Nostalgic element to support the sustainable reasons for architecture preservation – case study Metropole XXI, Jakarta

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Abstract. There are some reasons as a background for preserving the architecture building, one of them is nostalgic reason, “Old buildings have intrinsic value and are reminders of a city’s culture and complexity [1]. The nostalgic reasons is refer to a feeling or inspiring nostalgia [2]. The architecture and interior elements are among that create the nostalgic reasons of one place. Using mixed methodology between qualitative and quantitative, this research aims to overview the architecture, interior and some famous food that people remember about Metropole XXI building in Jakarta. The research found that some architecture and interior elements are among of what people remember about Metropole XXI as nostalgic reason that could help for future research on preserving this building as one of the oldest and well maintain historical building in Jakarta. The research also found that the nostalgic reason would lead to sustainable design for architecture and interior works because of its strong bond to the people who has their emotional closeness.

Keywords: Metropole XXI, architecture preservation, historical architecture, nostalgic element, sustainable reason.

1. Introduction

As our world toward to a sustainable approach on everything, so do the reasons of preserving the historic building. The research aims to get an overview of the nostalgic architecture, interior and some famous food that people remember with case study Metropole XXI building that might lead to a sustainable reason for preserving the building. “The history of sustainability or sustainable development has a strong connection to the history of the concept of progress, not only because it was the antecedent to notions of development, but also because it would in due course as its own antipode elicit calls for sustainability” [1]. “Memory was traditionally associated with history and timeline” [2] and “sustainability describes the search for a form of collective continuity at the level of popular culture and behaviour” [1].

The reasons of choosing Metropole XXI because it is one of the landmarks in Jakarta, located in Cikini area. It was recorded as a cultural reserve of class A category since 1993, the single building whose ownership is currently owned by the private sector is served as an amusement building for the
screening of films since it was inaugurated in 1951 and recorded as the oldest entertainment building or cinema in Indonesia. The architecture of the building reflects the golden era of its development; besides its charming looks, it also has a cultural and historical value and create a memory of the people who ever stopped by this building. The past researched on the architectural style of the main building Metropole XXI has set the building to have an Art Deco style. The building was built in the transition of Dutch East Indies government in Indonesia.

2. Methodology and Research Design
The research methodology of this research is mixed methodology between qualitative and quantitative with case study approach. It is the combination of literature reviews, complete observation of the site, photography review and questioners.

Based on observation of the site and photography review, this research highlighted some famous food from this place, architecture and interior elements that represents the art deco style the style that the building was designed by the architect. From what the researched highlighted the questioners were made. The questioner was made to covered the data about which part of the architecture and interior element, the kind of food and beverage people remember about this building.

All the data from the site observation and photography review, the questioners and study literature were analyzed to answer the research questions: is there any of architecture and interior elements that part of the nostalgic reason that people remember of the place. If any, does the element part of the architect’s genuine design? Compare to other things that people remember about the place, do the architecture and interior elements have a stronger emotional bond?

This paper is written as the early findings of the research that will be the base of the future collaboration research with other discipline between architecture, interior and psychology.

3. Data Collection
The questioner was conducted in Bahasa Indonesia. There were thirteen questions that the research highlighted. Please see Table 1 for the questioner which have been translated into English.

Figure 1. Architecture element of Metropole XXI
Table 1. The Questioner of the research

| No | English                                                                 | Choices of answers                                                                 |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | How old are you?                                                       | 1. Below 30 years old  
                                                                 | 2. Above 30 years old  
                                                                 | 1. Man 2. Woman  
                                                                 | 1. Yes 2. No  
                                                                 | 1. Yes 2. No |
| 2  | What is your gender?                                                   | 1. Watching movie  
                                                                 | 2. Just eat and drink  
                                                                 | 3. Meeting or appointment  
                                                                 | 1. Yes, I know  
                                                                 | 2. No, I don’t know  
                                                                 | 1. The form of façade  
                                                                 | 2. The interior form  
                                                                 | 3. The food  
                                                                 | 4. Café / Restaurant inside the Metropole |
| 3  | Do you stay in Jakarta/Bogor/Tangerang/Bekasi area?                     |                                                                                   |
| 4  | Have you ever been to Metropole XXI?                                   |                                                                                   |
| 5  | What do your purpose go to the Metropole XXI? You can answer more than one |                                                                                   |
| 6  | Do you know that Metropole XXI is the preservation building?           |                                                                                   |
| 7  | When you go to the Metropole XXI, What do you remember? You can answer more than one |                                                                                   |
| 8  | Do you have a memory about the Metropole XXI?                          |                                                                                   |
| 9  | In this picture, which façade is the most you remember? You can choose more than one | Please see figure 1  
                                                                 | Please see figure 2  
                                                                 | Please see figure 3  
                                                                 | Please see figure 4  
                                                                 | 1. Yes 2. No  
                                                                 | 1. Rujak Jangkung  
                                                                 | 2. Pempek Meegaria  
                                                                 | 3. Asinan Betawi  
                                                                 | 4. Roasted chicken  
                                                                 | 5. Coffee  
                                                                 | 6. Waffle & ice cream  
                                                                 | Please see figure 5 |
| 10 | In this picture, which part that you still remember? You can choose one only |                                                                                   |
| 11 | Which picture that you still remember when you get inside? You can choose more than one |                                                                                   |
| 12 | Which picture that attract you when you passing by?                    |                                                                                   |
| 13 | Which food and beverage that the most you like in the area of Metropole. |                                                                                   |
|    | You can choose more than one                                           |                                                                                   |

Figure 2. Architecture building, architecture and interior element of Metropole XXI
Figure 3. Interior space of Metropole XXI

Figure 4. Interior elements of Metropole XXI

Figure 5. The food and menu in Metropole

The questioner was launched on 19th of June 2019 and closed on 22nd of June 2019. It was replied by 263 respondents. The questioner was responded by 84% people above 30 years old and 62.7%
woman. The respondents 93.5% lived in Jabodetabek (Jakarta, Bogor Depok, Tangerang and Bekasi area) and 88.2% ever been to Metropole. The respondents 80.2% went to Metropole XXI to watch movie, 58.6% ate and drank, 19.4% had their appointment and meeting. 86.7% of respondents knew that the Metropole was a historical building. 87.5% of respondents remembered the façade form of the Metropole, 30% remembered the interior form, 50.6% remembered the food and beverage, 41.1% remembered the café or restaurant inside the Metropole. 69.6% of respondents had memories about the Metropole that still in their mind.

41.5% of respondents remembered the part of the building on number 1. 65% of respondents remembered the part of building on number 2. 50.2 of respondents remembered the part of building on number 3. 76.4% of respondents remembered part of building on number 1, 16.7% on number 2 and the rest on number 3.

54.4% of the respondents remembered the part of the building on number 1. 30.8% of respondents remembered the part of building on number 2. 45.2 of respondents remembered the part of building on number 3. 35.4 of respondents remembered the part of building on number 4. 51% of respondents attracted by picture number 1, 16.7% by picture number 2, 30% by picture number 4, and the rest by picture number 3.

65% of respondents like pempek Palembang, 34.6% like roasted chicken, 20.5% like rujak jangkung, 16.7% like the coffee, 16.3% like the asinan Betawi. 14.8% like the waffle and ice cream.

From the answers of the respondents, they are known that Metropole was the historic building and there was a significant number of respondents that had been to Metropole had memory about the Metropole with purposed of going to watch movie followed by going for eating, with top food pempek Palembang followed by roasted chicken. From the elements of the building the most people remember was the façade of the building.

The architectural part that people remembered about Metropole is on left side of figure 6 which is the art deco design element of the building. The whole façade of the building on the right side of figure 6 is also the view of the whole building that people remembered and is claimed as art deco style of the whole building. The architectural part that was remembered is a development of the original design (compare the photos in figure 6 above and the original building on figure 6 below).

Figure 6. Architectural element that most people remembered about Metropole (Above) source: private documentation, (Below) source: www.cinemapoetica.com
The interior part that people remembered about Metropole is on the left side of Figure 7 which is the art deco design element of the interior. The interior part is a new development of the preservation building that is designed according to the guideline for the cinema under the group of XXI.

![Figure 7. The most remembered interior part in Metropole](image)

The most remembered food in Metropole was *pempek* Palembang (Figure 8). It is a famous food that almost beloved by Jakarta people. The food originally comes from Palembang, South Sumatra. It is made from a fish paste and comes with a sour sauce.

![Figure 8. The most remembered food in Metropole](image)

4. Literature Review

“Nostalgia often refers to an individual’s sentimental longing for the past … with a broader view of nostalgia encompasses more than just an individual’s past, but all past, even the past that the individual has not experienced” [3]. “Nostalgia can apply to a melancholic emotion about anything individuals miss, even things they have not experienced before [3]. There are some reasons as a background for preserving the architecture building, one of them is nostalgic reason, “Old buildings have intrinsic value and are reminders of a city’s culture and complexity” [4]. The architecture elements that most people remembered of the Metropole were the elements of the Art Deco style that have been part of the preservation although they were developed from the original design and not 100% original. “Architects do not primarily design buildings as physical objects but the images and the feelings of the people who live in them” [5].

The Metropole XXI is a cultural reserve of class A category since 1993 served as an amusement building for the screening of films since 1951 and recorded as the oldest entertainment building or cinema in Indonesia. The architecture of the building reflects the golden era of its development. The past researched of the building set the building to have an Art Deco style. Some elements of the
architecture strongly show the golden era of the art deco. People was easily attracted by its look and get remembered with the charming look. The nostalgic element of the Metropole would lead to the sustainable reasons to preserve the building. It is an inspiring and has an emotional intimacy that connect people. The nostalgic reasons is refer to a feeling or inspiring nostalgia [6]. “The architecture and interior elements are among that create the nostalgic reasons of one place. Indulging nostalgia somehow liberates us from everyday issues and worries – some trivial, some more burdensome – which in turn allows us to approach our world with a fresh, creative perspective” [7]. “Nostalgia is not simply a past-oriented emotion, but its scope extends into the future, and, in particular, a positive future” [8]. “Interior design has never been based on formal visual composition, but always on an understanding of experiential reality and meaning of form such experiential reality is emotion-based and embodied” [9].

“People now look to this refashioned memory, especially in its collective forms, to give themselves a coherent identity, a national narrative, a place in the world” [10]. “The revival of nostalgia as a habitual tendency of modern collective memory has been attributed to the change from a cyclical to a linear temporal sense, as well as to the accelerating speed of spatial connections” [11]. The concepts of nostalgia and sustainability are connected by several key themes. First, they both involve the construction of complex temporal narratives about how cultures develop over time and progress from one state to another. Second, both concepts involve notions of curation and stewardship, as individuals in the present attempt to shape the environment for future generations and are mindful of their responsibility to those who will succeed them…At the same time, they project these values and traditions into the future to imagine how that culture could and should be sustained for future generations [1].

5. Conclusion and Suggestion
The research discovered that some architecture and interior elements are among of what people remembered about buildings that might lead to the sustainable reasons that could help for future research on preserving the building. In the case of Metropole XXI, the architecture and interior elements are the strongest elements that people remembered about the building as one of the oldest and well maintain historical building in Jakarta. The parts that people remembered were the development of the original design. The research also discovered that the nostalgic sustainable reason would lead to sustainable design for architecture and interior works because of its strong bond to the people who have their emotional intimacy.

The research suggests that the nostalgic architectural and interior elements to be specifically researched on details so that the contribution of the nostalgic elements would be emotionally connected with the people. Further research that collaborates between the architecture and interior studies and psychology would broaden the view of the knowledge.

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