

An interior study of Joyosuran ward office in Surakarta-Indonesia on the aspects of functions and space forming and filling elements

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ABSTRACT

Surakarta is a city that has 54 villages/wards spreading across five sub-districts, namely: Pasar Kliwon, Jebres, Banjarsari, Laweyan, and Serengan. The buildings of ward offices in Surakarta are fascinating because they are some of the works of human culture influenced by local culture. The Joyosuran Ward Office building is *Joglo*, a strong Javanese nuance intended as a sign of Solo city's distinctive identity. On average, *pendapa* at ward offices is glass-walled and appears open with two doors at the front and the back. The function of a ward *pendapa* is as a meeting space, village gatherings, and other meetings. The next building is the office. The style of the ward office building in Surakarta is colonial architecture, a term for buildings with a form (or outside impression) of Nusantara's (Indonesian) architecture and modern architecture adapted to the climate, building materials, and technology developed at the current time. This research aims to find out the functions, elements of the form, and space fillers of the Joyosuran Ward Office in Surakarta. The research method used in this research is an analysis method with an interior design approach conducted at Joyosuran Ward Office in Surakarta. Data collected from informants, literature, and objects/artifacts. The results show that the functions, elements of form, and space fillers of the Joyosuran Ward Office are a public service office under the lowest government level management. The buildings are a mixture of colonial and Javanese styles. The benefits of this research's results can be an essential source of information for the development of interior design studies and cultured public buildings.

KEYWORDS

Forming elements
Filling elements
Interior
Ward office
Joyosuran

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1. Introduction

Surakarta is a city in Indonesia that has a ward office building that differs from other cities. The ward office building in Surakarta is exciting because it is one of the local cultures works influenced by bureaucratic activities. One of the ward office buildings in Surakarta, which is interesting, is Joyosuran Village's office located in Pasar Kliwon sub-district area, precisely on Captain Mulyadi street No. 274 Surakarta. The name Joyosuran is taken from the name of the unit or Soldiers of Joyosuran who is in charge of maintaining the palace relatives who live outside Kasunanan Surakarta Palace walls. The hallmark of Soldier Joyosuran is that they wear a blue uniform. Joyosuran Soldiers are tasked to guard the safety of Kanjeng Harjodipuro and Kanjeng Kusumodilogo (Hanifah 2020). Apart from guarding the two Kanjengs, they also maintain Buddhist monks' safety in Gabudan Village and tempe makers in Tempen. The proof of guarding act by the Joyosuran soldiers to Kanjeng Hardjodipuro and Kanjeng Kusumodilogo can now be seen from streets named with these kanjengs as the blue accent often found in Kraton.

The office building of Joyosuran village has become a work of architectural art as evidence of development progress in Surakarta, promoting Solo cultural identity. Architecture and interior design attach and cannot be separated. J. Pamudji Suptandar, in his book entitled Interior Design, stated that design is a system that applies to all kinds of planning where the emphasis is on seeing problem not

separately, but rather as a unit where one problem is intertwined with other problems (Suptandar 1999). This opinion leads to a conclusion that interior and architecture are one unit that synergizes each other. Beauty is an essential element in an interior design, just like in the Joyosuran ward office. The office building is a manifestation of beauty in a building that does not abandon its cultural history. Based on the background above, the office of Joyosuran village deserves to be studied because it is exciting in its long history and the shape of the building and its interior as a combination of Javanese and colonial architecture (Gürel 2010).

2. Method

The research location was at the ward office of Joyosuran village, Jl. Captain Mulyadi No. 274, Pasar Kliwon Sub-district, Surakarta, Central Java, Indonesia. Based on this study's problems, the most suitable research type is a qualitative study with an interior design approach. This approach was applied in the interior study of the Joyosuran ward office. This research uses a descriptive method. Descriptive qualitative research describes the portrait of conditions about what happens according to what it is in the field (Nassaji 2015). The data collected in this study are qualitative data. Sources of data used in this study are: 1) Artifacts, which are the interiors in Joyosuran ward office, including space-filling elements in the interior accessories and furniture in Lurah's (the chief of the village) and other employees' rooms at Joyosuran ward office, also some supporting elements found on windows, doors, and ventilation, as well as forming elements found in the ceilings, walls, and floors; 2) Literature regarding service systems and interior design found in books, scientific journals, newspapers, papers, theses, and others related to the research. These are all available at ISI Surakarta (the Indonesian Institute of Arts Surakarta) Central Library and ISI Surakarta FSRD (Faculty of Design and Fine Arts) Library; 3) Place or location which provides information regarding the condition of the location, events, or activities carried out at Joyosuran ward office, Jl. Captain Mulyadi No. 274, Pasar Kliwon, Surakarta; 4) Informants have a critical role in qualitative research. Resource persons respond to what the researcher asks and prefer directions and tastes in presenting the information they have (Berger 2014). The first informant helps investigate data related to service systems, organizational structure, development history, and the history of the Joyosuran region; 5) Internet journals of which the articles can be downloaded on the internet webs to obtain data other related studies, theories, and others.

Following the type of study that is qualitative and considering the data sources, the data collection techniques for this research are: 1) The observation technique to extract data in the form of events, places or locations, and objects; as well as recorded images; 2) Interview techniques were carried out with the Chief and the Secretary of Joyosuran Village, to obtain information about the history and development of the village. The interview stages, as stated by H. B. Sutopo, are: determining who will be interviewed, preparing the interview, taking initial steps, making the interview productive, terminating the interview, and getting a conclusion; 3) Literature study is used as a source of data in the literature; 4) Content analysis or observation techniques are used to collect documents; 5) Observation techniques are used to collect data sources found in artifacts (Kalantari and Neo 2020). To develop the validity of the data collected in this study, the technique used was data triangulation. Similar data will be more validated if extracted from several different data sources (Guion, Diehl, and McDonald 2011). Thus, the researchers used various data sources to collect the required data for triangulation to be tested for data validity. This study applies an interactive analysis model, meaning that in collecting and reducing data in the form of main ideas, it is followed by a systematic story presentation accompanied by pictures. Then, conclusions are drawn based on data reduction and data presentation. These are how the interactive analysis model works in this study (Newman, Benz, and Ridenour 1998).

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. The Functions of Joyosuran Ward Office

The Joyosuran Ward Office has some functions, such as: carrying out primary tasks and government affairs, empowering and serving the community, also maintaining peace and orderliness among the

public and environment in the neighborhoods. The ward (or Kelurahan in the Indonesian language) is led by a lurah who has several obligations such as: to lead, implement, coordinate, formulate goals and objectives for the administration of government affairs, development, and socialization in the Kelurahan area following the administrative affairs of the ward office administration for community empowerment and service, public peace and orderliness services which have been adjusted to the provisions of government regulations (Budyono, Muhtadi, and Firmansyah 2015). The government determines the organizational structure of Joyosuran village as Kelurahan, which is led by a lurah assisted by a lurah secretary, also some officials for sections that help the works in Kelurahan, such as the section of government and peace-orderliness, the section of development and living environment, the section of community empowerment (Marlinton 2010).

In addition to providing community services, maintains peace and orderliness in the area of Joyosuran village, some other functions of the Joyosuran Ward Office are to provide infrastructure and facilities for the surrounding community. One of the community facilities is Pendapa which is used for deliberation and other community activities such as PKK, wayangan (traditional puppet show), and gamelan (traditional musical orchestra). One of the activities, regularly held at Joyosuran, is a kirab (parade) accompanied by Joyosuran's prajurit (guards). The work service system of Joyosuran Ward Office follows the Circular Letter of the Mayor of Surakarta Number 800/1895/2018 concerning the working days and hours of state civil servants within the Surakarta city government, stating that the efficient work hours are 37.5 hours in a week: Monday to Thursday: 07.30 - 16.30. Break time: 12.00 - 12.30, Friday: 07.30 - 11.00. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) at Joyosuran Ward Office are. The activities of the Joyosuran Ward Office are as follows:

- Employee activities

Joyosuran Ward Office employees enter at 07.30 and report their attendance through fingerprints. Then, they start working in their respective fields until break time at 12.00 to 12.30 when they usually are out of the office, go to the restroom, or make drinks in the pantry area. After the break is over, employees go back to work until 16.30 except on Fridays, when they only work until 11.00.

- Visitors' Activities

Visitors at Joyosuran Ward Office usually have a specific need related to any residential letters. They usually come during working hours to manage the documents in the lobby area to get information and requirements that must be fulfilled. While waiting for the documents' completeness, the visitors usually rest in the waiting room or go to the restroom, and mothers who have babies can breastfeed in the lactation room provided.

- Linmas activities

Linmas (Perlindungan Masyarakat) means Community Protection. *Linmas* must come to the ward office to start working at 7.30 and park their vehicles in the parking area. After that, the *linmas* personnel starts working to oversee the Joyosuran Ward Office area and its surroundings. A break time is given from 12.00 to 12.30. *Linmas* can break outside the office, go to the restroom or make a drink in the pantry area. When the break is over, *Linmas* personnel go back to oversee the office until they leave the office.

3.2. Elements of Space Forming and Filling at Joyosuran Ward Office in Surakarta

Space forming elements consist of floors, walls, and ceiling. The floor is the base of the space, the wall is a massive area that separates spaces from one another, and the ceiling serves to protect what is underneath (Francis D.K.Ching 1996, 11). Thus, without walls and ceiling, it cannot be called a room. Apart from the forming elements, there are also filling elements. Filling elements include room furniture and accessories. Furniture is a category of design elements that is always present in almost all interior designs, providing convenience and benefits as its functions for the users who carry out their activities (Francis D.K.Ching 1996, 240). Joyosuran Ward Office is a building (Fig. 1) with a mixed style of

colonial and Javanese. The office building resembles a Dutch colonial building. In contrast, the front part of the office is a Javanese building in the shape of a Pendapa (a typical Javanese building with a sharp-like or pyramid roof) used for various village gathering events (Suwarno 45 years, interview on November 30, 2019). The services at Joyosuran Ward Office are also related to interior design inside the office, either in the form of material selection or shape and color adjusted to the functions.



Fig. 1. Joyosuran ward office (Hanifah 2020)

The elements of space forming in this office building consist of:

- Floor

The floor is a flat area as the interior space base (Francis D.K.Ching 1996, 162). The floor supports existing functions inside the space that can give character and define the space's nature. The floors in Joyosuran Ward Office use light brown ceramics the size of 40x40 cm. The light brown color gives the office a classic warm feel. The floors are also durable, non-slippery, and neutral in color, made of ceramic materials. Neutral colors in the office aim to emphasize the space's character to look classic and feel warm.

- Wall

Wall is the boundary of a room. The wall functions as a floor-bearing structure above the ground, ceiling, and roof (Francis D.K.Ching 1996, 176). The function of the wall is to separate rooms and form a room. Joyosuran Ward Office walls are cream-colored, which gives a warm impression and creates a calm and comfortable atmosphere. The office doors, windows, columns, and vents, as the parts associated with the walls, have their colonial style's uniqueness. The function of doors, windows, and vents of the office is to regulate air and the room's light circulation.



Fig. 2. The Entrance Door to Joyosuran Ward Office

The Joyosuran Ward Office entrance door (Fig. 2) is a double swing type with a semicircular shape on the top, a height, and a width of 311x162cm, blue. This blue color is related to the color used in the Surakarta Palace. The blue color is a symbol of the sky, symbolizing people who have a broad view and character of forgiving (Purwani and Asrori 2010).



Fig. 3. Onde of the Side Doors of Joyosuran Ward Office Building

The type of side door (Fig. 3) of this office building is a folding door, meaning that the doors in this office are following DK Ching theory stating that the doors functioning to provide a circulation barrier or, as a boundary of circulation, separate one room from any other space next to it and provide both visual and acoustic privacy for the users.



Fig. 4. Windows and Ventilation of Joyosuran Ward Office

Apart from the doors, there are windows and (Fig. 4) vents which are equipped with supporting accessories such as curtains and trellis, which are following the DK Ching theory mentioning that a window is an element of the architectural and interior design that connects one room to another room both visually and physically, as well as the interior of the room to the outside spaces such as yards or other views (Francis DK 2008).

- Ceiling

A ceiling is a part of a building that cannot be separated from the building's function, shape, and character. DK Ching stated that the ceiling is an element that forms a shade in the interior design, providing both physical and psychological protections for all those underneath (Francis D.K.Ching 1996, 192). High ceilings and sufficient lighting in Joyosuran Ward Office allow better air circulation and lighting inside the office to get cooler air and more vital lighting.

- Space-Filling Elements at Joyosuran Ward Office

Space-filling elements consist of furniture and room accessories. Furniture is one of the design element categories that always exist in almost all interior designs, providing convenience and benefits for users' activities.

- 1) Space-Filling Elements of Employee Office.

In Joyosuran Ward Office, several rooms have space-filling elements in this office space (Fig. 5), such as:

- a) The chairs used in the employee service office area are folding chairs made of iron and red foam, which the employees and office visitors use. In addition to folding chairs, there are long chairs made of iron used for queuing visitors.
- b) The working tables used for employees in this ward office are made of teak wood. They are used for writing, reading, and placing necessary office items such as computers, stationery, etc.
- c) Archive Storage Cabinet, there are approximately five file cabinets in the employees' room, one made of teak wood. The others are file cabinets made of iron used to store files belonging to the Joyosuran ward office.
- d) The reception desk at Joyosuran employees' office is made of teak wood and functions as the center of information and service circulation at Joyosuran Ward Office.



Fig. 5. Employee Office Space

2) Filling Elements of *Lurah's* Office Room.

Lurah is the leader of the *Kelurahan* (an Indonesian word for "ward/village"). To carry out his duties related to a government authority, *Lurah* is given a separate room to optimize his work (Fig.6). The elements that exist in this office are:

- a) Working desk, the worktable in *Lurah's* office is made of teak wood and given a layer of clear glass on top of it. This working table is commonly used for writing, reading, and placing items such as laptops, stationery, and files.
- b) Working Chair, the working chair used in the *Lurah's* office, is made of teak with gray foam.
- c) Sofa, the sofa in the *Lurah's* office, is light brown and is usually used to receive guests who need to meet the *Lurah*, the village's Chief.
- d) Coffee Table, the coffee table in the *Lurah's* office, is used to place drinks provided for guests who meet the *Lurah* and put other items.



Fig. 6. Lurah's Office Room

3) Space-Filling elements of the Pantry

The pantry room is used to store various kitchen utensils, such as plates and cups used for drinking and eating. The furniture placed in the Joyosuran Ward Office pantry (Fig. 7) is a cabinet and a table used to store and prepare food or drinks for the employees or guests.



Fig. 7. The Pantry Room of Joyosuran Ward Office

4) Space-Filling Elements of *Linmas* Staff

Linmas stands for *Perlindungan Masyarakat*, which means Community Protection. There is a separate room for *Linmas* personnel who are in charge of guarding and providing protection to the Joyosuran community, especially employees and the Chief of the village or *Lurah*. The filling elements in the *Linmas* Office room are: chairs as seats for *Linmas* staff at some times during their working hours, a table for storing *Linmas* items such as flashlights and security equipment, and a wooden cupboard to store changing clothes.

- Space Forming Elements of *Pendapa* at Joyosuran Ward Office

The *Pendapa* of Joyosuran Village (Fig.8) has the same functions as the *Pendapa Gede* building in the City Hall of Surakarta, for facilitating meetings, receiving guests or essential officials, and as a public space, a support for artwork activities such as *wayang kulit* (Javanese traditional puppet show) performances and others (Purnomo 2009). *Pendapa* primarily uses wood as the primary building material. Flattening the ground of the site before construction is the initial step of how a *Pendapa* is built, besides other essential steps such as installing the pillars or floors, installing its typical properties such as *gander* or *saka gini* and *molo*, also installing the walls, the windows, the doors, and the roof (Lo, Devi, and Tanuwidjaja 2012).



Fig. 8. Pendapa of Joyosuran Ward Office

- 1) In general, the *pendapa* has a kind of floor with no finishing, only made of plaster, but the floor of the Pendapa of Joyosuran Ward Office is finished with ceramic floor to make it look clean because it functions as a meeting place. Pendapa of Joyosuran Ward Office has three types of floors. The inner floor is made of plain light brown ceramic with the size of 30x30, and there is a black 30x30 ceramic circling around each pillar. The outer floor is made of rough red ceramic with the size of 30x30.
- 2) The walls (*gebyok*), the walls, or the *gebyok* of *Pendapa* at the Joyosuran Ward Office are made of teak wood because this type is very durable when used for building materials (Suwanto, Lurah of Joyosuran, interview, on November 20, 2019). *Gebyok* separates one room from another, is usually made of wood, with beautiful carvings on it (Nuryanto, 2019: 266). All sides of the Pendapa walls in Joyosuran Ward Office are installed clear glass, and the doors are decorated with *krawang* carvings (a type of which the woods are holed following the craving pattern, unlike relief model).
- 3) Ceiling, the ceiling of the *pendapa* is called *tumpangsari*; that is, the beams arranged to form an inverted pyramid. The top hole of the *tumpangsari*, which is covered with wooden boards, is called *ceplok* or the ceiling¹⁶. However, in the *Pendapa* of Joyosuran ward office, the roof is not arranged to form an inverted pyramid but is immediately covered with a wooden roof. There is also a hanging lamp and eight downlights inside the *pendapa* of Joyosuran Ward Office to add lighting and a decorative element to the room.

3.3. Space-Filling Elements of Pendapa at Joyosuran WardOffice

Pendapa at Joyosuran Ward Office (Fig. 9) has shifted its function to become a meeting place and residents gathering spot to hold various events. Thus, there are many additional space filling elements, including meeting tables, folding chairs, trophy cabinets, and a set of *gamelan* (traditional musical orchestra instruments) for various events.



Fig. 9.The Interior of *Pendapa* at Joyosuran Ward Office

4. Conclusion

With the title An Interior Design Study of Functions and Space Forming and Filling Elements of Joyosuran Ward Office in Surakarta, this research aims to find out the functions of Kelurahan Joyosuran in Surakarta and how some elements form and fill the space. Its function as a place for carrying out basic tasks and government affairs, empowerment and community services, maintaining peace among the public and environment has been supported by an adequate interior system such as efficient and effective spatial organization. Space forming elements include floor, wall, and ceiling integrated into Javanese and Colonial styles by bringing Javanese cultural, philosophical values. This can be seen on the wall or *gebyok* of the *Pendapa*, there are *krawang* carvings at the top part, and on the *pillar* or *saka* of the *Pendapa*, there are also Javanese carvings of *gunungan* or *kayon* types. The space-filling elements are fully available and functional for the needs of community service in the employee service office space, the Lurah's office space, Linmas office space, and the *pendapa*.

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