CULTURAL AND HERITAGE RESOURCES

GOAL

Preserve the cultural and heritage resources of Greater North Park.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

To date, no group or individual has undertaken a comprehensive survey of the cultural and heritage resources of Greater North Park. While the community is known to contain a number of Gill houses, early bungalow courts and excellent examples of California bungalow style houses, the full extent to which these and other cultural and heritage resources exist in Greater North Park is unknown. In addition, Greater North Park is a repository of Art Deco architecture and, together with the Uptown community plan area, contains the largest concentration of Egyptian Revival architecture in the country. **Figure 21** is a map indicating some known potential historic sites and districts.

OBJECTIVES

- Undertake a comprehensive historical and architectural survey of the cultural and heritage resources of Greater North Park.
- Establish a list of buildings and neighborhoods for historic designation.
- Establish a program for the identification of potential funding for historic preservation.

It is possible that portions of Greater North Park could be considered for historic district status. Until a comprehensive historical and architectural survey can be undertaken of the community by appropriate organizations or individuals competent in those fields, the full extent of historical and architectural sites in the community will not be known.

The 1981 Economic Recovery Tax Act provides significant tax incentives (investment tax credits) which can be used by the owners of commercial property, which is either non-historic or 30 or 40 years old, or is historic and at least 50 years old. The use of this tax incentive would assist in the revitalization of older commercial areas as well as older apartment buildings.

Any proposed use of federal money for housing rehabilitation, park development, or commercial revitalization should require a review of the project's affect on historic resources. Since no survey has been conducted to identify historic resources, analysis of proposed projects would result in a piecemeal approach to discovery of the community's cultural resources. Therefore, a comprehensive survey or survey program would help to identify sites in advance of specific project planning and assist the community and the City in planning for and programming revitalization projects.

Areas within Greater North Park which should be given consideration for preservation and inclusion in historic districts include, but should not be limited to: the Burlingame neighborhood; Park Boulevard south of Robinson Avenue; and the single-family neighborhood around the northeast sector of Balboa Park.



IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

- 1. Establish a comprehensive survey program of historically and architecturally significant buildings and neighborhoods.
- 2. Identify potential funding for historic preservation.
- 3. Encourage the utilization of the 1981 Economic Recovery Tax Act in the revitalization of older commercial areas.
- 4. Establish a review process for projects using federal money for housing rehabilitation, park development, or commercial revitalization in order to determine the impacts of individual projects on historic resources.