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Mapping the Landscape Potential of Jakarta's Old Town Area Based on the Spirit of Place's Concept

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Abstract. As Jakarta undergoes the rapid development with a growing population, the historic Old Town area experience multi transformation, marked by the contamination and urban development. The Old Town area of Jakarta, as an invaluable historical trace, shows the diversity of artifacts and potential that make it a special area in North Jakarta and West Jakarta (Pinangisia, Taman Sari, and Roa Malaka). This study uses an urban landscape approach with the dimensions sense of historic solemnity, sense of community, and sense of risk to detail new resources in the development of the Old Town landscape. Research findings show that the spirit of place in the Roa Malaka area, especially through green open spaces, is the most complete area in terms of sense experience. Spatially, the spirit of the place is centered around the Intan Bridge, prompting the recommendation to turn it into a backdrop for an outdoor museum or open-air museum. This research provides an overview of the potential of the Old Town landscape based on the spirit of place, proposing a practical approach for preserving historical and cultural heritage in the context of sustainable urban development.

1. Introduction

Kota Tua Jakarta is not just an area; Kota Tua Jakarta is a valuable asset for the Indonesian state, especially DKI Jakarta Province, which is rich in priceless historical traces. The old city area of Jakarta, which reflects the spirit of place of the city of Jakarta, faces existential challenges that require careful protection, management, and governance. The fundamental difference in treatment between the protection of single buildings and the protection of landscape areas has raised several issues that must be addressed thoroughly. [1] Landscapes become valuable cultural markers due to the interaction of natural and social systems. Buildings, structures, and places in a cultural landscape are not just physical objects; they often become the spirit of place of an area. The concept of genius loci in architecture, rooted in the ancient Roman understanding that every place has a spirit or soul, is currently defined as a characteristic that gives meaning to a place. The meaningfulness of place humans feel towards particular objects becomes the center of attention in an architectural context. [2] This research carries the concept of Spirit of Place by utilizing sense dimensions, especially the sense of historic solemnity, sense of community, and sense of risk, as an assessment of the landscape potential of an area. [3]. In addition, understanding the sense of place is integrated with individual views of social and environmental change following previous research findings. [4]



Regional identity is not only formed by individuals and groups' recognition of character and uniqueness. However, it is also closely related to the experiences and feelings of residents living inside and outside the area. Especially in commercial areas, identity can create a unique experience for visitors. [5]

In this context, the main factors forming a sense of place do not only come from individual feelings but also from spatial characteristics, the physical arrangement of the environment, and the dynamics of surrounding social life. [6] Therefore, to support and strengthen the revitalization policy for the Kota Tua area, in-depth observation is needed to integrate the potential and problems of the area as a spirit of place. This study identifies landscape potential, especially related to aspects of the old city area, through comprehensive mapping. The mapping results can reveal new resources, become the basis for preparing business feasibility studies, and trigger steps towards structuring the Kota Tua area, which revives the unique spirit of place in Jakarta.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Study Area

This research will be conducted from May 2021 to August 2021. The research location will be in Jakarta's Old City area (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Research location

2.2. Data collection

Data collection was carried out using observation, survey, and archive methods. Colonial period landscape data collection in the Old City area of Jakarta was carried out through three dimensions: sense of historical location, sense of community, and sense of risk. Cultural heritage as a basis for finding variables and developing a framework for observations in the field and literature studies. Field observations use instruments in the form of drones and GPS.

2.3. Data analysis

This research applies descriptive data analysis techniques, which are then processed and analyzed using SWOT analysis to explore the spirit of place and determine the business feasibility of the area. SWOT analysis is based on the logic that can maximize strengths [S] and opportunities [O] while minimizing weaknesses [W] and threats [T].[7]. The SWOT results show a business feasibility classification based on the area's spirit of place, namely active, semi-active, and passive business areas, and recommendations for their implementation.

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Overview of Study Area

The research area is RW 003 RT 001, Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District, with an area of 0.2 Ha. (Figure 2) This location is north of the *Jembatan Kota Intan* Cultural Heritage site, so spatially, it is the

backdrop for the *Jembatan Kota Intan* Cultural Heritage area. The area allocation is an environmental park, which acts as a controlling area for the old city core zone.[8]

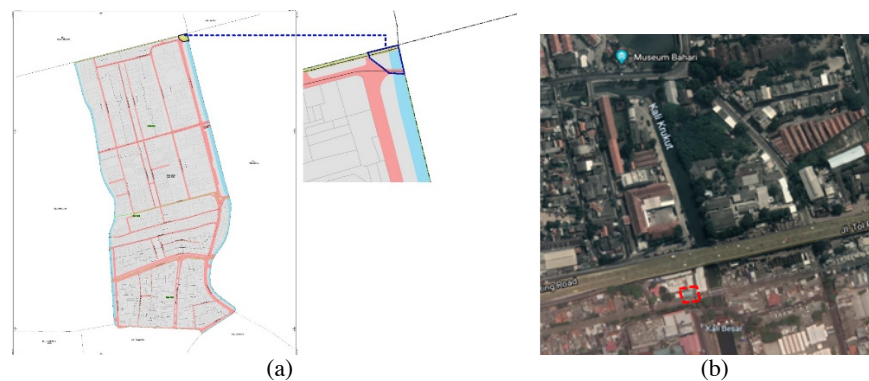


Figure 2. Research Location RW 003 RT 001 Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District, (a) administration map; (b) image of location

The spirit of the place of an area can be determined through several dimensions of sense, including a sense of historic solemnity, a sense of community, and a sense of risk. [9] In this research, these three senses are used for the potential of the landscape as a regional spirit of place.

Sense of Historic Solemnity

Sense of Historic Solemnity is one of the assessment elements in the Spirit of Place Historic City Landscape [9]. This makes it easier for users to understand the history of the physical remains, which can be recognized through a particular era's landscape or building style. As an element of the city landscape, this area does not have the characteristics or characteristics of a regional spirit of place. However, spatially, it has a sense of historic locality, with an environmental park. Results of the SWOT analysis of Sense of Historic Solemnity RW 003 RT 001, Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District (Table 1)

Table 1. The SWOT Analysis of Sense of Historic Solemnity RW 003 RT 001, Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESS	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Spatially, it is a green open space, which is the background of the Cultural Heritage area, so it can be developed as an outdoor museum and social space to strengthen its originality as an old city area.	It does not have buildings/landscape elements that characterize or have characteristics that have historical value.	It has the potential as a green open space that can be developed as a regional spirit of place, namely an outdoor <i>museum</i> to support the Jembatan Kota Intan cultural heritage site.	It is a green open space that is close to a residential area that is used for commercial purposes, so it needs to be developed as a multi-function area, apart from being an outdoor museum space as well as a social space for the needs of residents so that it can act as a spirit of <i>place</i> Roa Malacca area.

Sense of Community

Sense of Community, formed due to the attachment between individuals and attachment is determined by the orientation point and territory of the activities of each community, in a historical city landscape

area [9]. Findings of a sense of community in the research area. Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District. The existing condition of the area is a green open space which can be used as a social space or exhibition space outdoor museum, so that the area can build a sense of community by sharing the atmosphere, both formal and informal, which in turn will become a spirit of place to strengthen the Jembatan Kota Intan cultural heritage area which is located not far from the area. (Figure 3) Results of SWOT Analysis of Sense of Community RW 003 RT 001, Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District (Table2)



Figure 3. Image of Environmental Parks as forming a sense of community and regional spirit of place

Table 2. The SWOT Analysis of Sense of Community RW 003 RT 001, Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESS	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
1. As a commercial and residential area, this area can be developed as a community-based business area; 2. The existence of public open spaces can be a force for formation sense of community and spirit of place in its territory.	Residential land is narrow, and close to the main road, so that public space is used as a community space. If this is not paid attention to, this can develop into a place for various social activities, which can have negative consequences.	1. It has development potential as a community-based commercial area; 2. It has the potential to become a social open space that is open (public) between various communities, so that it can create social cohesion and identity.	Public social spaces tend to be heterogeneous, so be aware that they do not develop in a negative direction, which can cause social disturbance and unrest, so that the spirit of place that is built can be negative.

Sense of Risk

Risk dimensions or sense of risk as one of the former spirits of place is defined as negative things that become problems in an area and harm the area physically and non-physically, such as pollution, poor infrastructure, bureaucracy, foreign cultural influences, etc. [10] The research area in RW 003 RT 001, Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District is an environmental park with an area of 0.2 Ha. The condition of this environmental park tends to be unkempt and not functioning well. There are many street vendors around this neighbourhood park, and the cleanliness of this area tends to be poor. The cleanliness of this area is mainly found in the water channels around the environmental park, so it is very unattractive. (Figure 4)



Figure 4. Image of clean water channels in the Environmental Park in Tambora District

Results of SWOT Analysis of Sense of Risk RW 003 RT 001, Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District (Table 3)

Table 3. The SWOT Analysis of Sense of Risk RW 003 RT 001, Roa Malaka Village, Tambora District

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESS	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
It is a research area in the form of an environmental park so that it can become a green open space for the area.	Not well maintained The cleanliness of the surrounding water channels is poor.	It has potential as a green open space that supports the development of the area into a business area.	Maintaining environmental parks as Green Open Spaces and making improvements in area management.

The planning and recommendation for RW 003 RT 001, with an area of 0.2 Ha, is a neighbourhood park area located within the Roa Malaka Village area, Tambora District, West Jakarta. as follows as a green open space area and is opposite the visitor parking area of the Kota Tua area, can act as a background for the *Jembatan Kota Intan* Cultural Heritage area, which acts as a controlling area for the core zone of the old city. From an environmental aspect, no biodiversity needs to be conserved; greening is dominated by Angsana trees (*Pterocarpus indicus*) and Tamarind trees (*Tamarindus indica*), which can be developed as regional greening trees and added with other coastal trees to strengthen the area's identity. The spirit of place of the area is spatially built by the ambient of the *Jembatan Kota Intan* Cultural Heritage. It needs to be immediately done as an outdoor museum to strengthen the identity of the *Jembatan Kota Intan* as a medium-term infrastructure arrangement.

4. Conclusions

In the context of research related to the Old City area of Jakarta, it can be concluded that the sustainability and revitalization of this area require a deep understanding of the potential of the landscape and the area's identity as the "spirit of place." The concept of Genius loci, which highlights the unique characteristics of each place, is critical in establishing the meaningfulness of a place. The sense dimensions, especially the sense of historic solemnity, sense of community, and sense of risk, provide a holistic view of the potential of the landscape as a spirit of place.

Regional identity, which is not only formed from character recognition by individuals and groups but is also closely related to the experiences and feelings of residents, is a significant factor in forming a sense of place. This research illustrates that to start revitalizing the Kota Tua area, planning must be based on comprehensive mapping of the landscape potential, utilizing SWOT analysis to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

Planning and development recommendations aim to strengthen regional identity, maintain the function of green open spaces, and improve the community and visitor experience. Thus, this research provides a strong foundation for further reviving the unique spirit of place in the Old City area of Jakarta.

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