

SETTLEMENT ELEMENTS OF BALUWARTI SURAKARTA

Elements of Baluwarti Cityscapes

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ABSTRACT: *Settlement Baluwarti as traditional royal heritage historic village (historical urban centers), contained within the walls of the fortress palace of Surakarta is a traditional form of settlement that still actively populated and possess historical background, physical form (artifacts), and activities typical. This paper is the result of our observation to learn about the settlement order of Baluwarti by looking at the elements of the cityscapes in Baluwarti. By using the theory of Kevin Lynch we can analyze the edges, nodes, paths, district, and landmark that exist in Baluwarti. In addition, we will also discuss a little about the cosmology of the settlement of Baluwarti based on the belief of Surakarta palace. We hope this paper can give more understanding to readers about settlement in Baluwarti.*

Key Words: Settlement, Baluwarti, Elements, Cityscapes,

INTRODUCTION

Background

As a historic palace and center of Javanese culture, the Surakarta Palace became one of the ancient objects in Indonesia that has survived to this day, including the Baluwarti Village which is located around the Surakarta Palace and bordered by the Supit Urang wall. There are elements which, slowly but surely, have formed the Baluwarti District.

Formulation of Problem

1. How is the cityscape of Baluwarti?
2. Does the city structure of Baluwarti have all elements of a cityscape?
3. What are the elements of cityscape in Baluwarti?

Research Objective

This exploratory study included research into the area, as it is expected to knowing the urban elements of the Baluwarti region.

Research Target

Baluwarti District.

Research Benefits

To understand and share insights with the reader regarding the the forming elements of Baluwarti as a city in terms of macrocosm and important points both inside around the city.

Research Scope

Cityscape elements of Baluwarti.

Research Constraints

The area is too large and we had limited time, thus we can't explore the whole area. Besides, there were only two members of the group who came on the survey.

Research Location

Baluwarti District, Surakarta, Center Java

LITERATURE REVIEW

Theoretical Review

A city is always a memory for people, and has something unique to remember. Moving elements in a city, and in particular the people and their activities, are as important as the stationary physical parts. Legibility is one aspect that creates the image of a cityscape. Although clarity or legibility is not the only important property of a beautiful city, it is one of special importance when considering environments at the urban scale of size, time, and complexity. To understand this, we must consider not just the city as a thing in itself, but the city being perceived by its inhabitants.

Next aspect of cityscape importance is building the image. According to Kevin Lynch's, "Environmental images are the result of a two-way process between the observer and his environment. The environment suggests distinctions and relations, and the observer—with great adaptability and in the light of his own purposes—selects, organizes, and endows with meaning what he sees." This theory is about imageability of a city, where it should relate to three components: identity, structure, and meaning. It is that shape, color, or arrangement which facilitates the making of vividly identified, powerfully structured, highly useful mental images of the environment. Half of a century ago, Stern called it as apparency. "...A highly imageable (apparent, legible, or visible) city in this peculiar sense would seem well formed, distinct, remarkable; it would invite the eye and the ear to greater attention and participation."

A. Elements of The Image of the City

There are five elements of a cityscape: paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmark. The paths includes the streets, sidewalks, trails, and other channels in which people travel, and related to accessibility and circulation of a city. While edges perceived boundaries such as walls, buildings, and shorelines. A district is relatively large sections of the city distinguished by some identity or character. The nodes are the focal points, intersections or loci of a city. The last one, a landmark is readily identifiable objects which serve as reference points of the cityscape.

B. Urban Settlement Definition

In the book of *The City of The Image*, Lynch argues that people in urban situations orient themselves by means of mental maps. A clear mental map of the urban environment is needed to counter the always looming fear of disorientation. A legible mental map gives people an important sense of emotional security, it is a framework for communication and conceptual organization, and heightens the depth and intensity of everyday human experience.

The Meaning of Baluwarti Settlement Cosmology in the Surakarta Palace

In Baluwarti they use the cosmology of wind direction that called *pajupat lima pancer* which is an imaginary axis as the representative of human life cycle.

The Concept of Community Settlement in the Baluwarti Region

The concept of Baluwarti district adopt the Mahameru Mountain as the center of the power and magic. In baluwarti district also have *ndalem Prabasuyasa* building that place in the middle of the keraton circle. There is a multilayered structure, with the king occupying the highest position as the sole ruler, followed by elites such as princes and nobles, and the last courtiers and commoners.

DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH AREA

Historical Review of Baluwarti Settlement

The word 'baluwarti' comes from Portuguese 'baluarte' that means fort. Baluwarti village can be said as 'kutha' Sala if we associate with the city concept of Java in the past. Kutha means a residential area protected by a wall built around a square (Wiryomartono, 1995).

Baluwarti Village is one of tourist destinations in Solo. Baluwarti as traditional royal heritage historic village (historical urban centers) has ± 40.70 Ha area, consist of 5 villages, Tamtaman, Carangan, Wirengan, Hordenasan, and Gambuhan village with a population of 7,478. Located in Pasar Kliwon sub-district within the walls of the fortress palace of Surakarta is a traditional form of settlement is still actively populated and possess historical background, physical form (artifacts), and activities typical, Surakarta or inside Keraton Solo fort, this village consists of many historical buildings, such as Surakarta Kasunanan Palace, and Kratonan Schools.

Research Area Overview

Almost all forms of the buildings in Baluwarti have distinctive spatial patterns influenced by Javanese, European, and Chinese architecture. The residents are like hidden by palace wall that have 2 m thickness and 6 m height. It makes this village unique. The observation includes the area inside the Supit Urang; there are Keraton Surakarta, Sasana Mulya, and Magersari. Baluwarti settlements structure are divided into two regions by grouping activities and settlement functions related to historical role and status of the occupants, there are Noble Occupancy and Abdi Dalem (courtiers) Residential. If people outside wants to enter Baluwarti, they must comply with certain regulations. Because people who live in Baluwarti always adheres to the customs and culture of its people. Residents who live there only obtains a

residence permit from the Palace and makes Baluwarti into only urban village that 100% of the population do not have a certificate (Magersari).

RESEARCH METHODS

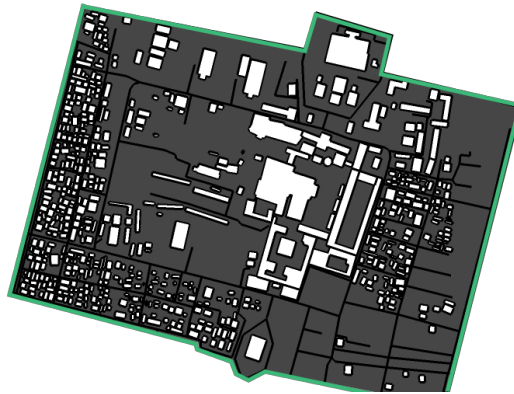
Based on Kevin Lynch book to indicate all of the cityscapes elements in Baluwarti District, Surakarta, Center Java.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis of city elements of Baluwarti

According to Lynch's book, there are 5 elements of a city that have to be considered

A. Edges



Picture 1. Edges of Baluwarti

Benteng Baluwarti (edges) is the big fortress wall with 2 meters width and 6 meters high. It has no physical shift, but has a shift in function. This can be indicated by no longer being as an area separator based on sacred gradations (Prabasuyasa, Keraton, Negari, Negarigung) with areas outside Baluwarti (Mancanegara), but it is the administrative boundary of the Baluwarti village.

B. Nodes



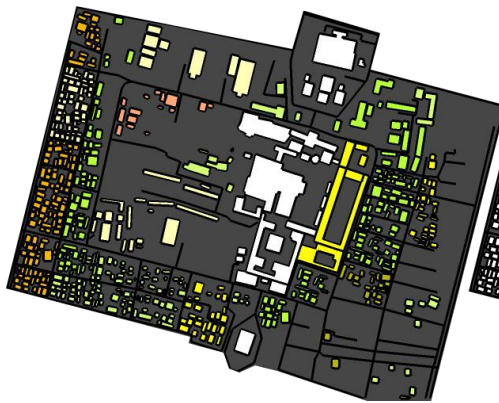
Picture 2. Nodes of Baluwarti

Kamandungan and butts (nodes) experience physical shifts and functions. This can be indicated by the addition of an "inappropriate" door with the concept of mancapat-mancalima, and the development of the Brajanala function that affects the economic activities of the Baluwarti community.

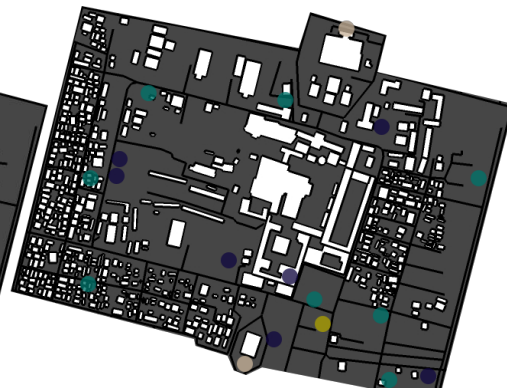
C. Paths

Jejalur pradaksina (path) experiences physical and functional shifts. This can be indicated by the development of pradaksina into 2 (two) directions, the development of facades and skylines is not as rhythmic, and the lack of cultural activity in pathways that affects the reduced sense of occasion of the region.

D. District



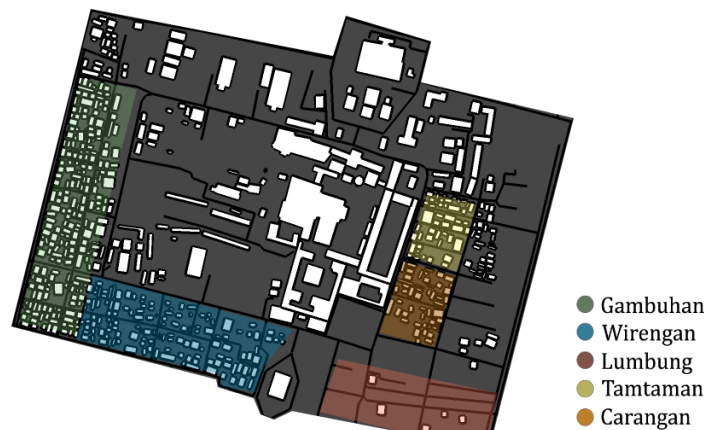
Pict. 2 Districts of Baluwarti



Pict. 3 Districts of Baluwarti

District units experience physical and functional shifts. This can be indicated from developing settlements without applying a pattern U-S, mancapat-mancalima, the gradation of sacredness, and not based on the profession of abdi dalem, as well as a shift in new functions that are non-cultural.

The grouping of courtiers is as follows:



a. Tamtaman and Carangan, for the name of the residential area of the courtiers, the Tamtama soldiers and Carangan soldiers, who are tasked with maintaining the security of the king and Keraton.

b. Wirengan, a village for Wireng courtiers, who has the task of taking care of the dances and puppets of people, in addition to duties in the Gerebeg ceremony by carrying gunung from Kedhaton to the Great Mosque

c. Lumbung, it is a village that's located from the south gate to the north to the T-junction to the east then south to the east to the eastern gate gapang. The granary is a storage area for the palace's food. It is located on the east side of the palace building.

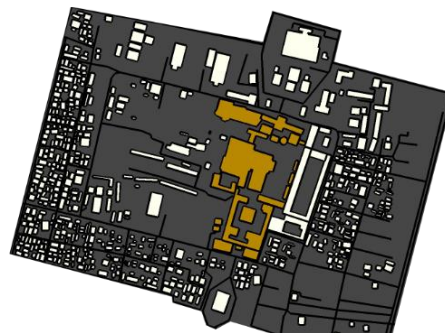
d. Kasatriyan, located west of Tamtaman. Sentana Palace which becomes a palace servant to carry out certain activities.



Light blue color.

Basic light blue and white. The colors blue and white carry the character of rejecting bad deeds. The light blue color is a symbol of the sky or sky, is a symbol of people with broad-minded character and also a giver of forgiveness.

E. Landmark



Picture 4. Landmark of Baluwarti

The royal palace (landmark) experiences physical and functional shifts. Most of the landmarks of the region are in a poorly maintained condition change of function. In addition, appreciation for the sense of occasion is also low.

Serial Vision

East side of keraton there are high wall to separate residence area and keraton area.



Picture 5 & 6. East Side of Baluwarti district

South area of keraton residence building have same style of fence.



Picture 7 & 8. South Side of Baluwarti district

Path in the west side of Keraton Area is vehicular path, for motorcycle and car. Both sides of this path is blocked by a high wall, the right side is Keraton area, while the left side is a residential area.

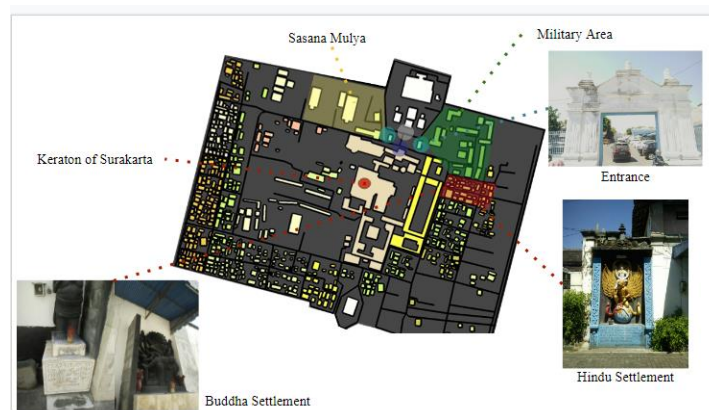


Picture 9 & 10 Path in the west side of Baluwarti district

CONCLUSIONS

Research Conclusion

After conducting research / surveys we get data and prove that Baluwarti is correctly formed by elements of the city such as edges which in this case are baluwarti boundary fortresses, nodes namely Kamandungan and butts, Paths throughout all parts of baluwarti, districts that are arranged regularly from the sacred to the public, and landmarks are the Keraton Surakarta. And it turns out these elements are the same city-forming elements as Kevin Lynch's theory, which if we look deeper at Baluwarti was formed earlier than Kevin Lynch's theory, it means that the city-forming elements have indeed been applied regularly since time immemorial. The results of this study are expected to provide new insights for readers to understand what are the elements needed to design a city. Especially if you want to design or redesign a city that has historical value. For further research it would be better to do it in more detail and thoroughly so that the data obtained is more and varied.



Picture 11. Survey Result

a. Sasana Mulya



Pict. 12 Sasana Mulya

The living area of the royal family is located at the center of Baluwarti Settlement, but the prince and his loyal servants lived separately in Sasana Mulya in the past (now, Sasana Mulya is only inhabited by Gusti Dipo).

b. Hindu Settlement

Nowadays, Baluwarti is inhabited by outsiders also (that policy prevailed in Suharto's period of government), not just the royal servants' descendants or the origin people. Then, apparently, there's not only Islamic Settlement there, but also Hindu Settlement. This settlement of Hindu was estimated as the inheritance of the Mataram kingdom in the past.



Pict. 13 Hindu Settlement in Baluwarti district

c. Photographs



Pict. 14 Gate of Baluwarti district



Pict. 15, 16 & 17 Settlements of Baluwarti district

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