

The Conservation of the Old City “Tanjung Pura” as the Tourism Asset in Langkat District

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Tanjung Pura, formerly was the capital of Malay Sultanate of Langkat, had various cultural heritages of Malay Sultanate and Dutch colonial. The diversity of cultural heritage objects in Tanjung Pura such as the historical buildings possess great potential as tourism assets in Tanjung Pura. Therefore, the conservation efforts are very much needed to avoid the old town Tanjung Pura from becoming only as a history. The special target of this research is the conservation of the region in Tanjung Pura as an architectural and cultural tourism asset. The results of the research are the design concept, conservation concept, design of the area, and documentation (such as photos and pictures of the historical buildings) using a design program. The result of the measurements and sketches in the area obtained using the design program, analysis and design concepts for the area will be used as a tourist object attraction.

Keywords: City of Tanjung Pura, Conservation, Tourism Architecture.

1. INTRODUCTION

Issues about the conservation of historical areas, especially in the old town have been done by many countries in this world such as Japan, Netherland, Singapore, and others. For example, in the beginning, Singapore had replaced buildings and historical areas with new appearance of modernization. However, the small number of tourists that come to Singapore made the government return back the historical city's look such as *Kampung Melayu*, Little India, and China Town. Therefore, the current attractions in Singapore now mostly consist of ancient buildings, postmodern, and modern.

In Indonesia, several cities have implemented the conservation of historical areas and historical structures which are considered as cultural heritage of architecture such as Samarinda, Donggala, Surakarta, and even some small towns in Indonesia. The historical areas and buildings that still exist in Indonesia are not only the structures left by the Dutch but there are also the relics of the former kingdoms that ever existed in Indonesia including the traditional houses. Hence, the cultural heritages of architectures in Indonesia are very diverse, from the Dutch's colonial relics, the former royal's temples, palaces, worship place, traditional buildings such as traditional houses from each region in Indonesia, and also the structures that have the characteristics of a certain ethnic such as China, Arab, and India. Historical areas and structures in Indonesia are not only found in the big cities but also found in small towns such as districts and sub districts. One of the districts is the city of Tanjung Pura.

The Tanjung Pura City was the capital of Malay Langkat Sultanate. As the capital, Tanjung Pura had its own administrative infrastructure facilities such as palace, meeting hall, judicial office, jail, royal palace, mosque, school, and others. Moreover, the entry of the several ethnic in Tanjung Pura such as Arab and India who came for trade, spread Islam religion, and build worships. Then, the Chinese also came to Tanjung Pura which have promote Tanjung Pura as a shopping place and worships, and also the entry of Netherland to the city of Tanjung Pura has

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promote the development of the Dutch houses, government offices, and also public facilities such as hospitals and post offices. Currently, the area and the historical buildings in Tanjung Pura are still operating as they used to, but some of them have been broken, unkempt, and disappear. All areas and buildings in Malay Sultanate Era and Dutch Colonial are historic relic of Tanjung Pura and worth to be preserved.

As mentioned before, apart from the influenced by the Dutch, the growth of Tanjung Pura City also influenced by some ethnic immigrants such as Chinese, Arabic and Indians. These can be seen from the architecture found in Tanjung Pura which not only characterized by Malay but also have Chinese, Arabic, and Indian architectural. During the Dutch colonial's, the Dutch architecture concerned about the culture and local conditions thus, the appearance of the building always includes the characteristics of local culture, such as the use of the roof and Malay ornaments on the building. Therefore, the characteristics of the buildings in some areas of Tanjung Pura, can be classified based on ethnicity, such as the Malay region, China area, and the Dutch Colonial area. Cultural diversity found in Tanjung Pura makes the city as a cultural city. Moreover, Tanjung Pura is also knows as the city of education due to some national figures such as Tengku Amir Hamzah and Adam Malik whom used to study in the Malay Langkat. Until now the Islamic education is still growing in Tanjung Pura.

Current condition of the heritage buildings of Malay Langkat Sultanate is slowly disappearing. One by one of the buildings are damaged and torn down for the development of the new modern buildings. This condition is very worrying considering that the city has great potential as cultural heritage and regional asset if it is being well preserved and maintained.

Therefore, the cultural heritage in Tanjung Pura need special effort and attention in preserving the areas and buildings for protection, and maintenance by producing a good concept of structuring and treatment so that Tanjung Pura can become a tourism attraction for local and overseas tourist. Moreover, data collection and documentation of each historical buildings need to be make as a tourism's reference and also for historical education for next generations that want to remember and study the history of their nation. Furthermore, the results of this research can be used by the local government as a reference in making the conservation and maintenance of the cultural heritage areas and buildings (or structures) in Tanjung Pura.

2. RESEARCH METHODS

2.1 Data Location Retrieval and Tools to be Used

This research was done in Tanjung Pura Langkat district. The measurements were conducted using GPS tools and the illustrations were done by the design software such as Autocad and illustrator. Each zone area has historical buildings, then several buildings was taken to represent each region. Measurement on each buildings were conducted using a measuring tools and then each building was sketched. In addition the documentation of each building was done using a digital camera.

2.2 Data Collection Techniques

The data collected in this research is primary data survey and secondary data survey. The primary data were obtained by direct observation in the field, measurement, sketching, and documentation with digital camera and video. On the other hand, the secondary data was obtained by literature study from local library in Medan, Malay library, Tanjung Pura's Museum, and interview with historians in Tanjung Pura.

The historical buildings sample taken in each area is done by looking at conservation criteria such as age of buildings, aesthetics, landmarks of the areas, and architectural style.

2.3 Research Procedure

Steps of implementation of this research:

- i. The steps in secondary data survey involve the collection of the literature data from local library (Malay library) located in Medan, Tanjung Pura's Museum and interview with the historians from Tanjung Pura.
- ii. The steps in the primary data survey involve direct observation in the field, Tanjung Pura:
 - Mapping the historical buildings
 - Separating the zone areas based on characteristic of the building in each of the zone areas.
 - Collect data of each historical building in each zone area, measurement, sketching, and documentation using digital camera in order to capture the details of the architectural and ease the sketching process.
- iii. The representation is the primary data who can obtain in the field by using software design.
- iv. The concept is the draft concept for the urban area (Malay area and Chinatown area) and it will become the tourism historical tourism object, the concept poured in the sketching design are pedestrian design, parking design, and others.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Regional Division at Tanjung Pura Town

From the surveys and direct observations by looking at the architectures (buildings), Tanjung Pura can be separated into 3 different areas. In those 3 areas, each area can be used as main vocal to represent each region, they are:

- i. Azizi Mosque for Malay Area
- ii. Pagoda (Klenteng) for Chinatown Area
- iii. Post Office for The Dutch Area

The three architectures representing each region as the main point in Tanjung Pura are shown in Figure 1.

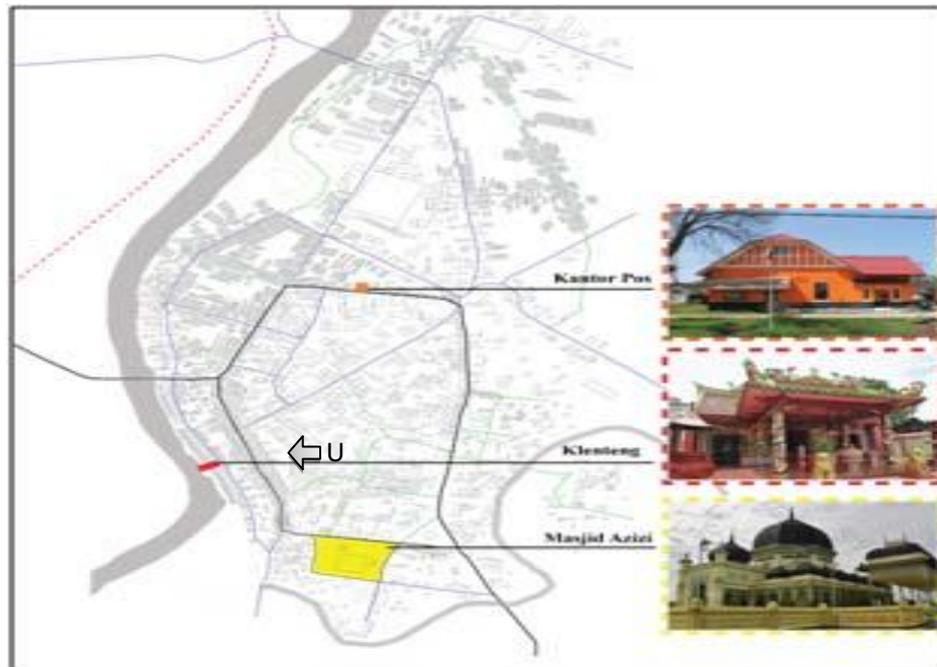


Figure 1. Building representing each region as main point.

After deciding one building in each area as main point and mapping historical building based on the characteristics, three areas in the Tanjung Pura are obtained as shown in Figure 2.

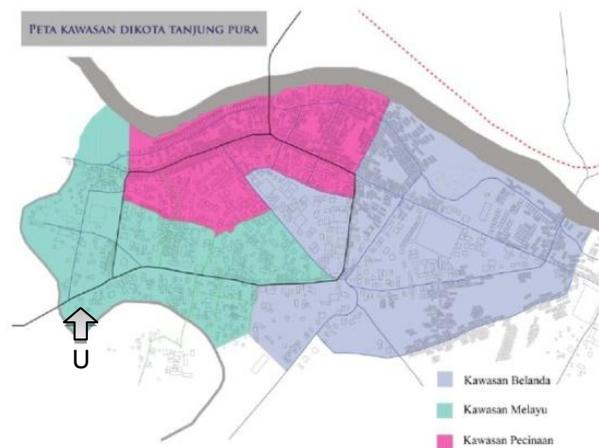


Figure 2. Regional separate based on the main architecture.

3.2 Mapping and Data Collecting in Malay Area

The mapping of the Malay area is shown in Figure 3. From the survey results that have been conducted in Tanjung Pura town, there is a dead river which is currently not functioning. However, the river can operate as flood control in Tanjung Pura again after some dredging. Moreover, the re-functioning of the dead river will benefit economically because it is expected that the river will be utilized by public as a new source income. People can take advantage from this river flow as an alternative tourist attraction such as fishing or any other water attractions.

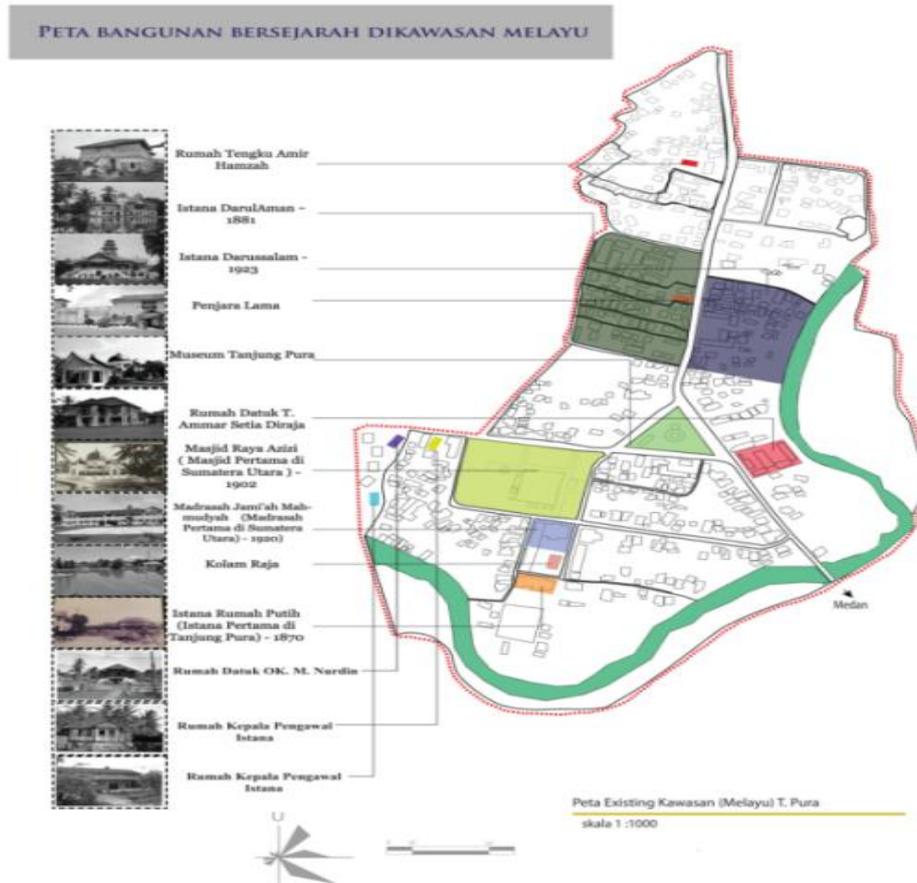


Figure 3. Mapping in Malay Area.

Among the conservation measures that can be done in Malay area is restructuring the buildings in the areas so that the old buildings which that undergo the conservation will be more dominant than the new buildings. For residential areas, there is needs for a re-arrangement to eliminate the slum images by constructing urban drainage, and re-functioning the king's pool at the rear of the mosque as a recreation area or as a flood control mechanism in the area. The arrangement of these residents also can be developed into a central area of Malay Langkat's Food Industry where positive impact can be achieved towards the conservation of Malay Langkat's special food.

The arrangement of resident of Malay society can be developed as such the function of house is not only a place to live but also can be used as a homestay (cheap lodging). This change will provide economic value for the local people while tourist will be able to see the life of Malay Langkat people by staying in local peoples' home to enjoy the culture of the local community.

3.3 Mapping and Data Collection Building in Chinatown Area

The condition of the old shops buildings in Chinatown in Tanjung Pura have changed visually as shown in Figure 4. The changes occur on the façade, structure, and number of floors. From this conditions, there are 2 (two) alternatives from the conservation that can be done, they are:

- i. Returns the façade of a store buildings who has changed into original form.
- ii. Allowing the changed forms, but unchanged stores (shops) must be maintained and proposed to the local governments for permits to change the building only at the rear of the building, so that the facade in front of the store can be preserved.

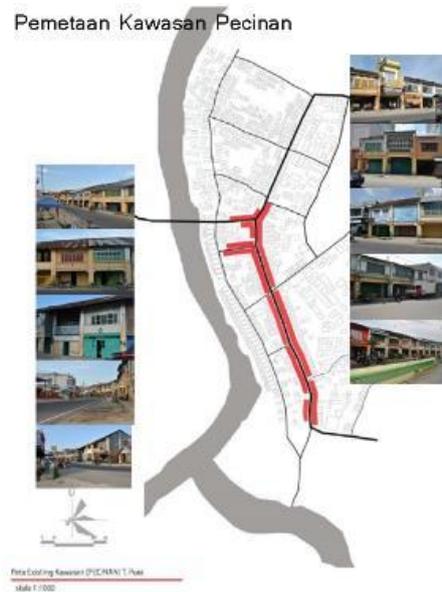


Figure 4. Chinatown area.

The conservation that can be done for the old stores in Chinatown area is the arrangement of the function of the houses as not only a place of residence and ordinary stores (shops) but can be used as a homestay as well. Repurpose the residential house into homestay will benefit the local community economically where tourist who visit this Chinatown area will be able to enjoy the culture of Chinese society and also promote this area as a culinary tourism area.

Other conditions that need to be repaired are the height of the street level and the drainage system. The current height of the road has been increasingly altered causing the shops often face flooding due to lower shops' floor level compared to the road height. Due to that, a good drainage planning is required in this area which in the past served as a rain container will be restored to its original function.

3.4 Mapping and Data Collection Building in the Dutch Area

In the Dutch area, there are several colonial style buildings that are now have damage to the façade, environment and the structure of the building as shown in Figure 5 because the building is not occupied (empty building) and/or have no owner. Based on these conditions; treatment and community participation can be included in the conservation action. The conservation actions that can be done on these buildings is the rehabilitation. Environment in the Dutch areas must be done to improve the quality of conservation indirectly (preservation of deterioration).

In the Dutch areas there is a pool container that is currently not maintained and not functioning because it has been occupied by people residences which causes floods in the Dutch areas and Tanjung Pura town. The floods occur because the water cannot be collected from the river and rain. Due to these conditions, the container pool must be restored to its original state so it can function properly. In addition, the conservation action must be done to the container pool of this folder by organizing the environment by indirect conservation (preservation of deterioration).

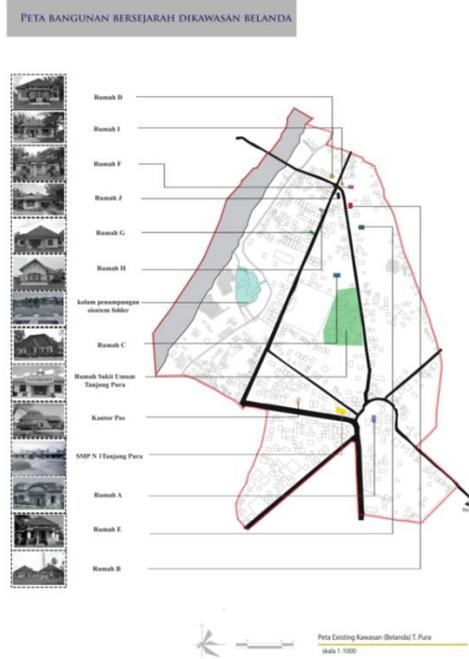


Figure 5. Dutch area.

3.5 Concept Preservation

From the survey conducted, the data of historical buildings in the three areas are:

- i. The Malay area contains about 10 historical buildings that related to the Langkat Sultanate.
- ii. Chinatown area has about 200 stores houses and 1 temple.
- iii. The Dutch area contains about 16 buildings recorded.

The results of data collection of cultural heritage buildings in the 3 areas are documented in the form of photographs. The area that will be used as tourist attraction is the area of Sumatra which is from the Frand Mosque to the Sudirman Street as indicated in Figure 6. The yellow zone is the conservation plan zone.

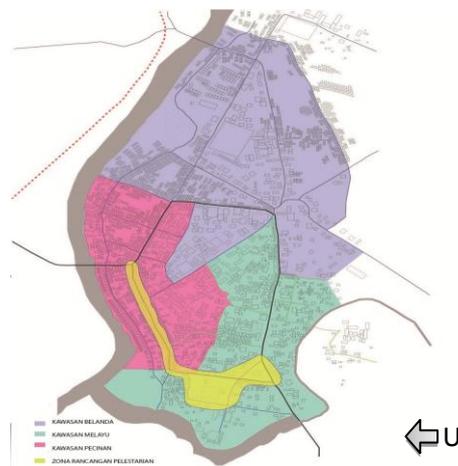


Figure 6. Conservation areas planned.

This area is selected because it is the center of Tanjung Pura town and there is a very interesting main point of attraction that is the Azizi mosque. Hence, the conservation must be done in the area and the buildings in this zone.

For the area of conservation:

- i. Malay area as the center of activity of Islamic worship, education and historical tours, and residences will experience the arrangement and supporting facilities. On the other hand, the Chinatown area will be the center of trade and commerce activities, historical tours, culinary tourism, Buddhist worship as well as the residence also will undergo the arrangement.
- ii. The yellow zone is not passable by motor cycles, however, the transportation line (Sumatera Highway) will be diverted by constructing alternative road.
- iii. Dram up the drainage of the town so that there will be no floods. Floods occurrence will be reduced after the city folder system was revived.
- iv. Planning of the public places such as park, bazaar, green line, and others.
- v. Designing a good pedestrian in the area so that tourists are more comfortable to enjoy the history, architecture, and culinary tour.
- vi. Returns the old gate as the entrance to the area.
- vii. Designing the support facilities such as parking areas, rental bicycles, culinary areas, and souvenirs.
- viii. Sei Batang Serangan Rives and Sei Batang Durian River which surrounds Tanjung Pura town will be improved and laid out prepared for water tourism transportation routes.



Figure 7. Potential areas as tourism object.

KONSEP RANCANGAN PELESTARIAN



Figure 8. Tourism area preservation concept.

For building conservation in the yellow zone, will undergo the following actions:

- i. The shape of the historical building will be restored to its original form.
- ii. Elevation on new buildings should not exceed more than historical buildings.
- iii. Not allowed to make changes and/or additions that remove the original form of the historical building.
- iv. If necessary physical addition to conservation buildings should not be visible from original shape of the building.
- v. In rubble historical buildings will be fencing and arrangement of the surrounding landscape.

4. CONCLUSION

Tanjung Pura town is a town that has a wealth of culture and history that needs to be preserved. The development of Tanjung Pura can be seen from the existence of old buildings that carry so much history from the past. Unfortunately, as time goes on, one by one of the historical sites began to disappear and damaged. The conservation of the Tanjung Pura city is highly recommended in order to avoid the cultural heritage of architectural buildings do not disappear one by one. The conservation must be done by restoring the face of the town that has its own uniqueness that can attract tourists to come to Tanjung Pura.

The selected conservation area is the road of the Grand Mosque until Sudirman Street where this area will be used as a historical area, cultural area, and as a tourist spot area. It is hoped that this conservation will improve the local economy and the development of the town further will harmonized with the historical conditions of the town of Tanjung Pura.

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