

## TRANSITION IN BUILDING FUNCTION OF THE FORMER OFFICIAL RESIDENCES FOR RESIDENTS AND RESIDENT ASSISTANTS FROM THE DUTCH COLONIAL HERITAGE OF THE 19-20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY IN MADIUN RAYA

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### Abstract

*Resident and resident assistants are designations for colonial officials assigned to assist the Governor-general of the Dutch East Indies in the administrative area of the residency level. This research aims to trace the existence of Dutch colonial heritage buildings in the administrative area of the Madiun Residency, now termed Madiun Raya, consisting of Madiun, Ponorogo, Pacitan, Ngawi, and Magetan. This research is obtained through a unit analysis research with the main subject being Dutch colonial buildings and a historical approach. The stages are heuristics (gathering sources), source criticism, interpretation, and historical writing. This research results in four findings in the form of official residences for Residents and Resident Assistants who have ruled Madiun Raya from 1830 to 1942, including the official residence of Madiun Resident, official residence of Ponorogo Resident Assistant, official residence of Pacitan Resident Assistant, and official residence of Ngawi Resident Assistant. Then, it explains the transition function of the four buildings in the present.*

*Keywords: Building; Colonial; Residents; Resident assistants; Madiun Raya.*

### INTRODUCTION

Madiun Raya is a modern term attributed to a former Dutch colonial government area called the Madiun Residency, whose scope includes Madiun, Ponorogo, Pacitan, Ngawi and Magetan (*Staatsblad van Nederlandsch-Indië* Nomor 147 Tahun 1887). However, the administrative area formed by the Dutch East Indies Government was abolished at the beginning of Indonesian independence (Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 12 Tahun 1950). Then, Madiun and four other regencies were determined to be a part of the administration of East Java Province until now. However, it is still used informally on the "AE" vehicle number plate for the former Madiun Residency area based on the (Peraturan Kepala Kepolisian Negara Republik Indonesia Nomor 5 Tahun 2012).

Research related to Madiun Raya continues to be developed in order to reintroduce local history to the younger generation, including in the book Ong Hok Ham (2019). This book explains the struggles of the priyayi and peasants in Madiun Raya in an effort to defend their territory from Dutch colonial hands. Furthermore, the book "Madiun Raya Trilogy", including edits by Christopher Reinhart (2021), contains a collection of important information about the history of Madiun in the 10th to 19th centuries. As written by Resident Madiun L. Adam (1934-1938), Karsono Hardjoseputro's (2021) translation about the history of *Brang Wétan* region (now East Java), including Madiun Raya, and the personal work of Akhlis Syamsal Qomar (2022) reviews the biography of a figure from Madiun Regent, Raden Ronggo Prawirodirjo III and his struggle against Dutch colonialism and imperialism.

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Article History | Submitted: 10 April, 2023 | Revised: 8 Juni, 2023 | Accepted: 19 Juli, 2023

HOW TO CITE (APA 6<sup>th</sup> Edition):

Mochammad Nginwanun Likullil Mahamid, Marjoko Santoso. (2023). Transition in Building Function of the Former Official Residences for Residents and Resident Assistants from the Dutch Colonial Heritage of the 19-20<sup>th</sup> Century in Madiun Raya. *Juspi: Jurnal Sejarah Peradaban Islam*. 7(1), page.82-90

DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.30829/juspi.v7i1.15928>

Another research conducted by Mochammad Nginwanun Likullil Mahamid (2022) book discusses the history of Madiun Raya when its status as an East Mananegara region under the Mataram government ended after the events of Java War (1825-1830). Since then, precisely on August 31, 1830, Madiun Raya became an area under the jurisdiction of the Dutch East Indies Government headed by a Resident, so many development programs took place in Madiun Raya and gave birth to a number of socio-political changes until the end of the Dutch East Indies rule in 1942.

In this research, the researcher tries to explain the various official residence buildings as supporting facilities provided by the Dutch East Indies Government to their Resident and Resident Assistant subordinates in the Madiun Raya area. In addition, regarding policies related to development programs in the colony and the building of the former official residence of colonial officials in Madiun Raya, which changed its function after the end of the Dutch East Indies.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This research was compiled using a unit analysis research (Hamidi, 2010), with the main subject being Dutch colonial heritage buildings in Madiun Raya. It included the history of the construction of the building and its relation to the political events that occurred in the research's scope, as well as its current condition. Then, a historical approach is chosen to assess the findings in the unit analysis research, with heuristic stages (source gathering), source criticism, interpretation, and writing (Madjid & Wahyudhi, 2014).

This research used two types of historical sources, namely primary sources and secondary sources. The primary sources were the colonial archives from the National Archive of the Republic of Indonesia and the website [www.delpher.nl](http://www.delpher.nl), which contained a collection of information on the policies of the Dutch East Indies Government in the Madiun Raya area. In addition, historical photos to strengthen the findings in the form of colonial buildings were accessed from the KITLV (*Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*). Meanwhile, the secondary sources were books in the library, journals obtained from Google Scholar, and field studies of several places where colonial buildings currently exist in Madiun Raya.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The history of Madiun Raya in the 19th century began after the end of the Java War or Diponegoro War (1825-1830). At that time, massive wars occurred in almost the entire island of Java as well as making one by one the administrative areas part of the Mataram dynasty, especially East Mananegara, consisting of Madiun, Ponorogo, Pacitan, Ngawi and Magetan, which were successfully taken over by the Dutch East Indies Government. Then, a new government administration was established, which was named the Madiun Residency and appointed by L. Launij (1830-1838) as the first Madiun Resident. At that time, Madiun Regency was designated as the capital and center of government and three Resident Assistants were chosen who were stationed in Ponorogo, Pacitan, and Ngawi to assist with the tasks of the Madiun Resident, as well as one Controller in Magetan who served as supervisor and tax collector for the indigenous people (Margana dkk., 2018).

This effort was made in order to create bureaucratic efficiency of the Dutch colonial government in Madiun Raya for the sustainability of the programs of the Dutch East Indies Government in its new colony, starting from controlling colonial lands, exploiting all available natural resources, collecting income taxes from farmers, and taking labor from indigenous people (Ham, 2019). In addition, official residence facilities are also provided for every powerful official, including Madiun Resident and Resident Assistant, to support the continuity of government (Mahamid, 2022). The progress or decline of an area is inseparable from the responsibility of a leader for the achievements of his performance (Sugianto & Khoirurrosyidin, 2021).

At the end of the Dutch East Indies government in 1942, some of the Dutch heritage buildings visited by colonial officials in the Madiun Raya area can be found today. Some of the buildings have become assets owned by the local government, which then changed their function. The following is a review of Dutch colonial heritage buildings ever used as the official residence of

Resident and Resident Assistant at Madiun Raya, including the official residence of Madiun Resident, official residence of Ponorogo Resident Assistant, official residence of Pacitan Resident Assistant, and official residence of Ngawi Resident Assistant.

### Official Residence of Madiun Resident (1830-1942)

Regarding formal jurisdiction, the Dutch East Indies Government began its work in Madiun Raya on August 31, 1830. Since then, various development programs have been pursued, including building official residences for colonial officials, including the Madiun Resident and his staff, to support the continuity of the government. Another important thing is taking full advantage of natural resources and using indigenous people as workers after the Governor General's Resolution Number 10 issuance on December 10, 1832, concerning the implementation of the Cultivation System. This policy forced indigenous people to plant what Governor General Van Den Bosch ordered through the Madiun Resident, including coffee, sugarcane, indigo and cinnamon. In addition, each family was required to pay an annual tax to the assigned official, namely the Controller (Mahamid, 2021).

Regarding the building that became the Madiun Resident's workspace, until now, there has been no official document left by the Dutch East Indies Government that provides information on when the building was erected. However, if we look at the events above since the Dutch government set foot in Madiun Raya, the official residence of Resident building was built and immediately occupied, then underwent several replacement positions following directions from the Dutch East Indies central government. Of course, with a bit of a long story about the process of running the Dutch colonial government bureaucracy in the region, which went through various important phases and development programs, as well as the impact felt by indigenous people (Mahamid, 2022).

Photo 1. Official Residence of Madiun Resident



(Source: *Residentshuis Te Madioen*, 1930)

Five years after the independence of the Republic of Indonesia, the residency administration system formed by the Dutch East Indies Government, which had been running for about 1.5 centuries, was officially abolished by the Indonesian government with the issuance of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 12 of 1950 (Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 12 Tahun 1950) concerning the formation of the East Java Province totalling 29 regencies, and five of them are part of Madiun Raya. The Indonesian government re-issued Law Number 5 of 1974 regarding coordination tasks at the provincial level, which were borne by the Assistant Governor, then the Provincial Coordinating Board (Bakorwil) was formed following the issuance of East Java Provincial Regulation Number 5 of 2001 (*Website Resmi Pemerintah Provinsi Jawa Timur: Bakorwil I Madiun*, 2022).

Now, East Java Province has five Provincial Coordinating Bodies (Bakorwil) as extensions of the Governor of East Java, including Bakorwil I in Madiun, Bakorwil II in Bojonegoro, Bakorwil III in Malang, Bakorwil IV in Pamekasan, and Bakorwil V in Jember (Sutanto dkk., 2019). Thus, the determination of Bakorwil members is based not only on geographic location but also on the emotional closeness of each region under one umbrella. One of them is Madiun Raya, which is entirely a member of Bakorwil I Madiun, then a portion of the Kediri Raya area or the former Kediri Residency government, including Kediri, Tulungagung and Trenggalek (Mahamid, 2021).

Bakorwil I Madiun has an office in a location that used to be the official residence of Madiun Resident, located at Jalan Pahlawan No. 31, Madiun City (Sukarno dkk., 2014). The official residence, built in the mid-19th century, is still standing strong today and is a silent witness to the struggle of the indigenous people against Dutch colonialism in Madiun Raya (Sukarno dkk., 2014b). As a preservation effort, it was designated as a city-level cultural heritage based on the Decree of the Mayor of Madiun Number 197 of 2019 (*Surat Keputusan Walikota Madiun Nomor 197 Tahun 2019*). On the other hand, it has the opportunity to be developed into historical tourism, along with other buildings in the adjacent Dutch colonial era, such as the Rejoagung Sugar Factory, Madiun Mayor's Office, Santo Cornelius Church, Hwie Ing Kiong Temple, Chinese Captain's House, and the Bosbow Dormitory Complex (Fathoni, 2017).

Photo 2. Bakorwil I Madiun Office



(Source: Personal Document, 20 February 2022)

### **Second Official Residence of Madiun Resident (1900-1902) and Ponorogo Resident Assistant (1902-1942)**

The cultivation system was gradually abolished after the publication of the 1870 Agrarian Reform Law, which was published in the state gazette (*Staatsblad van Nederlandsch-Indië* Nomor 118 Tahun 1870), and its implementation was completely stopped in Madiun Raya in 1880. Madiun Raya then entered a new phase, namely the Ethical Politics throughout the Madiun Raya region, with the aim that development could be evenly distributed and not only Madiun was developing, even though it held the title as the residency capital. The main programs of Ethical Politics included irrigating rice fields, educational allowances, and equal distribution of the population. Besides, other developments, such as infrastructure, public transportation facilities, and official residence buildings for colonial officials, were added (Mahamid, 2022).

The Ethical Policy was officially enacted after obtaining approval from the Dutch Queen Wilhelmina in a speech entitled "*Ethische Richting*" on September 17, 1901. The speech contained a statement of attitude to ease the burden on the native people after years of colonialism. In the end, applying the Ethical Policy was separate from the interests of the Dutch East Indies Government (Daliman, 2017). Meanwhile, in Madiun Raya, this political discourse had existed since 1896, when it was ruled by Resident Donner (1896-1902), whose mission was to make his territory develop in terms of government administration and build various public infrastructure and adequate transportation facilities to facilitate the running of the bureaucracy (Mahamid, 2021).

During his journey, Resident Donner carried out more activities outside Madiun, especially Ponorogo and carried out construction there, one of which was an official residence as the second residence of Madiun Resident (Mahamid, 2021). Ponorogo was chosen because of its strategic location connecting all areas in Madiun, including Ponorogi to the north, Pacitan to the south, and Ngawi and Magetan to the west (Assistent-Residentswoning Te Ponorogo, 1915). The official residence of the two Residents is estimated to have been used in 1900. However, two years when Donner was no longer the Madiun Resident, the building was then used as the official residence of Ponorogo Resident Assistant (Residentswoning Te Ponorogo in de Resident Madioen, 1900).

Photo 3. Official Residence of Ponorogo Resident Assistant



(Source: Assistent-Residentswoning Te Ponorogo, 1915)

Photo 4. Public Junior High School Ponorogo 1 Ponorogo



(Source: Personal Document, 27 July 2020)

At the beginning of Indonesian independence, this colonial heritage building was used temporarily as a hospital in Ponorogo. Due to the fire accident that hit the old Junior High School Ponorogo building on December 29, 1950, the head of the school, Koesmadi, sent an Application to the Principal of the Ponorogo Junior High School Number 232 of 1950 (Surat Permohonan Kepala SMP Ponorogo Nomor 232 Tahun 1950) regarding moving the building and adding classrooms to the Ponorogo government. As for the proposal to be occupied was the hospital because it will be soon that the new building for the Ponorogo Hospital will be completed and ready to be occupied. Thus, starting in 1951, the building built for the first time was occupied by the Madiun Resident, again changing its function as Junior High School 1 Ponorogo located at Jalan Soekarno Hatta No 82, Ponorogo (Website Resmi SMP Negeri 1 Ponorogo, 2022).

#### **Official Residence of Pacitan Resident Assistant (1900-1942)**

The economic crisis that hit the Dutch East Indies in the 19th century caused the colonial government to want to save their cash expenses by reducing the number of regencies in Madiun Raya. As for the consideration was the strategic location of an area that was too far from the center of government, this referred to Pacitan Regency, which made it removed from the Madiun Residency through Governor General Resolution Number 1 on June 6, 1832 (Margana dkk., 2018). Although Pacitan was returned to the Madiun Residency or Madiun Raya area at the end of 1867, the Dutch East Indies Government considered that natural potential could be utilized to support the economy, such as coffee plantations and agriculture (Ham, 2019).

During the Resident Donner, Pacitan, which initially received little attention for its existence, became more developed along with the expansion it carried out in order to make improvements in all areas within the scope of Madiun Raya, including Pacitan, which was rarely touched before. Just like in Ponorogo, the construction of an official residence for Resident Assistant was also carried out by Donner since he ruled in 1896, and at the same time became the residence for the Regent of Pacitan (J. & Langenhuysen, 1898). This is intended to make public services smoother. Residents can also monitor the development of the coffee-producing area, given the geographical location, which is very far from the capital and center of government compared to other Madiun Raya areas (Mahamid, 2022).

Photo 5. Pacitan Regency Hall



(Source: Personal Document, 8 February 2022)

However, no photos of the past have been found to date as evidence of the establishment of the official residence of Pacitan Resident Assistant, apart from coming from a written source, namely the general report on civil works in the Dutch East Indies in *Verslag over de burgerlijke openbare werken in Nederlandsch-Indië* in 1896 (J. & Langenhuysen, 1898). Based on the observation, the Pacitan Regency Hall, which was also the Pacitan Regent's office with the feel of the current Joglo house, resulted from a reconstruction of the previous building so it no longer looked like a colonial building. In addition, other evidence according to regional spatial planning, the position of the hall or government offices throughout Madiun Raya was located west of the town square or park. This is in accordance with the position of the Pacitan Regency Hall located on the west side of the Pacitan Square, specifically at Jalan Attorney General Suprpto No. 8, Pacitan (Pacitan Regency Official Website, 2022).

### **Official Residence of Ngawi Resident Assistant (1900-1942)**

Resident Donner's efforts in developing public infrastructure as part of Ethical Politics entered its final phase after being involved in a conflict with the Regent of Madiun Brotodiningrat because Donner's attitude tended to side with the Dutch government. This action was considered detrimental to the indigenous people, especially farmers, where irrigation that should have been used to irrigate the people's rice fields were channelled to plantation fields belonging to the Dutch government to be sold to foreign parties, such as Europe and China. Therefore, a new political system was born; namely, the Liberal Economy or Capitalist Economy occurred simultaneously

with the implementation of Ethical Politics in the Madiun Raya area (Pemerintah Daerah Tingkat II Madiun, 1980).

The feud between the two officials above caused chaos throughout the colonial government on Java Island from 1900 to 1902. This impacted the security situation in Madiun Raya, which was getting out of control, such as 17 cases of robbery, 166 cases of livestock theft, and the burning of approximately 300 hectares of sugarcane fields (Ham, 2019). Various investigations continued, one of which was by a colonial official who became Advisor on Indigenous Affairs, Snouck Hurgronje. According to him, the Regent of Brotodiningrat was found guilty of committing theft at the Madiun Resident's official residence as well as wanting to undermine the authority of the Dutch East Indies Government. Followed by a statement by the National Press figure Tirto Adhi Soerjo, Brotodiningrat was only a victim of Donner's slander in the theft case (Yacob, 2016).

Even though it was very tough, the case was successfully resolved by the Dutch East Indies Government through a special decision (*exorbitante rechen*) signed by the Governor General on April 5, 1902, in (*Algemeene Secretarie Nomor 4025 Tahun 1902*). The result was a guilty verdict against the Regent of Brotodiningrat, exiling him to Padang, West Sumatra. Meanwhile, Donner, who reported it, was also dismissed from his position as a Resident of Madiun (*Media Arsip Nasional*, 2014). Shortly thereafter, the Dutch East Indies Government appointed a new Resident of Madiun, W.T.L. Boissevain (1902-1907), to continue the development of the previous Resident (Mahamid, 2022).

Resident Boissevain continued the construction of roads that connected between regions, including Madiun to Magetan, Magetan to Ponorogo, and Magetan to Ngawi. Then, the railroad construction from Madiun to Ponorogo was successfully completed in 1907 (Reitsma, 1920). Unfortunately, this railroad line has not been operating since 1984 due to the lack of passengers because people at that time preferred to use private vehicles (Zulkarnain dkk., 2017). Simultaneously with the construction of the Madiun to Ponorogo railway line, an official residence was also built for the Ngawi Resident Assistant. Still, it was yet to be discovered exactly when this building began to be actively used.

Photo 6. Official Residence of Ngawi Resident Assistant



(Source: F. van Mourik *Voor de Assistent-Residentwoning Te Ngawi*, 1940)

Like the former Pacitan Resident Assistant building, a similar condition also occurred in Ngawi, and the building can now be said to have disappeared without a trace. It is thought that it was formerly located north of the current Ngawi Regent's office at Jalan Teuku Umar No 12, Ngawi, based on a 1924 map of Ngawi Square (Hermawan, 2020). However, Ngawi Regency still has another well-known Dutch colonial heritage building, namely Fort Van Den Bosch or better known as Fort Pendem, established by Governor General Van Den Bosch around 1839-1845, and until now has undergone several revitalizations to maintain its authenticity of the historic building (Rosikin & Hartono, 2016). In addition, an ancient Dutch tomb (*Kerkhof*) is located in Fort Pendem as a source for learning local history (Habsari, 2017).

## CONCLUSION

This research describes four historical buildings in the Madiun Raya area (former Madiun residency) as the former administrative area of the Dutch East Indies Government from 1830 to 1942, including the building of the official residence of Madiun Resident (1830-1942), the second official residence of Madiun Resident (1900-1902), which became the Ponorogo Resident Assistant (1902-1942), then the official residence of Pacitan Resident Assistant (1900-1942), and official residence of Ngawi Resident Assistant (1900-1942). The existence of the building facilitated the performance of colonial officials, namely the Madiun Resident and his three Resident Assistants in Ponorogo, Pacitan and Ngawi, in carrying out government activities and various development programs.

However, currently, only two buildings remain, in which the foundations and architecture of the buildings are still intact, including the former residence of the Madiun Resident, which has now changed its function to become the office of Bakorwil I Madiun and the former official residence of Ponorogo Resident Assistant, which is now being used as a Junior High School 1 Ponorogo building. Meanwhile, the two other buildings, namely the former official residence of Pacitan Resident Assistant, have been replaced with the Joglo house feel and are almost in the same condition as the former official residence of Ngawi Resident Assistant and have even disappeared without a trace. All of this is an important lesson for us to be more responsible in preserving historical heritage, bearing in mind that their existence is one of the most valuable treasures and a means for studying local history.

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