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Revitalization of the Guardhouse as a Community Security Building in RT 04 of Wisma Permai Housing

¹Kharisma Ziliwu^{*}, ¹Daniel Gentario, ¹Seanivenna F. Hondo, ¹Ferdinard Boli, ¹Widriyakara Setiadi, ¹Josephine Roosandriantini, ¹Anas Hidayat

¹Universitas Katolik Darma Cendika Surabaya, Indonesia *Corresponding author Email: kharisma.ziliwu@student.ukdc.ac.id

Contact: Phone: +62 (341) 478494

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Abstract

Purpose: This research explores revitalization, focusing on the transformation of an idle guardhouse in the Wisma Permai Mulyorejo Surabaya housing complex into a functional community security asset. It underscores the importance of such projects in community security and urban planning.

Method: The study employs the ANSOS (Assessment, Needs Analysis, Solution, Output, and Sustainability) method to guide the revitalization process of the guardhouse in RT 04. This methodology encompasses various stages, including comprehensive field surveys, interviews, questionnaires, the development of alternative guardhouse designs, and the facilitation of Forum Discussion Groups (FGD).

Practical Applications: Successful revitalization can enhance security and generate economic value by repurposing the guardhouse. The findings inform urban planning and community development.

Conclusion: This research aims to revitalize the dormant guardhouse in Wisma Permai, creating a functional community security hub. The results offer improved security and economic benefits, contributing to urban development knowledge.

Ο



Introduction

A guardhouse is a security facility in a residential area, typically a semi-permanent or permanent structure strategically positioned to monitor its surroundings. It represents social order and security, both locally and on a larger scale (Fadlan, 2016). Its function is to serve as a place for security personnel to stop, meet, and gather (Ujianto & Febrianto, 2020). The presence of a guardhouse in a residential area is a means to create security and comfort within that community (Sumarno, 2015). Security and comfort are crucial factors in an environmental context, making the presence of a guardhouse essential for maintaining safety in the residential environment (Setiawan, 2017).

Revitalization is the process of reviving, reinvigorating, or restoring the function of something that has become dormant or inactive. This process can apply to various aspects, including land, labour, skills, entrepreneurship, institutions, physical infrastructure, and the structural and functional aspects of actors in response to new demands, challenges, or needs (Prabowo & Setiawan, 2013). In architecture, revitalization refers to efforts or processes aimed at reactivating the function of buildings or urban areas that have experienced a decline in status or a gradual change in function (Mahindra & Megawati, 2022). Revitalization in historical or heritage buildings or areas aims to bring them back to life, manage, develop, and rediscover their potential (Riadi, 2019).

Revitalization activities comprise three main aspects: first, the concept of reactivating the potential of a place, be it natural or cultural, for preservation purposes. Second, the goal is to restore the area in terms of socio-cultural, economic, infrastructure, utilities, renovation, and development aspects for the sake of preservation. Third, the form and parties involved in revitalization are identical to the steps in preservation (Budhi, 2020).

The guardhouse in RT 04 of Wisma Permai Mulyosari has changed its function and usage, and it is no longer in use. The absence of electricity and clean water has rendered the guardhouse unusable. The security personnel of Wisma Permai housing no longer utilize this guardhouse.

Figure 1. Left: Detail of the Guardhouse Condition; Right: Overall Image of the Guardhouse Building (Source: Author's Data, 2022)



A noodle seller who used to operate from the guardhouse no longer utilizes it for their business. During the pandemic, the guardhouse was abandoned by these vendors. Presently, the guardhouse in RT 04 of the Wisma Permai housing complex has been repurposed into a storage facility for equipment and RT 04 inventory items. The RT 04 management at Wisma Permai also needs more funds for renovating or repairing the guardhouse.

A guardhouse is a security facility that should be available within a residential complex. Its function is to serve as a place for security guards to monitor and ensure the security of the residential environment (Huzairin et al., 2021). Typically, a guardhouse can accommodate 2-4 people. Ideally, a standard guardhouse should be equipped with a guard room, restroom facilities, and a resting area.

The issue with the guardhouse at RT 04 of Wisma Permai is due to the lack of regular maintenance. The solution to this problem, as desired by the residents, is to conduct revitalization (restoration of function). Participation in improvement aims to raise community awareness and restructure the surrounding social order (Sudibyo, 2006). This realization requires direct involvement from all parties involved in decision-making and implementation in the community's life. Participation in guardhouse improvement is a model activity that involves the community as both beneficiaries and proactive participants needed to enhance the community's living standards (Aryani et al., 2022).

Through the improvement of the guardhouse in RT 04 of Wisma Permai II, Kalisari, Mulyorejo Subdistrict, Surabaya City, East Java, it can become a more comfortable place for security personnel. The purpose of this community service is to assist the RT 04 officials of the Wisma Permai Housing in renovating their guardhouse. The community service by the UKDC Architecture program is related to the revitalization of the function of the guardhouse in RT 04. The benchmark for the success of this revitalization is the transformation of the guardhouse in RT 04 and the restoration of its security facilities.

Method

Research Methodology is an effort to solve a problem. The descriptive method was chosen and employed to analyze the guardhouse issue in the Wisma Permai housing complex. The descriptive method is used to gather information and provide a portrayal of a specific phenomenon that emerges during the research to depict the real-life situation of the observed phenomenon as it is (Asrin, 2022). Descriptive research uses independent variables without comparing or developing them with others (Sari et al., 2022). The interview method is utilized to collect data from informants. Interviews can be conducted through questionnaires or direct interaction with respondents (Yuliani, 2018). Focus Group Discussion (FGD) is employed to validate data and research findings. The advantage of the FGD method is that it enriches data and adds value compared to other methods (Afiyanti, 2008).

The process method used to analyze the presence of the guardhouse in RT 04 RW 06 of the Wisma Permai housing is as follows: (1) Initial phase of surveying the predetermined location; (2) Conducting interviews with residents and officials of Wisma Permai RT 04; (3) Alternative designs, reports, documentation, and the implementation of FGD; (4) The final stage is revitalization and an inauguration event for the guardhouse is held, attended by RT officials, residents, and professors. During this activity, an on-site visit to the guardhouse location is conducted to assess its condition after revitalization, and it serves as a community service initiative for the Wisma Permai residents during the inauguration event held on Sunday, June 19, 2022.

Result

Community Service serves as a learning platform for students to apply their practical skills while providing tangible benefits to the community. The guardhouse in RT 04 RW 06 is the subject of community service and will be revitalized based on the opinions of Wisma Permai residents regarding its function. The community service activity of the UKDC Architecture program was conducted during the second semester of 2021-2022. The implementation of the guardhouse improvement project in RT 04 of Wisma Permai started in early February 2022 and continued until mid-June 2022. This community service project involved 7 (seven) students and collaboration with several residents. The project was divided into 2 (two) main activities:

- a. Planning Activities, including field condition surveys, discussions with various community members, scheduling of activities, budgeting, alternative design discussions (FGD), and administrative arrangements.
- b. Field Activities, including on-site action plans, scheduling of work activities, site cleaning, procurement of materials, the repair process, and building handover.

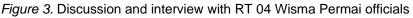
The implementation location of this Community Service is situated in RT 04 RW 06 of the Wisma Permai Housing, specifically on Wisma Permai Barat II Street, Kalisari, Mulyorejo Subdistrict, Surabaya City, East Java 60112.





The location of the guardhouse is situated next to the river within the Wisma Permai housing. The guardhouse's position is highly strategic as it is located right along the main road of the Wisma Permai housing and in the middle of RT 04 area. This position facilitates security personnel in monitoring the entry and exit of vehicles, guests, and the activities of residents in RT 04 RW 06 of the Wisma Permai Housing.

The implementation of the community service activities for the RT 04 guardhouse takes into consideration the architectural design aspect based on the inspiration/aspirations of the needs of RT 04 RW 06 Wisma Permai residents. The goal of involving Wisma Permai residents in the planning process is to ensure that the resulting design is functional and aligns with the residents' preferences. Figure 3 shows the initial meeting of UKDC architecture students with the Wisma Permai housing community officials.





This meeting was held to introduce themselves and seek permission from the housing community officials to carry out community service in the Wisma Permai housing complex. The topics of discussion with the community officials revolved around the needs and aspirations of the residents and discussions regarding the programs that RT 04 has already, is currently, and will be implementing. Information and aspirations were gathered and

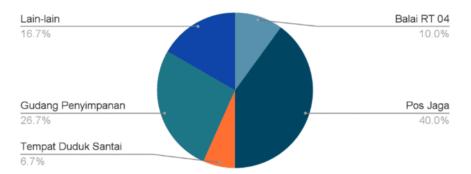
continued by meeting with several community leaders in Wisma Permai. Information data was collected through questionnaires, both online and offline. Students assisted elderly residents in filling out the questionnaires, while younger residents completed the questionnaires via the prepared Google Form. This way, all Wisma Permai residents' aspirations can be represented, ensuring that the resulting design truly meets the residents' needs. The results of the questionnaire, based on the distributed surveys, can be seen in the following table.

Num.	Age	Opinion	
1.	20 - 30	Repaired to its original function	
2.	31 - 40	Repaired to the best extent possible and used as a guard post	
3.	41-50	Reactivated according to its original function	
4.	51-60	Dismantled and repurposed for another function to make it useful	
5.	61-70	Kept as a security post	
6.	≥71	Utilized as a security and storage facility	

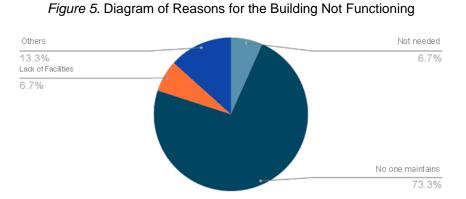
Table 1	Results	of Wisma	Permai	Residents'	Aspirations
Table I.	TCSUILS V	or wisina	i ennai	Residents	Aspirations

From the table above, it can be concluded that most residents wish for the building to be repaired and repurposed for other activities (such as storage or rental) while also being restored to its original function as a guardhouse. Based on the questionnaire results for the RT 04 guardhouse in Wisma Permai, the aspirations obtained from RT 04 Wisma Permai residents are as follows: 40% of the 30 respondents stated that the initial function of the building was a guardhouse.

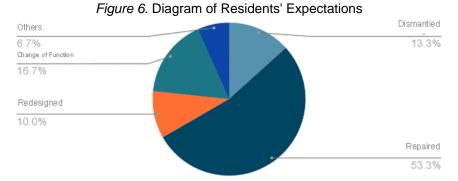




However, the statements made do not align with the current situation. One of the statements from residents is that the issue of repurposing the guardhouse is primarily due to the lack of building maintenance, leading to the guardhouse being used as a storage warehouse.



The current condition of the guardhouse being repurposed for other functions needs to align with the statements made. From the questionnaire data regarding building utilization, approximately 53.3% of residents wish for the guardhouse to be reactivated. Other inputs from residents suggest that the guardhouse's premises could be rented out, allowing the maintenance costs and sustainability of the guardhouse to be covered by the rental income, which would contribute to RT 04's funds.



Based on the questionnaire results, the next step is planning several alternative designs. The designs offered to residents consist of several options: a fixed design, keeping it as it is with necessary improvements. Another alternative involves adding facilities to the guardhouse and a proposal to completely renovate the RT 04 guardhouse. Detailed budgets for each design also accompany design proposals. The processed results of several alternative guardhouse designs are presented to the residents. Here are some of the alternative design results that were presented:

Num.	Design		Advantages		Shortage
1.	<image/>	•	Minor repairs are required. Cost-effective	•	No supporting facilities (Such as toilets, gardens, and others)
2.	<image/>	•	Improvements to the entire building Additional support facilities Additional space	•	Slightly higher costs Lack of a power source and water for toilets
3.	<complex-block></complex-block>	•	Building with a complete renovation Additional rooms Supporting facilities (garden and restroom) Multifunctional	•	Very high repair costs No nearby power and water sources for toilets and gardens

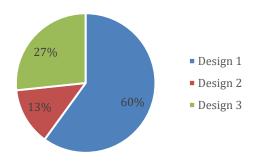
Table 2. Alternative Designs for RT 04 Wisma Permai Guardhouse

The gathering of residents' aspirations regarding the choices of guardhouse design mentioned above was conducted using Google Forms as a medium. The summarized results of this opinion poll are as follows:

	Name	Age	Design Choice
1	Dyah Ayu	47	Design 1
2	Dewa Meles	68	Design 1
3	Nirawati Pribadi	59	Design 3
4	Bob Djumara	72	Design 1
5	Ningsih	55	Design 3
6	Zainuddin	67	Design 1
7	Dina	55	Design 1
8	Drs Widoyo	78	Design 1
9	Dr Nirawati	58	Design 2
10	Vitri	38	Design 2
11	Ady Gunawan	30	Design 3
12	Leli Eko H	44	Design 1
13	Bagus	57	Design 1
14	Azwar Rashim	58	Design 3
15	Sugeng	56	Design 1

Table 3. Results of the Selection of RT 04 Wisma Permai Guardhouse Designs

Figure 7. Diagram of Design Selection Results



Based on the election results, Design 1 was chosen by many residents. Therefore, the community service program conducted by UKDC architecture students to revitalize the RT 04 guardhouse will be based on the criteria of Design 1. The implementation of the revitalization and renovation program in the field is divided into several stages, as follows:

1. First Stage

This stage consists of dismantling and cleaning work, including site preparation, paint layer stripping from the walls, dismantling of paving and plastering, and ceiling removal.

Figure 8. From Left: Wall Cleaning; Ceiling Dismantling; Floor Dismantling; Paving Block Dismantling



2. Second Stage

This stage includes wall and pillar painting, frame repair, and ceiling installation, as well as floor finishing. Several RT 04 Wisma Permai residents assisted with the work in the second stage.

Figure 9. From Left: Wall Painting; Ceiling Installation



3. Third Stage

In this stage, the focus is on tidying up and disposing of building material remnants, collecting debris from the dismantling process in sacks, cleaning, and organizing the guardhouse for handover to RT 04 Wisma Permai.

Figure 10. From Left: Cleaning and transporting remnants of construction materials; Right: handover event with RT 04 Wisma Permai



4. Fourth Stage

The fourth stage involves handing over the guardhouse to RT 04 officials and is attended by several residents of the Wisma Permai housing. A welcome speech was delivered by Mr Anas Hidayat, the chairman of RT 04, representing the residents. The speech expressed gratitude for the UKDC's participation in tangible work in RT 04 RW 06 of the Wisma Permai housing.

Figure 11. Results of the renovation of RT 04 Wisma Permai Guardhouse



Discussion

This document delves into the revitalization of a guardhouse situated in the Wisma Permai housing complex. Firstly, it underscores the paramount importance of guardhouses in residential areas. These structures play a pivotal role in fostering security and comfort within communities, functioning as central hubs for monitoring and ensuring neighbourhood safety. Secondly, it introduces the concept of revitalization, emphasizing its role in reactivating the function of dormant or underutilized structures or areas.

The document also delves into the guardhouse's history and function. It is revealed that the guardhouse in RT 04 of Wisma Permai has fallen into disuse due to a range of factors, including the absence of essential utilities like electricity and clean water. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted vendors who once operated from the guardhouse to abandon their businesses. Another central theme is community involvement. The document underscores the importance of engaging the Wisma Permai community in the planning process.

The research methodology used for the project is also detailed, highlighting the employment of descriptive methods, interviews, questionnaires, and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) to gather information and insights from residents. Furthermore, the document presents the results of surveys conducted among residents, shedding light on their preferences and aspirations regarding the guardhouse's future use. Notably, the majority of residents express a preference for repairing and repurposing the guardhouse while reinstating its original function as a security post.

Design selection is a significant aspect of the project. Residents were presented with various design options, and the document reveals that Design 1 garnered the most votes. Consequently, the revitalization project will be based on the residents' preferred choice, Design 1. The implementation stages of the project are also outlined, encompassing preparation, cleaning, repair, and the eventual handover of the guardhouse to the community. Location details are provided to underscore the strategic position of the guardhouse within the Wisma Permai housing complex.

In conclusion, the document summarizes the key points discussed and underscores the significance of the guardhouse revitalization project for the Wisma Permai community. Ultimately, the project aims to enhance security and comfort within the housing complex, fostering a safer and more pleasant living environment for residents.

Conclusion

The community service activities conducted by UKDC Architecture program students in RT 04 RW 06 of the Wisma Permai housing complex have progressed smoothly. The warm reception from the residents, RT 04 officials, and local community leaders during the handover was genuinely heartening. The RT 04 guardhouse has been successfully revitalized and can now serve its original purpose. The physical transformation of the guardhouse as a security facility in RT 04 RW 06 has brought freshness and renewed enthusiasm, particularly among the security personnel. The community service activities have brought about positive changes in RT 04 Wisma Permai, fostering a heightened sense of care for public facilities within the Wisma Permai housing community.

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