How Do We Save Japantown?
San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Jose
Preserving California’s Japantowns

Selected Communities for Study

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Sacramento

San Francisco

Oakland

San Jose

Watsonville

Petaluma

Isleton

Berkeley

Sebastopol

Vacaville

Pine Grove

Lodi

Stockton

Cortez

Newcastle

Penryn

Loomis

Florin

Marysville

Auburn

Central Valley

Fresno

Fowler

Visalia

Santa Maria

Lompoc

Santa Barbara

Oxnard

Glendale

Pasadena

Santa Monica

Venice

Sawtelle

San Pedro

Terminal Island

Bakersfield

Central Coast

Guadalupe

Santa Maria

Brawley

San Diego

Southern California

San Diego

Brawley

El Centro

San Diego

Brawley

El Centro

Historic Japantowns

Existing Japantowns

0 100 miles

Historic Resource Surveys Conducted in 48 Communities
The Role of the Survey and Historic Context

Survey as Foundation for Potential Benefits

- Potential to Identify San Francisco Landmarks (Article 10)
- Potential to Nominate Individual Properties to the California and/or National Registers of Historic Places
- Potential to Nominate a Japantown Historic District at the local or national level
- Potential to become part of a National Heritage Corridor
Figure 5.1: Map of Community Heritage Features in Japantown

Japantown’s community heritage features are elements of the neighborhood that provide important connections to culture and history through use, association, design, and memory. Community heritage features include institutions, businesses, buildings, objects, and sites that have special meanings, functions, and roles in sustaining and continuing the cultural community of Japantown. Further research may update or revise these findings.

Prepared by Matt Weintraub, San Francisco Planning Department.

Resource Name: Benkyo-do Manju Shop
Prepared By: Page & Turnbull (JGL)

District: 5
Date: 11/5/2012

Location:
a. Address: 1745-1747 Buchanan Street
Block: 0686 Lot: 035
b. Neighborhood: Japantown
c. City: San Francisco

Type of Resource:
a. Tangible: □ Site □ Structure □ Building □ Object
□ Intangible: □ Organization/Institution □ Business □ Cultural Event □ Traditional Art/Craft/Practice

Type of Use: Active/Inactive: Active

Description (attach continuation sheets if needed):
The following are excerpts from various reports regarding Japantown:


- The business reopened quickly following Japanese internment (JHCS:49).

- “The family-run business, Benkyodo Manju Company, remains one of the oldest businesses in Japantown. Hirofumi Okamura ... operated the store for 30 years before his sons Bobby and Ricky took over.” (JIOA:90) (Continued)