout the 1940s and 1950s, but in the 1960s, West Oakland and Seventh Street received several harsh blows: the 1958 division of West Oakland from the city by the I-880 overpass (or Cypress freeway, destroyed in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake); the 1960 construction of the massive Oakland Main Post Office which demolished blocks of houses; and the 1970 construction of BART and the system’s refusal to build its West Oakland station underground.

Visit website of the Bay Area Blues Society at www.bayareabluessociety.net

Scheherazade is a fictional storyteller and narrator of One Thousand and One Nights (often referred to in English as Arabian Nights). See also Arabian Nights.

Shellmounds are large heaps of shells and other materials found near Native American settlements. Some also served as gravesites where the community buried their dead. Over 400 shellmounds once ringed San Francisco Bay. Shellmound sites and the few remaining shellmounds are regarded as sacred sites of Native American culture. The Emeryville Shellmound was a massive archaeological deposit along the mouth of Temescal Creek between Oakland and Berkeley. It was originally reported as over 60 feet high and approximately 100 yards long. From the 1870s until 1924, Shellmound Park was an amusement park with a dance pavilion on top of the shellmound. After the amusement park, a paint company was erected on the site (1925–1999). When the company closed, the site was declared a “brownfield” or toxic site. In 2005, the Bay Street Mall opened in Emeryville on the site of the shellmound. Inside the mall is a small garden with commemorative plaques about the Ohlone. An annual protest (called “Don’t Buy Anything Day”) against the desecration of an Ohlone sacred site is held at the mall on the Friday after Thanksgiving.

Most local shellmounds are hidden underground with nothing to identify them. A few exist, such as the shellmound at the base of San Bruno Mountain and the shellmound in Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont. See also Ohlone.

Look online for historic photographs of local shellmounds before they were destroyed.

In October, visit the Gathering of Ohlone Peoples with music, dance, crafts, and food at Coyote Hills Regional Park, 8000 Patterson Ranch Road, Fremont. Contact www ebparks org/parks/coyote_hills or 888-327-2757. Free and open to the public.

Sickle cell anemia is a hereditary disease mostly found in Africans or those of African descent. The hemoglobin or red blood cells are distorted into a crescent shape, a shape that may...
have originally occurred to increase resistance to malaria. The shape of the cells impedes the blood flow, especially through tiny blood vessels in the chest, abdomen, and joints. There is no cure. Although it was the first extensively studied genetic disease in the United States (starting in 1910), the studies did not extend to education campaigns, genetic screening, community participation, or other practical measures, such as research for cures.

In 1970, “money raised for sickle-cell anemia (research and treatment) was grossly disproportionate per capita to other diseases such as cystic fibrosis or muscular dystrophy, which occur primarily in Caucasian populations:

**New Disease Cases in 1970 and Money Raised:**
- 1,155 new cases of sickle-cell disease – $50,000
- 1,296 new cases of cystic fibrosis – $1,900,000
- 813 new cases of muscular dystrophy – $7,900,000

“In 1970 there were no sickle-cell foundations, no celebrities had ever chaired a committee or hosted a telethon for sickle cell anemia, and the disease was known to most of the bio-medical community largely as an ‘interesting pathology’ that illustrated conceptual issues relating to the molecular basis of disease, population genetics, and evolution. Its frequent appearance in textbooks stood in marked contrast to its virtual absence in the consciousness of U.S. health-care professionals. In other words, sickle-cell anemia was well-known throughout the bio-medical community but no one was doing very much about trying to help people afflicted with the disease.”

In 1971, the Black Panther Party announced an education campaign and screening for sickle cell at their free health clinics. Their public denunciation of the medical establishment led to the founding of the Mid-Peninsula Sickle Cell Foundation by African American medical students at Stanford University. In 1971, President Nixon sent a six million dollar request to Congress to combat sickle cell anemia. “This is surely the one and only time that Richard Nixon and the Black Panther Party were on the same side of any issue.” (Citations: “Sickle Cell, Treatment and Political Aspects,” Natural Learning Center, Washington University in St. Louis, [www.nscl.wustl.edu/sicklecell/part4/treatment.html](http://www.nscl.wustl.edu/sicklecell/part4/treatment.html); and *Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight Against Medical Discrimination* by Alondra Nelson)

**See also Black Panther Party.**

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*Slave* is a person who is the property of another person and whose rights have been negated and denied. Slavery has existed since ancient times and exists today with an estimated twenty million people living as slaves.

Regarding the treatment of slaves in the Americas, Ned Sublette writes in his book, *The World That Made New Orleans*: “In short, under Spanish law, the slave was treated more as a human being, albeit an enslaved one than under French law. British law regarding slaves was even harsher than French law, and its most severe aspects would be further developed in the southern United States.... [speaking of slaves under Spanish domination in Louisiana] They could speak in their ancestral languages and play their drums: they had a past. With the right of self-purchase, they had a future. Enslaved people in English-speaking America were not permitted to have either one.”

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Slow violence is a term for chronic social ills that affect the health and well-being of impoverished people, often for generations. (Author’s source: talk by activist-scholar, Angela Davis) Note: Rob Nixon uses the term “slow violence” and is the author of *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor.*

Southern Pacific station at *Sixteenth and Wood Streets* was one of several train stations that served Oakland in the early twentieth century. It opened in 1912. For decades, it was a major station of the Southern Pacific (SP) and local commuter lines and the destination for thousands of people coming to Oakland during World War II. The station was closed by Amtrak in the 1980s and is currently (2014) part of a redevelopment project.

Speak Truth to Power is reputed to be a Quaker (also known as “Friends”) phrase dating back to the eighteenth century. The phrase can mean that truth-speaking may have dangerous consequences with those in power (king, nation state, corporation) but inherently truth has a power of its own.

Squatting is occupying property illegally.

Strike is a work stoppage by laborers to protest working conditions, wages, benefits, or discrimination, or to support a bargaining position. Oakland has a long labor history that includes many strikes. Railroad strikes occurred in 1894 (led by Eugene Debs) and in 1911. In October 1919, 1,100 streetcar and ferry operators from the Key System waged a ten-day strike. The waterfront was filled with conflict over wages and working conditions on the docks and in the warehouses. In 1919, some 60,000 Bay Area longshoreman went out on strike for ten months, which ended poorly for the workers. In May 1934, there was a famous 82-day strike by longshoremen on the Pacific coast, including Oakland teamsters and dockworkers. In July, the strike turned bloody in San Francisco, igniting a “general strike” which included 70 East Bay unions. Key System employees shut down transbay ferry service and streetcars. The strike proved successful for workers, leading to wage increases and reformed hiring practices.

During World War II, the most powerful unions agreed to a NO-STRIKE pledge in exchange for “closed” shop and higher wages. Although “closed” shop protected work places from non-union workers, it was also a tactic to enforce discrimination against non-white workers.

A “general strike” occurred in Oakland in 1946 to support 425 clerks who worked at two downtown department stores. In support of the clerks, 100,000 workers from 142 AFL (American Federation of Labor) unions went out on strike. The Oakland Key System streetcar workers played key roles in the strike. “They hadn’t fought what they believed to be a ‘war against fascism’ to return home and have their strikes broken and unions housebroken” (quoted from Stan Weir). The strike ended after 54 hours when
AFL unions were ordered back to work. The retail clerks had failed to organize a union or negotiate their grievances with store management.

OCCUPY OAKLAND called for a “general strike” on November 2, 2011, which several local unions unofficially supported. The strike included a massive demonstration downtown and a march to the Port of Oakland.

See also **Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Executive Order 8802, Farm workers, Filipino, Unions, and Wildcat strike.**


**Suffrage** is the right to vote. Today, most adult U.S. citizens can vote, but this was not always true. Following the Civil War, the Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (1870) prohibited using race, color, or previous servitude as a disqualification for voting. However, gender was not addressed.

Suffrage was an important women’s issue in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Well-to-do women established clubs that were dedicated to self-education, humane services, and civic improvements, including suffrage. **The Carrier Dove** was an Oakland newspaper (1883–1893) devoted to women’s suffrage.

At first, women’s suffrage was not embraced by all women. Working-class women were suspicious of what the vote would mean for them. Their primary interest lay in workers’ rights and family health care. However, by 1907, union women were also advocating for suffrage as a way to gain better conditions for working women.

Race was also an issue as the women’s suffrage movement often excluded women of color. In California, black women responded to segregation and the fight for suffrage by establishing their own clubs. In 1876, the Oakland Literary Aid Society was formed. The State Federation of Colored Women’s Clubs was founded in 1906 and the Northern Federation of Colored Women’s Clubs in 1913.

Women and sympathetic men adopted many tactics and strategies to win the vote. California women won the right to vote in 1911. Elsewhere, the fight continued. In 1912, there was a twelve-day hike to the statehouse in New York, and a 225-mile walk from New Jersey to Washington, D.C. The National Women’s Party staged the first picket at the White House. Called “Silent Sentinels,” they were present every day except Sunday from January 1917 to June 1919. Over 1,000 women participated, and many were arrested. Ultimately, these arrests at the White House were found to be illegal, which helped ensure the right to protest there today. In 1920, the Twenty-First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution recognized women’s right to vote. (Citation: **California Women and Politics: From the Gold Rush to the Great Depression**, Robert W. Cherny, Mary Ann Irwin, Ann Marie Wilson, editors)

“Over 5.8 Americans are forbidden to vote because of ‘felon disenfranchisement,’ or laws restricting voting rights for those convicted of felony-level crimes.” (Citation: from The Sentencing Project, “State-Level Estimates of Felon Disenfranchisement in the United States, 2010” by Christopher Uggen and Sarah Shannon, University of Minnesota and Jeff Manza, New York University, July 2012)
Visit historical photos and article online: “100 years later, lessons from the sufferin’ suffragettes,” The Arts of Protest by Nadine Bloch, March 3, 2013.

Suffragists (also called suffragettes) were women and sympathetic men who organized, protested, petitioned, marched, and committed acts of civil disobedience to secure the right for women to vote. They wore pins, buttons, sashes, and clothes in the colors of white (for purity), gold (for hope), and purple (for dignity).
See also Suffrage.

Survival programs. See Black Panther Party.

Swing dance describes a group of dances that developed with the swing style of jazz music (1920s–1950s) associated with the Big Band era. The best known of these dances is the Lindy Hop, a popular partner dance that originated in Harlem in 1927 and is still danced today. Into the 1920s and 1930s, every major city had its own way to swing dance, based on regional roots and influences.

Watch the Lindy Hop on YouTube.

Tallow is made from animal fat and used to make candles and soap. After cattle were slaughtered for meat and hides, the fat was rendered into tallow.
See also Cattle hides and Render.

Taro is a tropical plant with a thick root that can be boiled and eaten, common in Asian cuisine.

Tassa is the nickname for Tassafaronga Village Apartments on Eighty-fourth Avenue, a public housing project originally built in 1966 and rebuilt in 2010. “When Tassafaronga Village, a mixed-income development, opened in East Oakland two years ago, it replaced a compound of grim, crumbling, low-rise concrete buildings penned in by a gated fence. The complex was a typical, segregated 1960s housing project, on contaminated land between an industrial belt and a gritty stretch of single-family houses, notoriously dangerous.” (Citation: “Design as Balm for a Community’s Soul–Tassafaronga Village and Richardson Apartments in Bay Area” by Michael Kimmelman, The New York Times, October 10, 2012)

Tassafaronga Point is located on the north shore of Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands in the South Pacific Ocean. The original housing project was likely named for the Battle of Tassafaronga, a naval battle between the United States and Japan in November 1942.

TB is the abbreviation for tuberculosis, a contagious and often deadly disease that plagued the population for decades before the invention of antibiotics. Factory workers were susceptible to infectious diseases because of unsanitary working conditions and exhausting 12–14 hour workdays. Tuberculosis is still a health hazard. (Citation: “Tuberculosis Infection in Oakland, CA 1997-2001: At-Risk Populations and Predicting ‘Hot Spots,’ An Analysis Method Combining Kernel Density Estimation Mapping with Regression,” Report by the Urban Strategies Council, November 2002)
Telescopes at Chabot Space & Science Center at 10000 Skyline Boulevard are Leah, Rachel, and Nellie. The two original telescopes, Leah and Rachel, came with the observatory from downtown to the hills. The three telescopes are Leah, an 8-inch refractor type (acquired 1883); Rachel, 20-inch refractor type (acquired 1915); and Nellie, a modern 38-inch reflector type (acquired 2003).
See also Chabot Space & Science Center.

On Friday and Saturday evenings, the telescopes at Chabot are open and free to the public (weather permitting). Contact www.chabotspace.org or (510) 336-7300.

Temescal is a Nahuatl or Aztec word that Spanish missionaries carried north from Mexico to Alta California. It means “bathhouse” or “sweat house.” The Temescal section of North Oakland was named after an Ohlone sweat house built on the area’s major creek.

Ten Point Program. See Black Panther Party.

Three-Fifths Compromise (1787) was the enticement that drafters of the U.S. Constitution used to persuade southern slaveholding states to join the new union after the American Revolution. For the purpose of taxation and representation in Congress, enslaved Africans and their offspring would count as three-fifths of a human being. At the end of the Civil War, there were four million formerly enslaved Africans and their offspring in the South and 500,000 “free blacks” mostly in the North.
See also Dehumanize, Fugitive, and Slave.

Tintype is a photographic printing process used in the nineteenth century.
See also Sepia-tint.

Tolerance is empathy or indulgence for beliefs or practices and physical and cultural differences that are unfamiliar or conflict with one's own.
See also You Can’t Say You Can’t Play.

Tongs are Chinese family associations that provide services to the Chinese community. Tongs were important resources that Chinese immigrants could rely on during difficult times.
See also Chinese.

Topaz was one of ten internment camps for Japanese and Japanese Americans. Topaz was located in central Utah in the Sevier Desert, elevation 4,600 feet above sea level, and subject to high winds and extreme temperatures. It reached its maximum population in March 1943 at approximately 8,000 internees. Most Bay Area Japanese Americans were interned at Topaz.
See also Internment camps.

Supplemental reading: Books about a young person’s experience of the camps include Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston, Journey to Topaz by Yoshiko Uchida, and Camp Notes and Other Writings by
Mitsuye Yamada. Watch the PBS documentary film, Mitsuye and Nellie: Two Asian-American Woman Poets.

Toque (French word) is a type of hat with a narrow brim or no brim, often worn by professional cooks.

Tourniquet (French word) is a device for stopping the flow of blood, typically by compression with a cord or tight bandage.

Trallik is a Native American game played with sticks that are rolled like dice. See also Ohlone games.

Transcontinental railroad was completed on May 10, 1869 when a gold spike was driven into the track at Promontory Summit, Utah. The sound of the hammer on the spike was wired to a telegraph line coast-to-coast so the event could be heard nationwide. Oakland was the western terminus for the railroad. Instead of weeks and months, travel across the continent took approximately eight days. To build the railroad, many Chinese were employed to tunnel through the mountains. The work was often slow and dangerous. Some tunnels took a year or more to complete.

In 1875, the “Lightning Train” traveled from New Jersey to Oakland in 83 hours and 39 minutes. By 1911, three transcontinental railroads (Central Pacific, Southern Pacific, and Western Pacific) converged in Oakland. Along with local streetcars, 1,600 trains traveled daily in and around the city. During World War II, Oakland was a transportation hub for ships, trucks, and rail. See also Chinese and Coolie.

Tule (pronounced too-lee) is a large bulrush that grows in the marshy areas of California.

Turf dance is a form of American street dance that originated in Oakland. The term is credited to dancer Jeriel Bey, who created it as an acronym for Taking Up Room on the Floor.

Watch http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JQRRnAhmB58

UFW stands for United Farm Workers. See also Farm workers and Filipino.

Union is an organization formed by workers to improve wages, work hours, working conditions, benefits, and job security from employers. Oakland has long been an industrial city with railroads, harbors, car manufacturers, mills, and canneries among others. The efforts of workers to unionize is checkered with successes and failures. (Citation: No There There: Race, Class, and Political Community in Oakland by Chris Rhomberg) See also Auxiliary Unions, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Executive Order 8802, Farm workers, Filipino, and Strike.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is a declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948 in Paris. The Declaration arose from the experience of World War II and represents the first global expression of rights to which
all human beings are inherently entitled. It was drafted under the leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt. It is available in 500 languages.

Visit online www.un.org

*Vaqueros* (from *vaca* or cow) were herdsmen or cowboys for thousands of head of cattle, horses, and sheep that belonged to the *Californios*. They were usually either Ohlone or landless Mexicans. *Buckaroo* is the English version of *vaquero*.

*Vertical gardens* or green walls (also called “living walls”) are either free-standing walls or part of a building, partially or completely covered with vegetation, a concept that dates back to 600 BCE with the “Hanging Gardens of Babylon.” The modern green wall was invented by Stanley Hart White in the 1930s at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign).

*Victorian* describes many things, including a style of architecture, related to the reign of Queen Victoria (1837–1901) or simply that period of time. Great Britain was the dominant power in the nineteenth century, and Queen Victoria’s influence was worldwide. See also *Mansion* and *Preservation Park*.

*Victory gardens* were promoted during World War II to address food shortages and widen the participation of the war effort. The U.S. government often supplied seeds and gardening expertise. When African Americans arrived to the Bay Area, they brought their experience of rural life with them, including gardening.


*Violence* is a means for a person or group of persons to establish domination over others. Lethal weapons, enslavement, and war are tools of violence. However, chronic poverty and poor access to health care and quality education are also forms of violence. See also *Genocide*, *Slave*, and *Slow violence*.

*Wannuk* is a Native American guessing game. See also *Ohlone games*.

*West Coast blues*. See *Seventh Street*.

*Whalers* were sailors that hunted whales for their oil. Whales were slaughtered by the millions.

The most famous book about hunting whales is *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville (published 1841). *Two Years Before the Mast* by Richard Henry Dana, Jr. (published 1840) is an account of a young sailor’s life. *Jack London* went to work on a sealing ship.
(hunting seals) at the age of 17 and from his experiences, he wrote *The Sea-Wolf* (published 1904).

*Wildcat strike* is a strike action taken by workers without the authorization or approval of union officials.

See also *Strike* and *Union*.

*Winnowing basket* is shaped to separate the edible portion (grain) from the inedible portion (chaff, husk, or shell) of the plant.

*World War II* (1939–1945) began with the German invasion of Poland (August 31, 1939), prompting France and Great Britain to declare war on Germany (September 3, 1939). Eventually, the war included most of the nations of the world. It caused the greatest loss of life and material destruction of any war in history, killing 25 million military personnel and 30 million civilians. The United States entered the war after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (December 7, 1941).

See also *Executive Order 9066*, *Internment camps*, *Oakland Army Base*, and *Topaz*.

Workers’ compensation is a federal insurance program that protects workers and their families by paying money for injuries and deaths on the job.

*YA (Youth Authority)* is the former name of the California Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), a division of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

*Yerba Buena* means “good herb.” It is of Spanish origin and refers to several aromatic plants, mostly in the mint family. Yerba Buena is the former name of San Francisco. Until 1848 and the treaty that ended the U.S.-Mexican War, it was the settlement nearest to the Presidio of San Francisco and the Mission San Francisco de Asís (known today as Mission Dolores). It is the current name of an island in San Francisco Bay.

See also *Goat Island*.

*Yéye* means “grandfather” in Chinese.

*YOLO* is an acronym for “You only live once.”

*You Can’t Say You Can’t Play* is a book and classroom experiment by educator, Vivian Gussin Paley.

Listen to interview with Vivian Gussin Paley on “This American Life” 27: The Cruelty of Children, JUN 21, 1996 (11 minutes)

*Zócalo* is a public square or plaza in Mexico.

*Zoot suit* was a style of dressing especially popular in the 1940s Latino subculture, identified by high-waisted, baggy pants pegged at the ankle, long jackets with wide lapels and shoulder padding, extremely long watch chains dangling from the belt to the knee, fedora hats, and pointy boots or shoes. Zoot suits were also popular with African Americans and
Italian Americans as well as hip musicians. A young Malcolm X described the zoot suit as: “a killer-diller coat with a drape shape, reet pleats and shoulders padded like a lunatic's cell.”

The Zoot Suit Riots occurred in June 1943 in Los Angeles between white sailors and Marines and Latino youths (recognizable by their zoot suits). African American and Filipino youth were also involved. The attacks were racially motivated and triggered similar attacks against Latinos in other cities, including Oakland.