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AN OLD BUILDING IN THE COLONIAL HERITAGE STYLE OF 1938 APPEARING TODAY AS A MODERN-STYLE BUILDING

(A Case Study of Architectural Conservation of The Cultural Preservation of The Driekleur Building As A BTPN Bank Office in Bandung)

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ABSTRACT

Modernity makes certain demands on banks these days, both in terms of their banking activities and the appearance of their buildings. In Bandung, the 1938 colonial heritage building known as De Driekleur (Tri-color) designed by A.F. Aalbers has been used as the office building of a national private bank (BTPN), still retaining its characteristically modern and stylish look in 2011.

The study of the architectural conservation of this building has been conducted by way of the architectural approach (form-function-meaning) and cultural values (aesthetics, landmark, history, technological aspects, politics, and peculiar features). The purpose of this study is to describe the various building elements in need of conservation (by way of analyzing the aforementioned approach and values) in addition to suggesting the most appropriate kind of conservation and making an evaluation of the actual conservation and its development.

This type of research can be classified as qualitative, employing the descriptive method. Interpreting the function of the building in question has been accomplished through an analysis of the activities and various related aspects, and its form has been "read" through its covering, interior space and related spatial surroundings, while its meaning has been interpreted through the concept of collective meaning (linked to shape, function, and the spirit of the age).

The form of the building in need of conservation consists of its covering (surface composition in massive-transparent, horizontally curved elements made of smooth and rough materials), interior space, and the yard along with its vegetation protecting the building against pollution and traffic noise. The architectural function that needs to hold out is the physical function of the building (providing comfort in terms of spatial, thermal, and audio-visual aspects) and the landmark function. The architectural meaning of the building that needs to remain intact is the modern significance of its covering.

The most suitable type of conservation to be adopted consists of Preservation: keeping the building in its original condition, supported by environment controlling (vegetation growth, drainage) and strengthening the building systems, and Adaptation (adjustment of the building for today's function). Both of these must be supported by routine maintenance.

Keywords: form, function, meaning, preservation, adaptation.

INTRODUCTION

Ethical Policy (Repay Policy) began by Queen Wilhelmina's speech in 1901 had changed the approach of the Dutch colonial. Since then the Dutch government was eager to do physical development in the Dutch East Indies. The old cities of the 13th and the 14th century were reorganized with a modern approach, in line with the stabilization of the Dutch colonial rule. (Sachari, 2007:45; Passchier, 2009:132). Ethical Policy also affected the style of colonial architecture, such as Neo-classical architectural style that was popular (European monumental style) became also pay attention to the nature/local culture. Style that emerged then was the style of Indies Architecture (synthesis of local traditional architectural elements with European technology) and modern style Nieuwe Bouwen (synthesis of modern European architecture with nature /local culture).

This colonial architecture was acknowledged of high-grade by the master architects (HP Berlage, Grampre 'Moliere) which was a synthesis of the European-style and traditional elements of the archipelago, as well as the beginning of Modern Architecture in Indonesia. Until now, the Dutch colonial architecture still dominates the view of the big cities like Jakarta, Bandung, Semarang, Surabaya (Handinoto, 2010:24; Sachari, 2001:28). Many of them have been designated as a Heritage Building. One of the legacy of the colonial heritage building in 1933 in Bandung, the Villa de Driekleur (AF. Aalbers works, 1938) still looks beautiful, sturdy, modern and comfortable to date. Original function was the Dutch government staff's residence until the mid 1950's, then in 1950 to 1970 as the headquarters of Indonesia Special Police (Brimob). In 1980s as the central offices and in the 1990s became a national private bank building. Then categorized as A class heritage building, but was abandoned a few years (Katam, 2006:591). In 2003 was adapted for BTPN bank of Bandung

until now. The conservation of Villa de Driekleur building apparently can fulfill nowadays demands, while appreciating the past.

Heritage Building is the nation's cultural wealth as a form of thought and behavior of human life which is important for the understanding and development of history, science, and culture in the social life, nation and the state, so that should be conserved (UUBCB No.11 of 2010). Therefore, the effort to conserve the legacy of Dutch colonial buildings is important to put forward.

THEORY

This study reads the architectural form of the conserved Dutch colonial building heritage, and needs an approach to read the object of study through its structural elements. The main theory of structuralist architecture is selected from Capon's theory, with consideration of: (1) Architecture is the arrangement of its elements, categorized into form-function-meaning. (2) The aspect is relatively broad. (3) Capon's Theory is a summary of the various structuralist architecture theories. The main conservation theory is from Budihardjo-Sidhartha (1989) and Orbasli (2008), which both use a value approach to the architectural conservation. These values will be conserved through conservation treatment.

Architecture Theory

All the elements in nature always refer to the structure, then architecture is the structure of its elements, categorized by the form-function-meaning (Capon, 1999: ix). Capon's theory is the basis to reveal architectural elements of the object study. Initial idea of architecture is the need of space for activities (functions). The space and its cover is accommodated by medium (form), then the form presents a message that carries meaning (Salura, 2010:50). So the function, form, meaning are architectural elements (Capon, 1999; Salura, 2010) described as following:

The form can be read through: 1. Elements: line, plane and volume. 2. Arrangement: the use of axes, grid, repetition, rotation. 3. Aesthetics: the principle of unity, themes, variations of the theme, balance, evolution and hierarchy. (Capon, 1999:41; Parker in Sachari, 2001:158).

The function is the role of the building to meet its intended purpose, which include: physical functioning, social, cultural symbols (Ligo in Capon, 1999:76; Schulz, 1997:109). Physical function is the role of the building that provide physical comfort for activity, consists of: 1. Space comfort, related to spacious and forms of the space. 2. Thermal comfort: comfortable temperatures (25°C-27°C), comfortable air humidity (40% -70%), snug against solar radiation, convenient movement of air (0.25 to 0.5 meters / second). 3. Visual comfort, related to glare and view. 4. Audial comfort, related to the solved active noise disturbance (noise source) and the passive one (room, sound propagation). (Mangunwijaya, 1981:161; Olgay, 1992:16).

The meaning of a building is obtained through the interpretation of art/history, and symbolic meaning can be: 1. Owners/organizations symbolic. 2. Culture/lifestyle symbolic. 3. Symbolic for a particular purpose (Capon, 1999:120). Meaning can be about its function or form elements arrangement (Salura, 2010:83). The Symmetrical-centered form means the symbol of power (Sachari, 2007:161).

Conservation Theory

Conservation is the act of making something remained unchanged (Poerwadarminta, 2003:698), a process to possess the integrity of an object that still exists (Murtagh, 1988:16), or the whole process of understanding and maintaining a place to maintain the cultural values (Burra Charter, 1999; Orbasli, 2008:38). The process includes maintenance and, depend on the circumstances, includes preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptations or combinations thereof. Preservation is an effort to preserve and protect historic buildings, to understand the past and enrich the present, make it beneficial for the development of the city and future generations (Antariksa, 2010).

Conservation Approach

This study uses a combination of architectural approach and value approach. Architectural approach is to uncover the architectural elements of the object of study that needs to be conserved, which is categorized as function-form-meaning based on Capon theory. Value approach reveal the cultural values on the object of study, to be maintained as good as possible. The role of conservation is to maintain those values and enhance the suitable value (Orbasli, 2008:38), which include the values of: aesthetics, history, politics, technology, landmark, privileges, scarcity (Sidhartha-Budihardjo, 1989:13). Conservation treatment is based on the physical condition of the architectural elements above and the demands of the present, in defending its values. Cultural values include: 1. Aesthetics: the beauty of the architectural form of buildings and spaces outside. 2. Political value: the Dutch colonial attitudes related (dignity, respect to local cultural/nature. 3. The historic value: related to an historical event/figure or a specific historical evidence of the past. 4. Engineering value: the novelty of the technology of its time on the construction, physical comfort or building materials. 5. Landmark Value: symbol/sign of an environment. 6. Privilege value: the excess on architectural style, locality, building techniques in his time, age and size. 7. Scarcity value: related to building techniques/types in an area that rarely be found elsewhere.

Conservation Principle

Conservation principle used are (Orbasli, and Sidhartha-Budihardjo 2008:51, 1989:14): 1. Integrity: shape, material, structure, aesthetics, context / setting. 2. Authenticity: shape, material, technique, tradition / process, place, context, environment and function. Avoid changes that could undermine the authenticity. 3. Security and maintenance should be ensured in the future. 4. Physical intervention may be pursued a little so as not to alter the evidence of history. 5. Replacement of missing parts must be harmonious with the old, but easily distinguished, so as not to falsify historical evidence.

Then the implementation of conservation need to consider: 1. Parts of the building which are not feasible to be maintained need to be strengthened/replaced. Building materials have limited durability, so it need to be replaced, only a matter of time (Prudon, 2008:23). 2. Conservation treatment need to accommodate the desires of the parties which are not necessarily the same, such as: the merchant (modernization, luxury, efficiency), the city government (taxes), tourists (clean, please) (Antariksa, 2007:16), and their perception to older buildings will be changed over time (Prudon, 2008:26). 3. Conservation needs to accommodate possible changes, due to conservation should be regarded as an attempt to give new meaning to the cultural heritage itself (Antariksa, 2007:8). But the changes sought little as possible, for the award on the integrity / authenticity (Orbasli, 2008:51).

Conservation Treatment

Conservation treatment is to maintain the cultural values of the object / building due to his physical condition, the cause of the damage and the desired new condition (Feilden, 2003:8), as well as influenced by field conditions, the budget, raising the required quality (Orbasli, 2008). This type of conservation treatment for Villa de Driekleur building was: Preservation, which maintains the building in the original form and conditions (Feilden, 2003:9; Orbasli: 2008:47) and to prevent / slow down the decline in quality (Rodwell, 2007:8) without any change (Sidhartha-Bidihardjo, 1989). Efforts to prevent a decline in quality, in the form of: a) Controlling the environment, so that the building deterioration agent not becoming active (Feilden, 2003:9) and delay destruction process (Orbasli, 2008:47), in the form of vegetation growth regulation, effluent drainage, security vandalism. b) Strengthening of building systems (structural, fillers, roof, floor) to ensure robustness and integrity of its structure (Feilden, 2003:9) and stop the decline in strength or structural instability (Orbasli, 2008:47). Adaptation, adjusting the building (with little changes) for a new purpose (Sidhartha-Budiharjo, 1989:11; Orbasli, 2008:46).

METHOD

This study sought to understand the phenomenon of "conservation of heritage buildings for today architectural demands' in the description, so it can be classified as Qualitative Research (Moleong, 2010). The research problem is basis contained 'Architectural Elements' of building heritage and its 'Cultural Values'. Qualitative Methodology is required, in the form of observations, interviews, document review, with descriptive data (Riawanti, 2003). The initial step is to read the architectural elements of form-function-meaning on the object of study. The form (the building, related exterior space, added objects) was read in terms of aesthetics (the principle of unity, theme, the variation of theme, balance, evolution and hierarchy). Function aspects was read in terms of physical function (room comfort, thermal comfort, visual comfort, audial comfort). Meaning aspect was read through the modernity of the building style.

Cultural values (aesthetics, politics, history, engineering, landmark, privileges, scarcity) of each element of architectural form-meaning-function above, were as follows: 1. Elements of the form containing the values of aesthetics, politics, history, landmark, privileges, scarcity. 2. Element contains the function of aesthetic values, engineering. 3. Element contains the meaning of aesthetic values, politics, landmark.

RESULTS AND ANALYSES

The results of field survey were prepared as required disclosure form, function, meaning the building Villa de Driekleur, as well as cultural values. The arrangement is like the pictures below:



Figure 1: West Elevation from jl. Dago



Figure 2: South Elevation jl. Dago-Sultan Agung

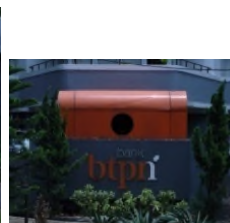


Figure 3: Bank BTPN Logo



Figure 4: Elevation from jl. Sultan Agung.



Figure 5: Additional Entrance from Jl. Dago



Figure 6: Secondary Entrance from Jl. Dago



Figure 7: Main Entrance from the corner



Figure 8: Secondary Entrance Jl. Sultan Agung



Figure 9: Upper Level South Elevation Detail



Figure 10: South Elevation by the end of 1930's - Vila de Driekleur (Source : Bandung Heritage)



Figure 11: New Secondary Entrance Jl Sultan Agung

Description of the rooms of each floor of the building is as below.

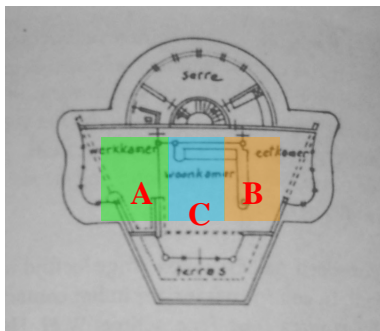
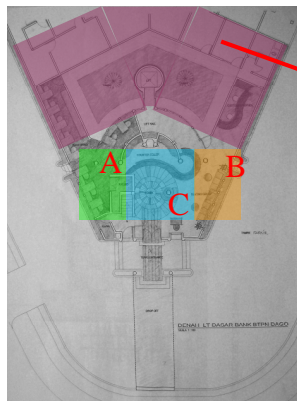


Figure 13: Early Ground Floor Plan (Source: Bandung Heritage)



Ground Floor Extension: service area & leased area

Figure 13a: Nowadays Ground Floor Plan (Source: Bandung Heritage)

The early ground floor (A = Workspace, B = dining room, C = living room / family) now becomes (A = service area and leased area, B = banking hall, C = customer service and the lobby).
The early first floor (A = bedrooms, B = main bedroom) now becomes (A = workspace, B = branch chief office).
No structural change, the spaces corresponded to its original state, only a change in function.

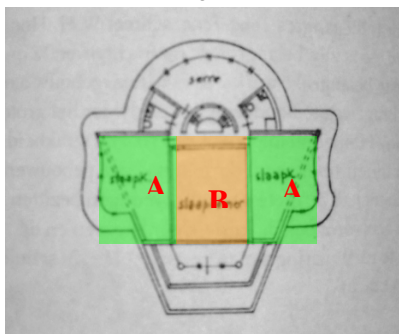


Figure 13: Early First Floor Plan (Source: Bandung Heritage)

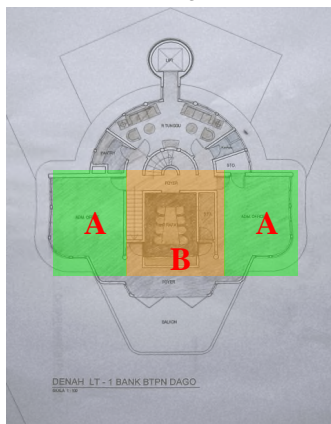


Figure 13a: Nowadays First Floor Plan (Source: Bandung Heritage)

The early second floor (A = bedroom, B = main bedroom) into (A = workspace, B = HR training room).

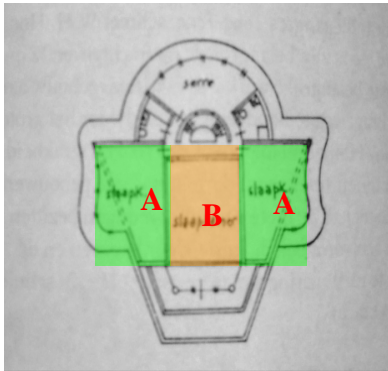


Figure 14: Early Second Floor Plan
(Source : Bandung Heritage)

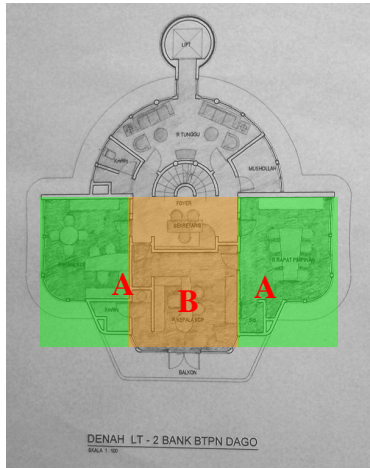


Figure 14a: Nowadays Second Floor Plan
(Source: Bandung Heritage)

3rd floor (top), previously not functioned for the room (open terrace), now functioned for isitirahat space and a terrace (a balcony) with an orange canopy cover.

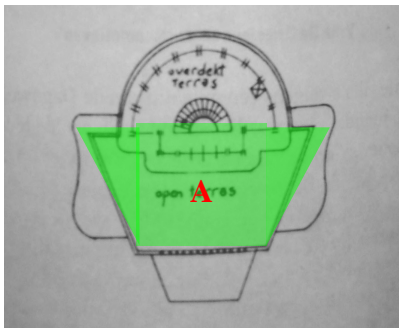


Figure 15: Early Third Floor Plan
(Source: Bandung Heritage)

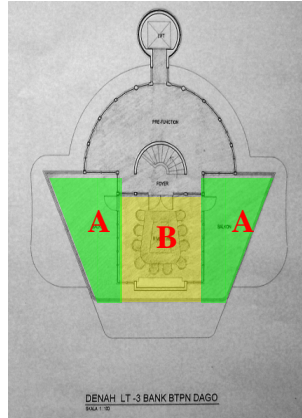


Figure 15a: Nowadays Third Floor Plan
(Source: Bandung Heritage)



Figure 16: Glass Window, Large Vent, Wide Eaves (the Envelope Pattern)

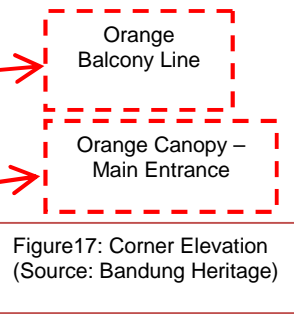


Figure 17: Corner Elevation
(Source: Bandung Heritage)



Figure 18: Glass Window, Large Vent, Wide Eaves Detail.

Architectural Elements of Form-meaning-function

The form of the building in need of conservation consists of its covering (surface composition in massive-transparent, horizontally curved elements made of smooth and rough materials), interior space, and the yard along with its vegetation protecting the building against pollution and traffic noise. Building envelope with the style of Modern Architecture Nieuwe Bouwen still looks beautiful and suitable for the present, namely the horizontal width of plain curved like Figure 1, 2, 4, 10 and 17. The curves are fits with the context in which the corner Dago-Sultan Agung streets. Additional canopy at the Main Entrance area, the area of banking hall and on the third floor as well as a decorative element of the present, which reinforces the view of modern, luxurious and attractive. This additional element is a patch made of aluminum material, such as figure 2, 7 and 17, and a time can be removed when no longer needed. In accordance with the principle of preservation, it have to respect to the original form.

The architectural function that needs to hold out is the physical function of the building (providing comfort in terms of spatial, thermal, and audio-visual aspects) and the landmark function. Spatial comfort through shape and size of room, originally for residential activity and later as a bank (BTPN), rated well. The illustration is in Figure 12 to 15a. Thermal and visual comfort through glass and ventilation window in all areas of the facade, while providing views of the surrounding buildings (formerly full of green trees, and now is the traffic density). Eaves above the windows on each floor wide enough calm glare of sunlight, such as Figure 1, 10 and 18. Leisure audial obtained through the masonry wall construction cement facade of red on the circumference of the building and window glass that can be closed tightly, as well as building a sufficient

distance away from the highway. Facade construction is sturdy and strong to give security against the possibility of vandalism, such as images 1,2, 8 and 12a.

The architectural meaning of the building that needs to remain intact is the modern significance of its covering. The meaning is about the spirit of modern architecture featuring a colonial culture and context of modern European place through the veil of form fields and curved horizontal plain large glass windows such as picture 1, 16. Until now, this building is still appreciated as a modern formation. It is stayed in gray and white stripes on curved facade and entrance canopy orange accents on the strengthening of modern aspect. As an adaptation to the demands of today's banks, there has been a material change in the floor. Floor tiles made from the original building PCs, most have been replaced as needed BTPN bank (Figure 19). The 1st, 2nd and 3rd floor use wood parquet, warm and luxurious impression. The outer spaces (terrace, stairs) use luxury granite floors, the scratch resistant and easily cleaned.

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | → Dark ceramic floor for banking hall area and customer service |
| B | → Decorative floor for customer service lobby area |
| C | → Faux parquet floor for ATM area |
| D | → Unpolished granite floor for banking terrace |
| E | → Floor tiles to toilet |
| F | → Granite floor to the back office area |

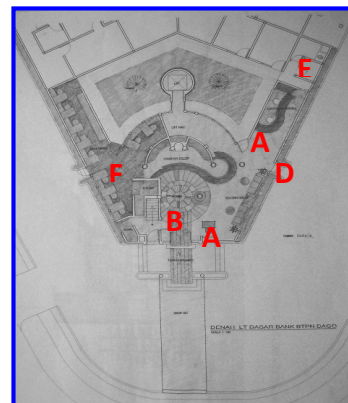


Figure 19: Ground Floor Plan and Floor Finishing Material (Source: Bandung Heritage)

Cultural Values

Based on the above description, the cultural values that can be revealed are:

Historical value, as a legacy of past colonial architecture, such as:

- Style of modern architecture Nieuw Bouwen on the building envelope, as well suited to the context of place, such as figure 1, 2, 4, 10 and 17 above.
- Recording the history of the above should be presented and easy to see visitors, such as the lobby.

Aesthetic value, the form of aesthetic forms, namely:

- Style of modern architecture of the building envelope Nieuwe Bouwen with smooth curved pattern in the horizontal plane, matched with the place, figure 1, 2, 4, 10, 17.
- The unity of the windows on the building envelope, figure 1, 10, 16 and 18.
- The pattern of the stone material attached at the bottom and smooth painted stucco on the top of the building envelope, such as figure 1, 8 above.

Political Value, namely the expression of the attitude of the Dutch colonial modernity that appear through the Nieuwe Bouwen modern architectural styles, such as figure 1, 2, 4, 10, 17.

Engineering Value, construction technology related to the width of the horizontal plane smooth continuous curved shape, which is quite difficult to make, figure 1, 17 and 18 above. Also lighting and natural ventilation systems are quite good, the images 17 and 18.

Privileges Value, related styles of architecture and place, namely

- Style of modern architecture in the form of Nieuwe Bouwen sheath fields horizontally curved plain, which fits with its place on the corner of the street, like a picture 17.
- Large glass windows, eaves and wide corridor along the sheath to make a broad view and protected from sunlight and glare, as well as lack of access to the building envelope maintenance such as images 17 and 18 above.

Landmark Value, related to its position on the corner of Dago-Sultan Agung streets and shape of the building envelope area overlooking the corner so that it becomes a sign of / reference to the environment around the corner Dago-Sultan Agung, like figure 2 and 17.

Building Elements That Should Be Preserved

Based on the study and its Architectural Elements of the content of cultural value, it can be determined the building elements that need to be preserved, as follows:

1. Building envelopes, such as figure 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8.

2. Form spaces, such as the image 12 to 15a
3. Windows forms, such as figure 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 16.
4. Sheath material, with the stone wall stickers on the bottom floor and walls smooth on top and the top floor (Figure 1, 6, 7, 8, 18).

CONCLUSIONS

Conservation of Dutch colonial architectural heritage requires alloys Villa de Driekleur architectural approaches and approaches the value, in order to meet the rules of preservation of heritage buildings and the demands of today. Approach architecture through the aspects of form-function-meaning find-identify the building elements that need to be preserved. Aspects include building envelope form, the spaces within and outside the space concerned. Building envelope with the style of Modern Architecture Nieuw Bouwen still looks beautiful and suitable for the present, namely the horizontal width of plain curved like Figure 1, 2, 4, 10 and 17. The curves are fits with the context in which the corner Dago-Sultan Agung. Additional canopy at the Main Entrance area, the area of banking hall and on the third floor as well as a decorative element of the present, which reinforces the view of modern, luxurious and attractive. This additional element is a patch made of aluminum material, such as figure 2, 7 and 17, and a time can be removed when no longer needed. It is accord with the principle of preservation, which respect to the original form.

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