

## **Ohhh My Orinda      Forward**

I don't know why I thought I should present this material.

Since eventually growing up, kind of, I have always felt lucky to have been raised where and when I was, with two parents and four grandparents who loved me unconditionally even though I was always getting into some kind of trouble.

**Orinda is located right in between two world shaping cultural influences.**

To the East lies the recently settled Wild West of ranchers, farmers, and businesspeople whose families were dissatisfied with their prior historical living conditions and came to California, hoping for something better.

To the West is the Pacific Ocean and the grand Gold Rush city of San Francisco with its many tendrils and connections to the Far East.

UC Berkeley is right over the hill.

**Great minds and determined hard working people have always populated Orinda.**

The entire San Francisco Bay Area is a wonderfully functioning melting pot of cultures, races, and societies. People come from all over the world just to quickly take in a few of our unique tourist attractions, and mix with the fascinating people who live here.

We are fortunate to be a part of the ongoing history of a wonderful planet.

James Tyrrell Benney 2026