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## **Conservation of Chinatown Area in Pasuruan**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The aims of this study are to identify and to analyze the changes of characteristic of Pasuruan's Chinatown through the element of area, history, socio culture, law consideration, and vernacular architecture, especially on façade and ornament of the building. The method used in this study is descriptive, evaluative, and explorative with a qualitative approach. The landmark is the Chinese temple, node is a center of activity, the district is the trading, and the path is roadways with grid systems. Objects of the research is building that can be classified into three periods of time built, the which are <1800-1840 period Empire style that has Indisch that quite famous in Indonesia since 18<sup>th</sup> century until 1840, the 1850-1890 period, the which represent two different styles the which are Voor 1900 1900 NA style and style, and from 1900 to 1945 period is more influenced by the which Romantiek 1915-1930 style. Perpetuation guide for the physical building preservation for seven buildings have high potential, conservation for 22 buildings have middle potential, and rehabilitation for 17 buildings have low potential. Perpetuation guide for the region are guidance for elements of area, activity limitation function, and make-region identity.

**Keywords:** characteristics, facade, ornaments, Chinatown.

### INTRODUCTION

Almost all cities in Indonesia have a Chinatown area that has a function as an area center for trade and settlement for ethnic Chinese. Visually, the buildings in Chinese architectural style in Pasuruan numerous exist in Jl. Soekarno-Hatta, Jl. Hasanuddin, and the surrounding area, which located be in the north of *alun-alun*. The observation is also reinforced by the *klenteng* in the area, which not only serves as a place of worship, but also has a big role in the life of the Chinese community in the past. [1] This is consistent with the expression Tillema in Handinoto [2], that in typical Javanese cities in the colonial period in terms of spatial planning and the building is consist of *alun-alun*, mosques, government offices, prisons, and Chinatown. Recently in the Chinatown area the building still stands with application of Chinese culture, with a curved roof forms in Chinese architecture called gable roof parallel gavel. In addition, the thick walls, high ceilings, marble floors, and front and rear porch area also indicate a European-style building which located in the Chinatown area of Pasuruan City. According Handinoto [2], a mixture of architectural styles of China-Europe exist in Pasuruan not necessarily exist in the coastal cities of Java to another, so the style of architecture in the Chinatown area in Pasuruan be called "Chinese of Pasuruan".

Imitate the form of colonial buildings have been greatly influenced several buildings in Indonesia, especially Pasuruan and their surrounding areas. Through the existing form, can be seen the style or architectural language is growing in Pasuruan at that time. [3] Knowing the style of the building can be done by studying the shape of the building and its elements which arranged. One form that can characterize the building is a building face. The face of the building has specific characteristics which can be indicate on the culture and social status of its owner, the prosperity of colonial architecture and their development which enriched the architecture archipelago.

One of the elements building forms that is "ornament" which is the art and aesthetic elements of a residential building. "Ornament" in buildings can be either decorative (ornamental), which form the composition of the elements of art in the form of points, lines (linear and apparent), shape and space, texture, color and materials. These factors are influenced by the language of building that occurred this time, the social, economic, religion, faith, politics, and environment.

The development of the area both in provisions in changes of land use or building less attention to historical aspects that are owned by the Chinatown area Pasuruan city, such as the existence of new buildings that form of the building is not reflect the situation it surrounding, and change the face of the building from its original form, so that the historical impression in architecture form of mixed Chinese-European in the area is faded. Existing policy of cultural heritage preservation has not been representing the context, so these changes of ancient buildings are occurred.

Looking at it from economic and social aspects, the position of the Chinese settlements in the area is favorable, because it is near the market town. Be located on the edge of the road which constitutes an axis road in Pasuruan City (Niaga Street), and on the edge of the main road that connects Surabaya and Probolinggo (Soekarno-Hatta Street). [4]

The case study of ornamentation or decoration residential buildings is attractive for further investigation. Conservation efforts and protection of historic buildings, proper ornamental in residential buildings is the beginning to attract public interest to be more concerned with the existence of the old building as a collection of human development civilization. [5] Dynamics of the city become a certain thing that is not avoidable because there is no city that have static characteristic, so the conservation actions is constitute one of the efforts conduct in city planning to show the identity of an area.

Therefore the study of conservation of Chinatown in Pasuruan argue about the characteristics of Chinatown area, typology of building façade and ornamentation of the old buildings, and formulate the direction of conservation of the old buildings in Chinatown area.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The method used to achieve the objectives in this study is qualitative approach with descriptive methods, evaluative, and exploratory.

## 1. Sampling Methods

The sample in this study is the old buildings located in the area of study number is 46 buildings, which means the samples of community are taken also as many as 46 people who are owners of these old buildings. Sample as many as 46 buildings in accordance with the number of population in the study area.

Samples for the discussion of typology of building's façade and ornaments are as many as 31 buildings because the owners of 15 buildings have no pleasure in the remaining samples of the building used as a study object. (Figure 1)



Figure 1 Sample distribution buildings.

### 2. Data Analysis Methods

- a. The first stage: to analyze the characteristics of the area
- 1. Review policy of Pasuruan City, which covers the center of activity, patterns of land use, and conservation policies towards objects of cultural heritage in Pasuruan.
- Analysis element of the forming physical area, which includes using of land, circulation and parking, and pedestrian.
- 3. Analysis element of the image area, which includes landmarks, nodes, paths, and the district.
- 4. Socio-cultural analysis
- 5. Physical and non physical characteristics of old buildings and public perception of conservation.
- b. The second stage: investigate typology façade of old buildings in Chinatown area in Pasuruan City.
  - 1. Identification typology façade of buildings; and
  - 2. Analysis of typology façade of buildings.
- c. The third stage: investigate typology decoration of old buildings in Chinatown area in Pasuruan City.
  - 1. Identification of typology decoration; and
  - 2. Analysis of typology decorative.
- d. The fourth stage: formulating a directive to carry out certain conservation of Chinatown area in Pasuruan City.
  - 1. Directive to carry out certain conservation of physical old buildings;
  - 2. Directive to carry out certain conservation of non-physical; and
  - 3. Directive to carry out certain conservation of an area.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Characteristics of the area
- 1. Review policy of Pasuruan City

The use of land in Pasuruan City based on land use directive contained in the division BWK of Pasuruan City according to RTRW Pasuruan City in the year 2002-2012 (IV-6). The study area included in the BWK city centre with dominance activity as the center of government, trade and service center and the center of social activity. According to RTRW Pasuruan City, which are included in objects of cultural heritage, are old buildings, historic buildings, and historic elements of the street, open space, parks, field sports, and cultural social values. Policy towards conservation of cultural heritage objects, especially the old buildings, which include the type, shape location and boundaries of land established by a decision of district leader. However, until recently, there has been no legislation that specifically discuss the type, shape location, and land borders of old buildings in the Pasuruan City, so the old buildings are vulnerable to change and reform, especially in the Chinatown area considering as strategic location.

2. The spatial characteristic of the study area is formed by a row of one to two storey buildings with Chinese and Colonial style architecture and their mixtures. Allotment of land use among others for trade and services (especially in Niaga Street corridor), education, offices, places of worship, and settlements. Zone I study area has a modern architectural style in the form of shop, zone II has Chinese and Chinese-Colonial architectural styles. (Figure 2)







Figure 2 Typology of buildings in each zone.

Zoning division in the area based on function land use which dominant and natural boundaries, i.e. rivers and street networks. The street network in the Chinatown area consists of a primary arterial, collector primary, secondary collector, and there have been pedestrian path along the street. But the pedestrian path in the corridor of Niaga Street mixed with the existence of street vendors, so that

pedestrians to spill into the street. This resulted in the effective width of the pedestrian path at Niaga Street does not fit the standard in terms of effective width. In addition, pedestrian support facilities are also not suitable standard in terms of lighting, signs, shade plants, and garbage disposal. Niaga Street as a city-scale commercial center is also filled with parking on street and rickshaw, further more and more add to the crowds, especially at night.

# 3. Elements of image area

## a. Landmark

Landmark Chinatown area is a temple that has a function as a place worship of Tri Dharma (TITD) and social place of Chinese community. (Figure 3)



Figure 3 Tjoe Tik Kiong temples as a *landmark*.

## b. Node

In the colonial period, the intersection temple is a *node*, because the intersection is easily to remember with the existence of the temple as a *landmark* and as a center of social activity in Chinese community at that time. *Node* is another crossroads to downtown, because this crossroads is a road to the center of trade (Chinatown). (Figure. 4)



Figure 4 Intersections in Niaga Street.

### c. District

In the colonial period, *district* in the area is the form of trade which placed to the east and Chinese traditional settlements in a place behind the trade area. At present, the *district* is still have the shape of trading and settlement, but settlement began to grow rapidly, so the traditional settlements mixed with modern settlements. (Figure 5)



Figure 5 Shop house buildings dominate the district.

## d. Path

The street network which exists in the area consists of three main pathways that direct to the north and south and east to the west in the form of primary artery street and secondary. Besides the main street is also connected to the local street network and the environment within the residential areas that create the vertical and horizontal lines, thus dividing the settlement into several blocks. It can be concluded that the street network which exist in the area have a grid patterned.



Figure 6 The main street.

### 4. Social and cultural conditions

A total of 30 respondents (65%) of 46 respondent's owners of the old building' means of livelihood as a merchant, while 35% is working as civil servants and private sector. The area of Chinatown in Pasuruan indicate the presence of the structure of community and the built environment that have a

special characteristic orientation, based on ancestral tradition and beliefs profess, viewed from cultural criteria that are completeness. Criteria of physical culture the Chinatown area in Pasuruan consists of religious and ritual systems, systems and community organizations, knowledge systems, languages, art, livelihood systems, and technology systems and equipment. [9] The criteria of non-physical culture is consisting a location, elements, place, name, system orientation, color, texture, and space, with a special type, and interesting people.



Figure 7 Temple and ornamentation typical building elements.

## 9. Recommendation Preservation

- Measurement of the cultural meaning of old buildings result of high potential of 8 buildings, the medium potential as 21 buildings, and low potentially 17 buildings;
- Directive physical conservation of the area consists of creating a traditional atmosphere, integration
  variety of functions, strengthen the identity of the area consists of the manufacture of design guidelines,
  preserving circulation patterns, preserving the structure activity and visual which exist and
  strengthened with the laying of new nodes as landmarks, and determination elements historic street
  including Niaga Street;



Figure 8 Elitism of the old buildings in the area.



Figure 9 Ornamentation of the old buildings in the area.

- Directive physical conservation of old buildings include preservation activities amounting to 8 buildings, conservation activities amounting to 24 buildings, and rehabilitation/renovation amounting to 14 buildings; and
- Directive non-physical conservation includes the legal aspects, economic aspects, and social cultural aspects. The concept of conservation of the legal aspect is through the issuance of regulations regarding the conservation and implemented through the spatial plan products. Giving material sanctions will also apply to the owner/officer of the old buildings that violate the regulations on conservation activities in the area. [6] Economic aspects include providing subsidies and tax relief in the maintenance of old buildings which is owned/manage. Awards also given to the owner/manager of the old buildings in order to motivate the owner/manager in doing conservation of old buildings. [7] [8] Social cultural aspects include the protection and enhancement of cultural arts activities and the provision of facilities for the existence of art is found in the area.

## **CONCLUSION**

From the analysis conducted to answer the problem formulation in this study, obtained the following conclusion: Not exist yet a policy of a technical character in conservation of old buildings in the Chinatown area in Pasuruan City. The pattern of land use in the area is divided into two parts, based on the dominant functions and natural boundaries, where Zone I is the area of trade, and Zone II is a residential area. Circulation in the area consists of a primary arterial, primary collector and secondary collectors with direct current and two-way. Pedestrian in the corridor Niaga Street has not been effective fulfill wide standards and completeness of supporting facilities. Need the activities of conservation for the old buildings which in the form of preservation, conservation, and reconstruction/renovation in accordance with the conservation potential of each building. Need to creation the traditional atmosphere in the corridor of Niaga Street as the concept of conservation to preserve the spirit of Niaga Street as a commercial area and part of the Chinatown area. Need the planning concepts concerning the functions and land use which adapted to the conservation of activities is important to be implemented considering the main factor causing the change of old buildings and the environment in the area is the location factor, building functions, and economy.

## Suggestion for the future study

Accompanying some recommendations that can be used as an input from the study of conservation area of Chinatown is as follows: The city government needs to make policy that includes guidelines and technical implementation the concept of conservation in Chinatown area of Pasuruan. Conservation activities that have been done by most owners/managers of old buildings in order to keep and the city government is expected to be able to give the award to the owner/manager of an old building in the Chinatown area of Pasuruan. For further

study it is suggested in order to the determination of old buildings is done by considering other aspects besides the cultural meaning, such as aspects of economic value, physical condition, social and cultural aspects of a building. In the area, also can be considered to carry out study more better be connected with urban design elements other than those discussed in this study (land use, buildings, and circulation), such as signage, street equipment, and arrangement of green open space.

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