

Space Changes of Batik Entrepreneurs' Houses in Kampung Batik Laweyan Surakarta

Auliya Rohmah Ramadhani^{1, a)} and Dwita Hadi Rahmi^{2, b)}

¹ *Magister of Architecture Program, Department of Architecture and Planning, Faculty of Engineering, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia*

² *Magister of Architecture Program, Department of Architecture and Planning, Faculty of Engineering, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia*

^{a)} auliya.rohmah.r@mail.ugm.ac.id

^{b)} dwitahr@ugm.ac.id

Submitted: March 2023, Revised: April 23 2023, Accepted: May 24, 2023

Abstract. Kampung Batik Laweyan is a batik tourist destination located in the city of Surakarta. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Kampung Batik Laweyan was visited by all tourists. During the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism in Kampung Batik Laweyan experienced a decline. Some batik entrepreneurs have switched professions to become culinary entrepreneurs, so currently, several new dining areas are emerging. Architectural changes that occur are changing the function of the space in the batik entrepreneur's house into the dining areas. This study aims to identify changes in the function of space in the houses of batik entrepreneurs in Kampung Batik Laweyan. This research method uses the descriptive-qualitative method. The results of this study are in the form of a description of the changes in the function of space that occur. **Keywords.** Kampung Batik Laweyan, Tourist Destination, COVID-19, Changes in Space Functions, Batik Entrepreneur's House.

INTRODUCTION

Batik tourism is currently one of the most popular tourism for tourists. Both local and foreign. Batik tourism is usually located in a settlement of batik craftsmen who have existed since ancient times. One of these batik craftsmen's settlements is the Laweyan Batik Village Settlement in Surakarta.

Kampung Batik Laweyan is located on the banks of the Banaran River, formerly a lawe trading village which was mostly made in the areas of Gawok, Jatinom, Juwiring, Pedan, and the area around the Kingdom of Pajang, Surakarta. Then in 2004 it changed to Kampung Batik Laweyan because it became one of the tourist destinations and batik souvenirs in Surakarta City.

The hallmark of batik motifs in Laweyan has a light color. These differences in characteristics make Laweyan a batik tourism village in the city of Solo, then the Laweyan area which is better known by local and foreign tourists. Tourists who come can also learn how to make batik and learn about the batik production processes firsthand.

Backgrounds

According to an interview with Mr. Priyatmono in 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic which lasted for more than 1.5 years affected tourism aspects including the condition of tourism in Kampung Batik Laweyan. Many changes in

Laweyan Batik Village are related to problems due to the impact of this COVID-19 pandemic. Among them are, a decrease in the number of tourist visits by almost 90%, a decrease in economic income and a decrease in the number of batik entrepreneurs by 25%, the shift of some batik entrepreneurs to culinary entrepreneurs so that several new cafes and restaurants appear during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The change in function in the space that occurred in Kampung Batik Laweyan during the COVID-19 pandemic was the change in the function of the batik entrepreneur's home space into the dining area as an effort to maintain economic stability for batik entrepreneurs.

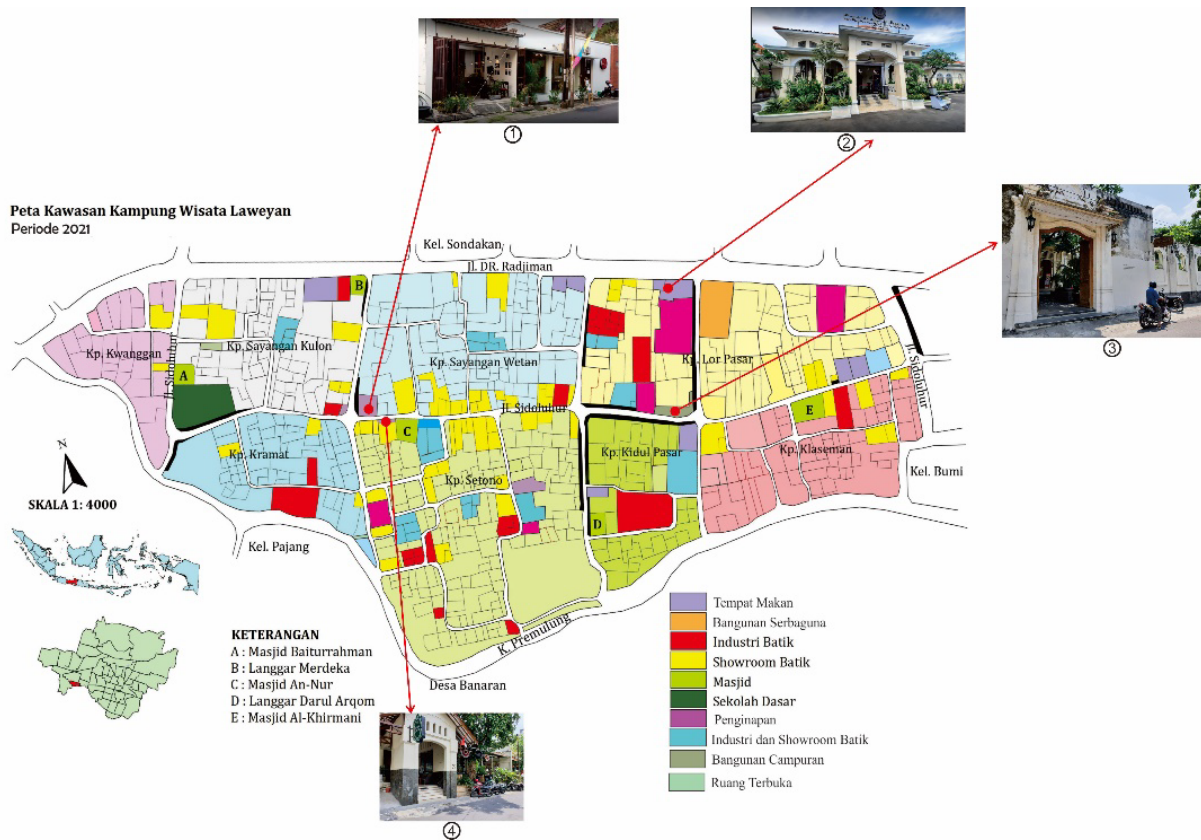


FIGURE 1. This Is The Map And The Samples From The Research. There Are 4 Research Samples.

Problems

The COVID-19 pandemic that has lasted since March 2020 has resulted in a decrease in the number of visitors to Kampung Batik Laweyan, and the economic income of batik entrepreneurs has decreased. This has an impact on the function of the batik entrepreneur's house. It is feared that this change will affect the reduction of batik sales efforts which have become the identity of Laweyan Batik Village. The research question is, how is the change in the function of space that occurs in the batik entrepreneur's house into the culinary area.

Aim

The purpose of this study is to describe the changes in the function of the use of space in the houses of batik entrepreneurs in Kampung Batik Laweyan.

RESEARCH METHOD

The method used in this study is a qualitative descriptive method. According to Moleong (2011; 6) qualitative research is research that intends to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the research subject, for example, behavior, perception, motivation, action, and others, holistically, and by way of description in the form of words and language, in a special natural context by utilizing various natural methods.

Through descriptive-qualitative research, the researcher found several cases that were obtained deductively, namely the case that occurred at the Entrepreneur's House in Kampung Batik Laweyan, namely the change of the function in interior space caused by the COVID-19 pandemic into the dining area.

The descriptive-qualitative method was chosen in this study because it was carried out through observations to describe, explore documents, analyze according to the timeline, and interpret the current conditions to obtain information about the actual situation.

History of Kampung Batik Laweyan

Kampung Batik Laweyan has existed since 1500 AD. The Laweyan area used to be overgrown with cotton trees and was a center for the yarn industry which later developed into an industrial center for woven fabrics and clothing. These woven fabrics and clothing materials are often called Lawe, so this area is then called Laweyan. Laweyan industry and trade have grown since the use of the Jenes River as a trade transportation route to and from the Kingdom of Pajang known as Bandar Kabanaran (Priyatmono, 2015).

The development of changes in the shape of the building can be influenced by the batik industry and traditional Javanese culture in Kampung Batik Laweyan Surakarta. Namely in the early period (1900–1920s), middle (1930–1960s), and the late period (1970–2000s) of the 20th century. The initial period coincided with the time when the batik business began to develop. The middle of this period coincided with the peak of the batik business. This last period parallels when the batik business experienced a setback and then bounced back. The transformation of several dwellings in Kampung Batik Laweyan is very useful for homeowners and their generation so that the building remains sustainable by its function, especially for the existence of batik business (Cahyono, 2017).

Kampung Batik Laweyan grew up among the court bureaucrats and ordinary people. Sociologically, it can be said that the Laweyan community is an enclave society. The existence of this community is very different from the larger community around it, so the existence and social interaction are so closed (Geertz, 1973; in Baidi, 2006: 242). Because to maintain their community, they depend more on the Laweyan community itself.

According to an interview with Mr. Priyatmono in 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic which lasted for more than 1.5 years affected tourism aspects, including tourism conditions in Kampung Batik Laweyan. Many changes in Laweyan Batik Village are related to problems due to the impact of this COVID-19 pandemic. Among them are, a decrease in the number of tourist visits by almost 90%, a decrease in economic income and a decrease in the number of batik entrepreneurs by 25%, the shift of some batik entrepreneurs to culinary entrepreneurs so that several new cafes and restaurants appeared during the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the approximately 89 showrooms and batik industries in Kampung Batik Laweyan, 27 of them were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In total 36 batik entrepreneurs use their homes as places to sell batik (An Interview With Kampoeng Batik Laweyan Development Forum, 2021).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

- **Changes in Space Functions in Case Number 1**

Previously: Case Number 1 was once the home of one of the batik entrepreneurs in Kampung Batik Laweyan. This house is located on Jalan Sidoluhur, founded more than 50 years ago. This house has a batik showroom at the front of the building. In the past, this batik showroom sold various batiks produced by these batik entrepreneurs. Then after this batik entrepreneur died, none of his descendants continued. Furthermore, the building in Case Number 1 was left vacant for several years.

Currently : In July 2021, coinciding with the COVID-19 pandemic, the building in Case Number 1 turned into a dining area with the concept of a café. The cafe is called Kopi Ruang Janji. The tenants of this restaurant are Mr. and Mrs. Rei. They changed the space in the car garage area, front porch, and the former batik showroom into a dining area. Then the bicycle garage turned into a pantry and cashier.



(Before)



(After)

FIGURE 1. Before After Exterior Change Function in Case Number 1

- **Changes in Space Functions in Case Number 2**

Previously: Case Number 2 used to be a big house of one of the batik entrepreneurs in Kampung Batik Laweyan named Alm. Rob Sumampov. This house is in the style of Indisch Architecture, built more than 50 years ago. This house consists of three buildings that stand in a row facing north of Jalan Dr. Radjiman. On the west side of the building, there used to be a showroom and a batik-making place. Then in the middle building was formerly the core house of the late. Rob Sumampov. Then on the east side of the building, it used to be a service area, and rooms for entertaining guests. This house has a garden at the back (on the south side). In this park, there used to be statues and offerings for homeowners to carry out rituals. After this batik entrepreneur died, none of his descendants continued. Furthermore, the building in Case Number 1 was left vacant for several years.

Currently : In November 2020, this building turned into a restaurant and coffee shop, under the same management, namely Canting Londo. The building on the westernmost side has turned into a coffee shop and behind it is a meeting room; The central building and the garden at the back are turned into a restaurant. In the back garden area, there is a stage in the middle for live music events and other outdoor party needs. This

park is also often used as a pre-wedding photo event. While the building on the easternmost side turned into a kitchen, and several rooms for guests who want to stay at the restaurant and coffee shop. The outdoor area of this building turns into an outdoor dining area.



(Before)



(After)

FIGURE 2. Before After Outdoor Change Function in Case Number 2

- **Changes in Space Functions in Case Number 3**

Previously: Case Number 3 was formerly the home of a batik entrepreneur in Kampung Batik Laweyan. This building has a Javanese, European and Chinese architectural style and was built in 1921. Then after the owner died and no one continued the batik business, this building was left empty for several years. Then in March 2018, this building was transferred to a batik gallery, a batik workshop, and a batik shop by KRHT Heru Cahyono Notodiningrat. This building consists of two floors. On the first floor is a place for batik galleries, a batik workshop, and a place for selling batik; the second floor is the administrative office and meeting room. This building has a large garden and is used as a parking area for visitors.

Currently : In April 2019 the garden and parking area at Ndalem Gondosuli slowly turned into a dining area, and in 2020, to be precise during the COVID-19 Pandemic, this dining area is growing by adding lounge and toilet facilities. This dining area later became a Café with the name Saudagar Café. At Saudagar Café there is a stage in the middle for live music events and other outdoor party needs. This park is also often used as a pre-wedding photo event.



(Before)



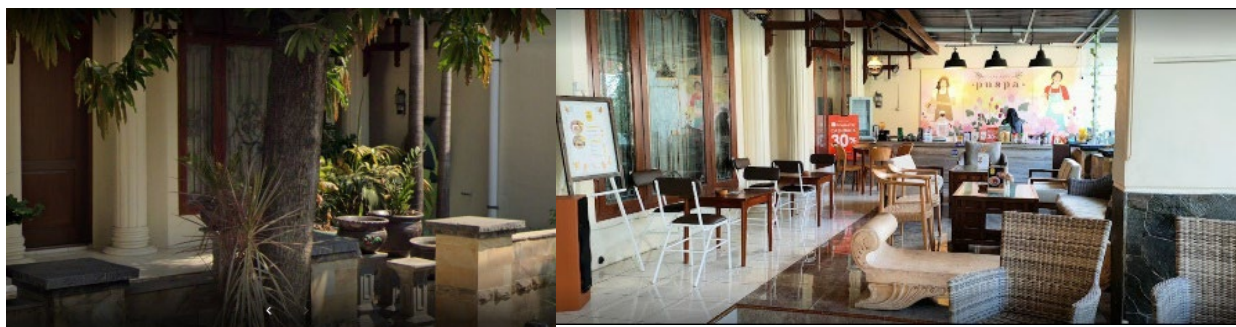
(After)

FIGURE 3. Before After Outdoor Change Function in Case Number 3

- **Changes in Space Functions in Case Number 4**

Previously: Case Number 4 is the building of a batik entrepreneur named Ibu Ifah Gusti. He is the owner of Batik Puspa. The building is in the style of Contemporary Architecture. Founded in 2000. The building consists of two floors. The first floor is a showroom, batik making, and some rooms in the house. There is a backyard and a terraced yard with lots of vegetation. On the first floor, there is a car garage as well. The second floor contains several rooms from the owner of the house.

Currently : In July 2020, during the COVID-19 Pandemic, the area in the front yard and garage of Case Number 4's house was turned into a place to eat. The showroom and the place to make batik are inside the house and backyard, so it doesn't change. Ibu Ifah said the reason for turning the front yard and garage into a dining area was to increase income apart from the batik business since the COVID-19 pandemic.



(Before)

(After)

FIGURE 4. Before After Terrace Change Function in Case Number 4

Figure 1 shows one of the spaces in each batik entrepreneur's house before changing the function of the space. Specifically, in Case Number 1 and Case Number 2, the former house of a batik entrepreneur has been abandoned and has become an empty house. Figure 2 shows some of the spaces of each house and the former houses of some batik entrepreneurs which has been converted into a dining area.

The following is a table of changes in the function of space in the batik entrepreneur's house before and after the changes.

TABLE 1. Changes in the function of space in the Batik Entrepreneur's House

Space Change In Case	Space Functions Before Changed	Space Functions After Changes
Case Number 1	The garage, showroom, and front yard of a batik entrepreneur's house.	The space in the car garage, front porch, and former batik showroom is the dining area. Then the bicycle garage turned into a pantry and cashier.
Case Number 2	Home, service area, outdoor area, and batik showroom from batik entrepreneurs.	All of them have been transformed into a dining area. In the service area, some turned into a kitchen and some rooms for visitors who want to stay.
Case Number 3	The outdoor area of Ndalem Gondosuli (formerly the home of a batik entrepreneur).	The entire outdoor area turns into a dining area. In some spaces, the Butiq room turns into a pantry and cashier.
Case Number 4	The front porch and garage of the batik entrepreneur's house.	The whole thing turned into a place to eat and a cashier at the end of the dining area.

Most of them are used front yard, garage, and batik showroom area which has to occur changed in function into the dining area. Some of them are used full of house's space and outdoor area which has to occur changed in function into the dining area.

CONCLUSION

Based on the previous analysis, it was found that most of the changes occurred in the change in the function of the batik entrepreneur's house in Kampung Batik Laweyan when the COVID-19 pandemic turned into a dining area. Some of the changes used the terrace area and the front of the house as a dining area, some used the entire room in the former batik businessman's house as a dining area. The physical changes in most of the former houses of batik entrepreneurs are the repainting of doors and windows, as well as the arrangement of vegetation to act as a barrier and conditioning for natural ventilation in the dining building. Most use the concept of semi-indoor, semi-outdoor, and outdoor with natural ventilation using a variety of vegetation that surrounds the dining area.

REFERENCES

1. Architecture And Design After The COVID-19 Pandemic. (n.d.). Retrieved Oct 18, 2021, from <https://www.wbur.org/radioboston/2020/04/13/architecture-covid-pandemic>
2. Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Situation Reports. (n.d.). Retrieved Oct 18, 2021, from <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

3. Creswell, John W., 2003. *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Method Approaches*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publication.
4. Cahyono, Untung Joko ; Setioko, Bambang ; Murtini, Titin Woro.(2017). Transformation of form in the growth of modern Javanese house in Laweyan Surakarta. Routledge Taylor and Francis Group - JOURNAL OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM, 2017 Volume 41(4): 288–295.
5. Fretz, K. V. den W. and L. D. and M., & Fretz, K. V. den W. and L. D. and M. (2020, April 20). How architects can stop COVID-19 from spreading indoors. Fast Company. <https://www.fastcompany.com/90493034/how-architects-can-stop-covid-19-from-being-transmitted-indoors>.
6. Geertz, Clifford. 1960. *The Religion of Java*. New York: Free Press, 1960.
7. Habraken, N. (1976). *Variations: The Systematic Design of Supports*.
8. Habraken, N. (1982). *Transformasi of Site*, MIT Press, Massachusetts.
9. Lang, J. 1987. *Creating Architectural Theory*. New York: Von Nostrand Reinhold.
10. Miles, Matthew B. & A. Michael Huberman. 2009. *Qualitative Data Analysis*. Jakarta: UI-Press.
11. Moleong, Lexy J. 2010. *Qualitative Research Methodology*, Bandung: Youth Rosda Karya.
12. Mlayadipura R.T., 1984, *History of Kyai Ageng Anis – Kyai Ageng Laweyan*, Santoso and Suwito (ed), Urip-urip, Radya Pustaka Museum, Surakarta.
13. Priyatmono, A. F. 2004, *The Role of Public Space in Traditional Settlements in Laweyan Village, Surakarta*. Yogyakarta: manuscript publication of the thesis majoring in Architecture, Gadjah Mada University.
14. Priyatmono, 2015, *Green Production System Workshop*. Industrial Engineering Study Program, Muhammadiyah University, Surakarta
15. Rapoport, Amos (1969). *House Form and Culture*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.:Prentice Hall.
16. Reich. Y. (2020). The coronavirus pandemic: How can design help? *Research in Engineering Design*, 1–2. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00163-020-00337-6>.
17. Silas. J., (2000). *Productive House, Tradition and Community Approach*. Paper presented at the Seminar on Productive Houses in Traditional Dimensions and Empowerment in the framework of the 35th ITS Architecture Anniversary, Institute of Technology 10 November. Surabaya.
18. Widayati, Naniek. 2002, *Settlement of Batik Entrepreneurs in Laweyan Surakarta*, Postgraduate Program, Faculty of Letters, University of Indonesia, Jakarta.