



ISSN 1548-6591 (Print)  
ISSN 1935-9691 (Online)

From Knowledge to Wisdom

# Journal of US-China Public Administration

Volume 9, Number 9, September 2012

David Publishing Company  
www.davidpublishing.com

# **Journal of US-China Public Administration**

Volume 9, Number 9, September 2012 (Serial Number 83)



David Publishing Company

**Publication Information:**

*Journal of US-China Public Administration* is published every month in print (ISSN 1548-6591) and online (ISSN 1935-9691) by David Publishing Company located at 9460 Telstar Ave Suite 5, EL Monte, CA 91731, USA.

**Aims and Scope:**

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**Editorial Office:**

9460 Telstar Ave Suite 5, EL Monte, CA 91731

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**Abstracted / Indexed in:**

Database of EBSCO, Massachusetts, USA

Chinese Database of CEPS, Airiti Inc. & OCLC

Chinese Scientific Journals Database, VIP Corporation, Chongqing, P.R.China

Ulrich's Periodicals Directory

ProQuest/CSA Social Science Collection, Public Affairs Information Service (PAIS), USA

Summon Serials Solutions

**Subscription Information:**

Print \$520 Online \$360 Print and Online \$680 (per year)

For past issues, please contact: [shelly@davidpublishing.com](mailto:shelly@davidpublishing.com), [order@davidpublishing.com](mailto:order@davidpublishing.com)

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## Historical Review of “Kampung” Baluwerti in Keraton Palace as “Evidence” of Java Villages’ Development in Surakarta

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“Kampung” Baluwerti established by Paku Buwono II became an area outside Keraton Palace. This “kampung” is very specific because it is not only a town village, but also a royal “kampung”. Those names of sub-“kampung” were provided by the king according to toponymy. There are some preceding writers researching on Keraton (Javanese palace), but no one yet researching on that “kampung”. Seen from its existence, it is very specific and attractive to research. Had the form alteration of “kampung” occurred spatially at the time when the king ruled (past time) and at the time of post-power alteration (from kingdom to city government/present time)? How is its link with toponymy from the form, sign, and symbol sides? This research will use method of the grounded research, since it includes aspects of history, culture, and architecture. The research is done by revealing via: (1) appearance visually; (2) element observation becoming the symbol or myth; (3) observation of human or mobile products that is non-material through symbol expression or myth with the meaning hidden behind that; and (4) research of element permanent and change toward the element meant as symbol or myth. Research is coupled with theory of power that has relations to king, symbol, and myth.

*Keywords:* Baluwerti, toponymy, symbol, myth

### Background of the Research

“Kampung” Baluwerti is a town village in the area of Surakarta city that Keraton Kasunanan Surakarta has, therefore “kampung” Baluwerti can be said as one of the royal “kampung”. “Kampung” Baluwerti resides in south of Slamet Riyadi street that is the main road of Surakarta city. Cultural area of Baluwerti includes Kraton Kasunanan Surakarta, North Square and South Square, Great Mosque and Klewer Market. Internally, “kampung” Baluwerti is a cultural node that Surakarta city has.

Morphologically, Baluwerti area in the beginning is influenced by the concept of space order of Mataram royal township (Java). In the space order, there are four characteristics forming the concept of space order of Mataram country (Java), namely Javanese traditional symbolic classification system, sacredness gradation pattern, defense area, and ritual movement pattern.

From the visual aspect, Baluwerti area is formed from configuration of the area identity-forming element (Lynch, 1960), namely path such as area circulation lane, edges that are fort, district that is dalem and villages, nodes that are area activity intersection, and landmark that is Keraton, building of dalem, and its Baluwerti.

Space order of traditional area is a specific character forming identity as a recognition of form and space

quality of an area, in general it is called as sense of place (Gallion & Eisner, 1992). Furthermore Gallion and Eisner (1992) stated that sense of place was created from relation among function, art, architecture, and societal activities in public space community.

Meaning of a place is said to be present in case a person in that place is able to see that history of a town through artefacts forming a series of story. Doing the grounded research, the uniqueness at every environment of Baluwerti either from its human being living or artefact visible will be seen, and from this uniqueness it will come up emotional sense felt by observer toward environment so that it can differ a place from another place. Specific character forming that environmental identity is a recognition of form and space quality of an environment called as sense of place (Gallion & Eisner, 1992).

### **Problems**

From the aforementioned, the viewpoint of "kampung" Baluwerti as royal kampong is formed when Keraton as an administration center, where the king as the power holder. When Indonesia was independent, no more power in palaces all around the Indonesian Archipelago since power transferred to NKRI (or USRI abbreviated from United State of Republic of Indonesia) started to take over by Government, then Keraton is no longer as administration center but as culture center.

Therefore "kampung" Baluwerti with all the content definitely gets involved in undergoing the alteration. Both societal structure and structure of royal "kampung" undergo the alteration.

In case seen from its architectural order, royal "kampong" in macro does not undergo the alteration since it unites with Keraton spatial concept in entirety (concept of turtle = Hindu, since Paku Buwono V), meanwhile there is an assumption in micro either from spatial side or its dweller, it undergoes the alteration, there is adjustment with the current need and there is a change in relation with king's power.

### **Problem Formulation**

Once explained about development of "kampung" Baluwerti in which its existence is in the midst of Surakarta city, thus it comes up with the problem: whether to form alteration spatially of "kampung" occurred at the time when the king ruled in power (past time) and after the power alteration occurred (from kingdom to city administration center/present time).

Being able to respond the aforementioned questions, this study will research and learn:

- (1) How is royal "kampung" condition at the time when kingdom is an administration center?
- (2) How does king's power take influences on social order and architectural order toward that "kampung"?
- (3) How could royal "kampung" survive as a settlement although undergoing change in power relation?
- (4) What is the attribute of "kampung" that is a symbol? and which one is myth? Or something else?
- (5) Is symbol or myth permanent/not undergoing the alteration although Keraton underwent order alteration? Or any other thing?

### **The Objective and Benefits of Research**

Results of investigation are through the grounded research. From a historical aspect, hopefully it can benefit: Firstly, to grant comprehension of knowledge about how the ruler (power holder) in the past time established the settlement for his society in order that the present-time ruler and the future ruler are wiser in the establishment of settlement for his society.

Secondly, substantive theory can enrich theory about special settlement, namely royal "kampung".

Thirdly, hopefully it can enrich knowledge of architecture of Indonesian Archipelago mainly about knowledge of "kampung" architecture on the respectable position in architecture world.

### Research Environment

This research aims to research the phenomena existing in "kampung" Baluwerti. To understand "kampung" related to power element at hand in this regard is the king, through the comprehension from Foucault's notion about power, order, and knowledge as well as Foucault's understanding on space, knowledge, power (Foucault, 1997, p. 367), namely revealing role of actor in this regard is the ruler in his power system.

However, ways of revealing are: (1) the appearance visually; (2) element observation being symbol or myth; (3) observation of human, movement product or mobile product that is non-material through symbol expression, symbol revelation or myth with a meaning hidden behind it; and (4) research of element permanent and change toward the element meant as symbol or myth.

### Study Area

The study area is: exploration on kingdom by referring to Foucault's notion about power, order, and knowledge (Foucault, 2002, p. 200), then exceeding its expedition, seeing "kampung" Baluwerti within the royal environment as human life's shell space, where there is social life and full of culture order that shelters.

### Method of Approach

#### Grounded Theory

This research is intended to fill the gap and void of research and theory about *Historical Review of "kampung" Baluwerti in Keraton Palace as "Evidence" of Java Villages' Development in Surakarta*, as a temporary title, where some theories cannot yet explain the existing phenomenon.

To study the royal "kampung", qualitative approach with grounded research model is needed. Because this research has to do with human being and culture so that its results are more interpretative, besides from the architecture side it will be researched historically and artefact form that has been in the field.

In research of grounded research, thus capability of inquiry including investigation, question, examination, and requisition of information is very important; however the to-do steps are to conduct the grand tour or observation thoroughly on Keraton in entirety consisting of the core of Keraton and "kampung" Baluwerti surrounding the core of Keraton.

Figures 1-6 is about the most recent field condition, physically the field condition does not undergo change but non-physically there is change in meaning implicitly in accordance with the change of today's societal viewpoint. Figure 1 presents the map of Keraton Palace. Figure 2 presents the prototype of main gates created largely and stately as an attempt to show the power of the king. Figure 3 presents the prototype of the gates in "kampung" Baluwerti (every sub-"kampung" or cluster is surrounded with walls that have gates). Figure 4 presents the ruin of masonry wall (the surrounding wall of Paku Buwono II's era), with the size of 2-meter width and 6-meter height. The size of brick has been modular with 30 cm in length, 15 cm in width and 7.5 cm in width. It presumes that bricks were carried to Java as ship weighting material. after brick was hauled down, the ship was changed with material load needed in Netherland, for instance, rubber, tobacco, teakwood, etc. Figure 5 presents the prototype of Pangeran house (Dalem Pangeran or Pangeran house always has a guest

room/Pandapa that is a large room of Dalam/Dalem with 4 pillars/saka guru, and has a canopy in front of Pendapa that functions to download and upload passenger from carriage or horse cart). Figure 6 presents examples of symbol in the palace as an attempt to demonstrate the power of the king.



Figure 1. Map of Keraton Palace complex. Source: Data from Library of Keraton Palace.

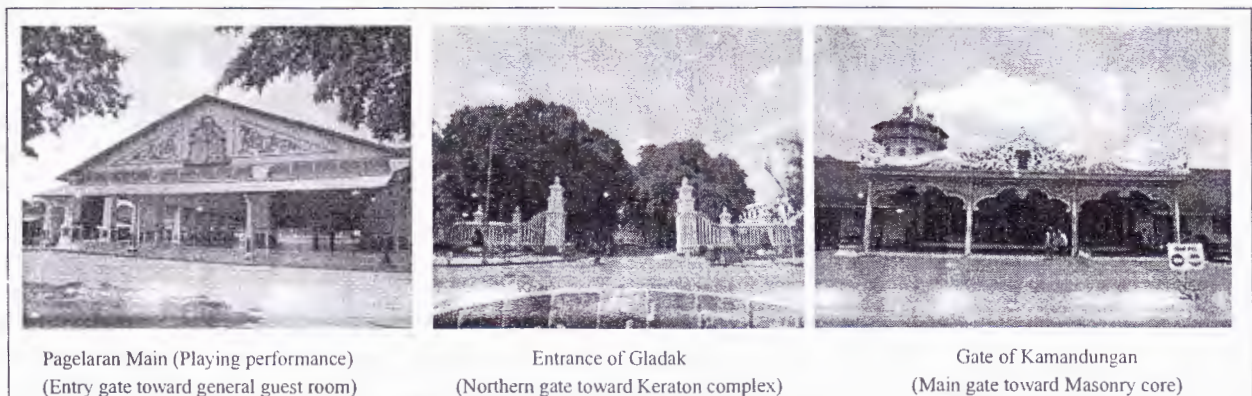


Figure 2. Prototype of main gates.





Figure 3. Prototype of gates in "kampung" Baluwerti.



Figure 4. Ruin of masonry wall (the surrounding wall of Paku Buwono II's era).



Figure 5. Prototype of Pangeran house.



Figure 6. Examples of symbol in the palace as an attempt to demonstrate the power of the king.

This regard is done with intention to seek the loci estimated to store theoretical samples related to research focus. For locus suspected to store the discrete phenomena (acronym from continue) such as social situation related to research focus and proper to designated as a theoretical sample, it is immediately conducted with mini grand tour (visceral observation) and with the objective of determining the observed units.

Once the grant tour is held, thus every house of prince at hand in “kampung” Baluwerti appeals to research, since physically the building has its each characteristic that is very specific. Every sub-“kampung” at hand in “kampung” Baluwerti also has its each characteristic. This has relation to available toponymy (name of sub-“kampung” is adjusted to function or activities done by the dwellers).

From every sub-“kampung” it takes two samples at random in order to research spatially about forms, space sizes, types of material at hand, building structure, selected types of roof and the conduct of interview with the dwellers. The latter is to facilitate in emergence of specificity in each observed unit without deleting the overall trait.

Observation on physical environment being the locus is intended in order to be able to read phenomena at hand in that physical environment, by holding the intuition-based observation (referring to “what” is “being”). Then it gives rise to question of “being”, with main rule, namely reverting to “the object by itself”, by ways of asking and mulling over a “being”. Later seeing “the what” is by seeing performance of sense application that yields “image”. Meanwhile percept and perception are explored by thinking mental (or mind). Meanwhile the meaning will yield the formation of concept and conception as well as objective form and so forth in subjective form such as symbol or myth.

For the latter there are three layers of reduction that must be experienced: (1) reducing all subjectivity since what is needed is objectivity. Viewing only to that material as it is; (2) reducing all knowledge at hand such as theory, hypothesis, evidence obtained by the observer from other sources. Therefore the only given one becomes the only reference; and (3) reducing all traditions at hand such as what is ever meant or intended by other persons about that object.

Meanwhile object or phenomena visible in turn also undergoes two reduction: (1) presence of that object is not paid attentively so that observer only centralizes the mind about “the what”; and (2) all things not essential are extracted to “the what”.

Next step is to make labeling (analysis event of phenomena order), toward discrete phenomena (acronym of continue), by ways of segregating the observation and then naming the incident and event in the field. In this case the segregation is grouped into three parts, namely physical data, material and visual perception.

Physical data intended are to hold measurement in macro, namely entirety of research fields, then to hold measurement in mezzo completely by walking to surround it, as well as to hold measurement in micro, namely toward the sample of prince's house and the selected house of society. In every sub-"kampung", it attempts to measure two houses, the selection of house opted at random, since house of that "kampung" has its condition and the same form.

This research encompasses the time period "from the era of Paku Buwono X's administration to independence of Indonesia (the era of Paku Buwono XII)". Since pertaining to historicity thus it is necessary to do historical search with a hermeneutical way, namely to understand historical event by seeing subjective purposes of the historical figures by researching historical documents, archives, literatures at hand in relation to the scope of research.

Next step is to do emic approach by seeing key informants, with criteria: (1) informant as agent of permanent or temporary space having been daily in and active in that environment; (2) to have direct involvement with case being researched; and (3) to have a sufficient time and willing to interview (Spardley, 1979), namely experts and historians: Sinuhun Tedjowulan (twin king of Paku Buwono XIII); Mr. Haji Mohamad Thoha, an inhabitant from sub-"kampung" Hordenasan in "kampung" Baluwerti at the age of 70 years old (from date of birth up to present he has lived there); Gusti Puger, a son of Paku Buwono XII submitted with library affairs in the palace (Keraton), who lived in the Keraton; Gusti Dipo Kusumo, a son of Paku Buwono XII, when Paku Buwono XII was still on the throne he occupied as Pengageng Parentah Keraton who lived in Dalem Sasana Mulyo; Gusti Ratu Alit, a daughter of Paku Buwono XII, while Paku Buwono XII still enthroned as Pengageng Parentah Keputren; Kanjeng Pangeran Panji Wreksodipuro at the age of 86 years old, who was a son of Head of Keraton General Employment Service during the era of Paku Buwono X living in Baluwerti at address of Rt 04 RW 1; Mr. Drs. Radjiman, a retiring person from Lecture of History deepening the affairs of Keraton of Sebelas Maret University; Dr. Titis Srimuda Pitana, a lecturer of Department of Architecture of Sebelas Maret University, living in Solo and making dissertation about Architecture Symbolic Meaning Deconstruction of Keraton Surakarta in 2010; Mrs. Tinul Wiryohadiningrat, *wayah dalem* of Paku Buwono X assiduous in classic Javanese dance of Keraton Kasunanan, living in dalem of Yudonegaran Baluwerti; Mrs. Surisno, the servant of Gusti Mangkudilogo at the age of 60 years old, living in "kampung" Baluwerti from 10 years old until now; and Mr. Sugiadi, an inhabitant from sub-"kampung" Tamtaman in "kampung" Baluwerti at the age of 80 years old (from date of birth up to present he has lived there).

These informants are important since besides providing information also affording to provide reference for next informants and so forth, with ethnography model to photograph behavior and societal culture still living in that "kampung". Results of the photography are applied for the background of report from the non-material side in the current time.

In interview process the researcher is passive, listening to what the informant utters, records and notes. Question is directed like a detective (providing question of investigation, but not active to direct the answer), in relation to the book of Becker (1968). Record results are written as in record or as in tape, afterwards interpreted into the concept form. The alteration can grow, develop or demonstrate combination of two processes, namely process of symbol or myth, is necessary to hold literature study, documents, manuscripts at hand in library of Keraton.

For simplicity, data collection in this study is in Table 1.

Table 1

*Data Collection*

Phase in research process	Data collection in qualitative research
Sampling	—Purposive strategy of sampling; —Participant in small or low quantity.
Data source	—Interview (with open ended questions); —Observation involves directly making documentation, field measurement, register in accordance with building element, re-drawing, and providing important signs proper to suspect as symbol or myth; —Studies of document, important archives in relation to researches; —Materials of interview record are written as manuscript commensurate with interview authenticity.
Data register	—Interview guidance/interview; —Observation guidance directly involved.
Implementation of data collection	—Encountering the issues in the field.

*Note.* Source: Sarwono (2011).

Once data at hand are completely structured by analyzing data with application of triangulation, namely notes of field are sorted and re-interpreted, made in couple with equal theories and by forwarding them on contextual documentation. According to Hammersley and Atkinson (1983, pp. 198-199), triangulation, ethnography, and interview having been typed in textual and contextual forms were working ways of social-culture functioning as a discipline to understand and interpret culture and social life of the society.

Results of research invention are re-analyzed in reference to the growing theories in relation to symbol, myth and meaning toward the society. On the other side, they attempt to enrich sources and compare with historical data and similar type-based researches. Repeated processes are with check and re-check ways. Therefore it results in conclusion, such as substantive theory in accordance with the objective of research.

### Steps of Research

To answer the question, it takes steps of inquiry through the explanation as follows:

- (1) What and how is the king's order about "kampung" Baluwerti in the era of the past-time king?
- (2) What and how is the process of establishment of that "kampung" Baluwerti?
- (3) What and how is the concept of that "kampung" Baluwerti?
- (4) How is the current condition?

Prior to do the four aforementioned steps, at first it prepares a number of verbal communications from the writer as well as formal license from Department of Architecture of University of Indonesia in elucidation of intention/purpose and the objective of that research. The letter is aimed to the pertained institution, completed with proposal of research title, intention, and objective as well as schedule of implementation.

#### Step 1: Inquiry.

Objective:

To re-draw the fixed element consisting of spatial size in micro, mezzo and macro of "kampung", it seems that cuts as well as materials are used: database of human being as inhabitants or dwellers that underlie the building of "kampung" to know the realized performance quality. Observing the unique or typical appearance to express tangible quality from form, that is an intangible form, namely capturing the quality process of becoming.

Step:

To visit research area and library of Keraton to obtain figure documents. Its weakness will be measured in the field and re-drawn or re-pictured.

Equipment:

Camera, handy camera, notebook computer, scanner, stationery/figures or pictures, compass, laser distance, and data-recording device.

Completeness:

License of survey from Architecture Department of Faculty of Engineering of University of Indonesia aimed to library of Keraton and several related institutes.

Time:

Even semester of 2011-2012.

Category of observed object:

(1) Complex of Keraton Kasunanan in acquirement of designation of "kampung" Baluwerti in macro toward location order and its position toward Keraton;

(2) "Kampung" Baluwerti overall (spatially macro, mezzo, and micro);

(3) Observation and interview on dweller of "kampung".

Activities:

(1) To know track location, building environment, object width, and site aura;

(2) To observe unique or typical appearance to express or reveal the tangible from form (by performing mini grant tour);

(3) To feel architecture space of building environment, landscape, existing building and interior;

(4) To gain figure/picture: map, aerial photography, master plan, sketch, sight and cut;

(5) Architectural documentation to obtain figure or picture of unique architectural details;

(6) To obtain architectural conception and library in relation to objects.

### **Step 2: Question.**

Objective:

To reveal documents undercover outside the object, it needs a number of informants/key actors to answer the question, for instance, What and how is the idea of "kampung" Baluwerti space?

Step:

A number of relevant questions are made to the informants.

Equipment:

Camera, handy camera, stationary/figure/picture, and audio recording device.

Auxiliary device:

Guidance form of interview questions.

Time:

At least the second month of even semester of 2011-2012.

Activities:

(1) To propose question to dwellers of "kampung", about what they felt previously (when king became administration center) and recently when king is just a culture center.

(2) How is the process of establishment of architecture object intended technically?

(3) Who is the key actor or expert informant getting involved in that process?

(4) Is there document unique/scarce still at hand?

(5) Which part or section of building or space up to now is assumed as part of sacredness?

**Step 3: Examination.**

Objective:

To do close observation on architecture objects to obtain data in relation to things outside physical architecture object, namely concept, desire, power, intervention, meaning, myth, logo, and symbol.

Step:

To seek relatedness between text of object with intangible form, to research via metaphysics for capturing quality process of becoming.

Equipment:

To optimize all senses and intuition.

Auxiliary device:

Stationery/figure or picture to visualize imaginary picture.

Time:

At least the second month of even semester of 2011-2012.

Activities:

To seek non-physical data source such as authentic documents as concept explanation, desire, power, intervention, meaning, myth, logo, and symbol at hand in architectural objects, it is through:

- (1) Whatever data at hand related to "kampung" Baluwerti and that can be explained;
- (2) Other relevant sources.

By the time of doing examination, some ways are used:

- (1) Optimizing the sensitivity of sense when learning space and place to capture the quality process of becoming;
- (2) Conducting the contemplation and intuitive capacity in order to capture the meaning implicit on the pertained architectural objects.

**Step 4: Requisition of information.**

Objective:

To seek affirmation toward data obtained for the expert informant.

Step:

To contact key actor/expert informant for interview, such as with the king, officer of Parentah Keraton, elder prince and poets are still able to ask for interview.

Equipment:

Camera, handy camera, stationery/picture, audio recording device.

Time:

At least the second month of the even semester of 2011-2012.

Activities:

- (1) To ask further information on process of establishment of concept, desire, power, intervention, meaning, myth, logo, and symbol at hand in architectural object;
- (2) What is the obstruction that it faces such as impediment, conflict of interest in process of establishment of the pertained architectural object?
- (3) How is social-politic-economic situation that overlies the development of that "kampong" Baluwerti?

### Working Hypothesis

Although the grounded research needs no preliminary hypothesis, but in order to direct invention of new theory, it gives rise to working hypothesis that is educated notion from state of the art, namely "kampung" Baluwerti as an area representing the power-order-knowledge-space in performance of land identity.

### Structure of Study

The structure of this study is as follows:

(1) The first section discusses preliminary comprehension, database as well as categorization of a number of architectural objects at hand in "kampung" Baluwerti;

(2) The second section analyzes architectural objects leaned on theory of Mimi Lobell and Edward Hall on space and reckons with concept of Van de Ven on space;

(3) The third section analyzes architectural objects through metaphysics, idea, opinion, concept, and king's viewpoint in thinking and action with the theory of Foucault on power, order and knowledge;

(4) The fourth section reveals conclusion argumentatively and relevantly as shaper of new theory structure;

(5) The fifth section analyzes the process of this new theory formulation that is tested as a breakthrough of the state of the art, which is a study of architecture leaned on the power-order-knowledge-space.

### Research Plan and Roadmap

This research is expected to end with *Report of Research* prior to early uneven semester of the year 2012-2013, along with the *Outline of Dissertation Writing*. Loading all dissertation body rods based on obtained primary data of architecture objects are such as:

(1) Blueprint of "kampung" in the past time and present time, as well as some signs at hand. Database remains to perform up to the approach of Agreement of Dissertation Writing Session;

(2) Writing of dissertation focuses on analysis in relation to idea, opinion, concept of king in thinking and action in order to build "kampung" Baluwerti;

(3) In process of research, it will be implemented through tight consultation such as face-to-face way and e-mail during even semester of the year 2011-2012 and uneven semester of 2012-2013. In the same semester, it is expected to have product of *Draft of Dissertation Writing* containing space theory structure appropriate for a test in Closed Dissertation Examination Session;

(4) Approaching the end of even semester of 2012-2013, the revision will be done as brief as possible, to immediately yield a product of final draft of dissertation writing as material for Open Session of Doctor Degree Dissertation of Architecture.

### Estimation of Outcomes

Change at hand in the mindset of Baluwerti society on the meaning of Keraton takes effect on that "kampung", namely there are two powers that shelter: keraton with concept magersari tuning into willingness of dues to keraton as embodiment of keraton existence in force, and local government with their power to collect taxes of land and building; it refers to as if the land in the authority of local or district administration. Spatially there is a permanent form from spatial macro and mezzo, and form changing from its spatial micro. since Paku Buwono V until now. Meanwhile building form has alteration since Keraton grants permission to change building from one floor into two floors.

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