The application of the English Garden Style in the Bogor Palace Area, West Java, Indonesia

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Abstract. This study's objective was to identify the Istana Bogor, area as an example of the English Garden Style. Bogor City is one of the cities in Indonesia related to the history of the colonial period from Dutch colonial up to British Colonial and back to Dutch Colonial. The Colonial characters can be seen in several buildings and landscapes in Bogor. One of the colonial periods, which can be seen in the unitary area between the Istana Bogor (IB - Bogor Palace) and the Bogor Botanical Gardens (KBR-Bogor Botanical Garden), it will be called the Istana Bogor area. This research was conducted using descriptive methods consisting of historic landscape architecture based on English garden Style, as a reference. The results of the Istana Bogor area design established based on the classic English garden concept with local wisdom. It can be seen from the adaptation in the Istana Bogor area. This is the best examples of the English garden style in Indonesia.

1. Introduction
The Bogor City is one of the cities in Indonesia related to the history of the colonial period from Dutch colonial up to British Colonial and back to Dutch Colonial. The Colonial characters can be seen in several buildings and landscapes in Bogor. One of the colonial periods can be seen in the unitary area between the Istana Bogor (IB-Bogor Palace) and the Bogor Botanical Gardens (KBR-Bogor Botanical garden). It will be called the Istana Bogor area, which used to be called Buitenzorg and has a vast garden (Bogor Botanical Gardens at the present).

The Istana Bogor area is a work of art that has the English garden style [1,2]. It was the resting place of the Governor-General G. W. Baron Van Imhoff (circa 1745) based on inspiration from Blenheim Palace in the United Kingdom (Figure 1) [3], the work of Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown. The main idea of the element of Brown’s gardens was the lawn and with his style to maintained the irregular and asymmetrical lines [4,5].

The English Garden Style was strengthened by Thomas Stamford Raffles, who inhabited the Istana Bogor Area and had a great interest in botany. Raffles developed the garden in the Istana Bogor area became the English Garden Style, such as Kew Garden in London. He ordered W. Kent to make a similar one in Bogor-Indonesia [6].

After the French Renaissance style, the development of the English garden style was the answer to the rebellion of the rigid French absolutism. The beginning of the English garden style circa 18-th century, it developed the naturalistic form, including architectural features (temples, Gothic ruins, obelisks, etc.) as the focal points of vistas connected by walks. Later 18-th-century English gardens style
will be focused on views and prospects to natural features. The final era English Garden style was characterized by an increase in the Picturesque movement's variation characteristic. It shows in the Table 1 and Figure 2 [7].

![Figure 1. Blenheim Palace Park and Garden circa 1835 [2].](image)

**Table 1.** Landscape design principles of English garden style.

| Principle  | Description                                                                 |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Framing**| The view of Field and hills was framed by trees                             |
| **Allusion**| Literary passages contained visual references.                              |
| **Narrative**| The explicit of heroic or patriotic theme through statuary and built form. |
| **Variety**| Picturesque garden, its contained contrasting forms, textures and lines.     |
| **Observation**| All the nature was explored including landscape scenery, plants, etc.        |

(*Illustrated History of Landscape Design, 1st edition page 175*)
2. Research methodology
The research is located Istana Bogor Area, located in the heart of Bogor City, West Java (Figure 3). It has an area of circa 115.4 ha (Istana Bogor circa 28.4 ha and Bogor Botanical Gardens circa 40 ha in the beginning and expand to 78 Ha at present) [8]. The research area topographically is at an altitude of 858 meters above sea level and located between 106°47' 796" East Longitude and 06°35'618" South Latitude [9]. The descriptive method consisting of historic landscape architecture that is the English garden style was conducted during the research. It was identified by era, landscape design, and plan-layout.

![Bogor City, Administrative Map (a)](https://petatematikindo.wordpress.com/2013/12/10/administrasi-kota-bogor/)  
![Istana Bogor Area, Satellite Map (b)](Google Earth with Personal Modification)

Figure 3. Map of research area.

3. Results and discussion
The Bogor City’s climate conditions, in general, the average temperature of 26°C each month with the lowest temperature of 21.8°C with the highest temperature of 30.4°C. The humidity is 70% the average rainfall is around 3,500-4000 mm [9]. Due to the high rainfall in Bogor City it is called as Rain City or Kota Hujan. Based on the climatology data, the weather in Bogor City is cooler than Jakarta (Batavia in the past).

With the cooler weather in Bogor City, it is not surprising that the colonial period from Dutch colonial up to British Colonial and back to Dutch Colonial, Bogor City, was the favorite location for resting place...
since circa 18th-century. In 1817, the Istana Bogor area, especially the vast garden (Kebun Raya Bogor at present) it decided to become a center for the development of tropical plant science [6,8].

The English garden Style in Istana Bogor Area. As mention in the beginning that the Governor-General G. W. Baron Van Imhoff (circa 18th-century) made The Istana Bogor area was a work of art that has the English garden style [1,3]. It was based on inspiration from Blenheim Palace. It shows in Figure 4, the modification of Istana Bogor Area that the main idea of the gardens was the lawn and with his style to maintained the irregular and asymmetrical lines.

![Figure 4. The modification of Istana Bogor Area [9,10].](image)

**Table 2.** The identification of landscape design principles of English garden style in the Istana Bogor area.

| Framing and observation the view of Istana Bogor area was framed by trees. The tree was collection of tropical plant. It could be one of the example of local wisdom [11]. |
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| Allusion and narrative, it could be seen in monument of Lady Raffles [12] (the form is Rotunda) |
Table 2. Cont.

| Principle variety from picturesque garden-Istana Bogor Area, it contained the contrast between forms, texture and linear in landscape design [13]. |

Table 3. The identification of landscape design vocabulary of English garden style in the Istana Bogor area.

(a-b). The Painting of Istana Bogor area with concept Ha Ha Wall, Hills and the Lake. The English Garden Style in The Istana Bogor Area is using the local wisdom, such as the bamboo for the gazebo, the hills were surrounding by the rice fields [14].

(a) Istana Bogor Area with concept Ha Ha wall, Hills and the Lake. The English garden style in the Istana Bogor Area is using the local wisdom, such as the palm tree, old tree of *Ficus sp.*, (b) The modification of Ha Ha wall a with the lawn for Axis Deer [15, 16].

4. Conclusion

The results are the Istana Bogor area design established based on the classic English garden concept with local wisdom. It can be seen from the identification of English garden style, with the adaptation of
the Local Wisdom Indonesia, from the modification of Concept Haha Wall, the use of bamboo as the material in the past, and the tropical plant collection in Kebon Raya Bogor. With this research, it can be seen that the unitary area between the Istana Bogor (IB - Bogor Palace) and the Bogor Botanical Gardens (KBR-Bogor Botanical garden), are the best examples of the English garden style in Indonesia.

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