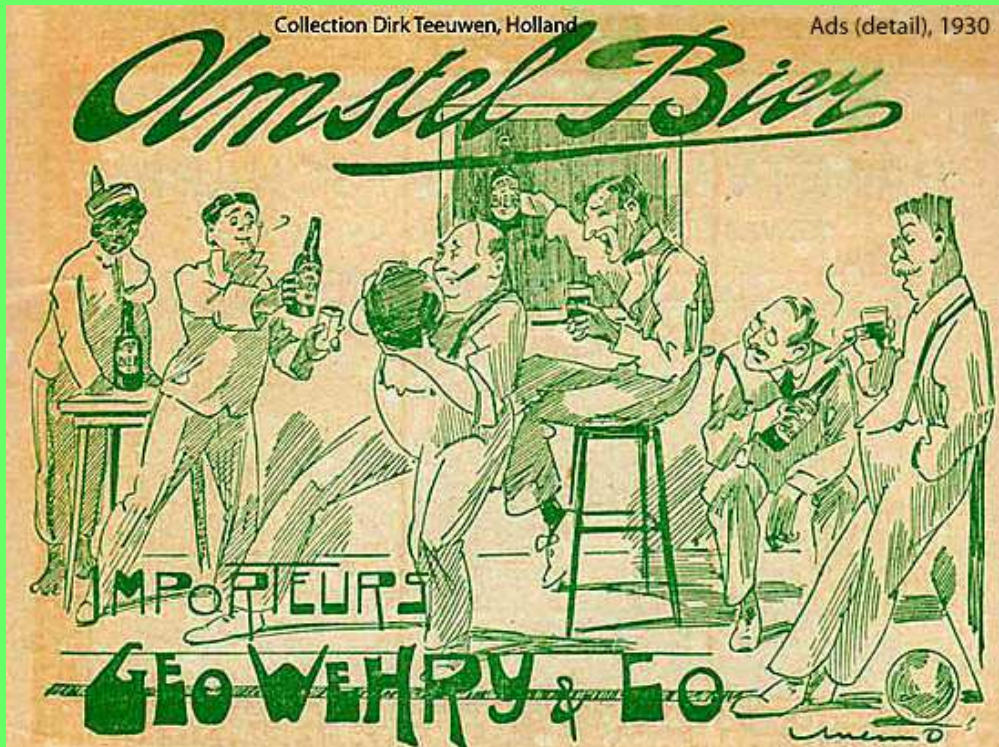


2. Jakarta- Batavia, History Travel Jakarta's old Town Hall Square, Museum Wayang, Museum Keramik, Café Batavia Dirk Teeuwen MSc



Contents

- Explanation, page 2
- 1. Introduction, page 3 to 6
- 2. Museum Wayang, a colonial past
 - 2.1 Pictures
 - 2.2 Tour Guide
- 3. Museum Wayang, Puppet Museum
 - 3.1 Pictures
 - 3.2 Tour Guide
- 4. Museum Seni Rupa dan Keramik, Museum of fine Arts and Ceramics

4.1 Pictures
4.2 Tour Guide
5. Café Batavia, Tempo Dulu
5.1 Pictures
5.2 Tour Guide



The old colonial Dutch City Hall, Jakarta 2002; photo Dirk Teeuwen

Explanation

Are you interested in travelling through the history of Jakarta-Batavia? Maybe my tour suggestions could help you. If so: buy a map of Jakarta and/or use Internet/Google Maps, read my Tour Guides (see contents on page 1), have a look at my pictures and then enjoy visiting the actual remains of a most interesting common - Dutch and Indonesian - past. Click the internet and find Google Map locations of the following tour highlights I am going to introduce to you:

- 1 and 2. Museum Wayang;**
- 3. Museum Seni Rupa dan Keramik, Museum of fine Arts and Ceramics**
- 4. Café Batavia, Tempo Dulu**

For orientation, "Google" these highlights ("Google" your maps or take your paper map) and then you will find our places of interest

without any trouble in the real world around you, the real world of Jakarta Kota (which was Dutch Old Batavia).

However, take your time, click the highlights on the internet, and read my next chapters first, have a look at the pictures and at my comments.

Please, keep in mind! Citations, references, sources are added by me as consequently as possible.

1. Introduction

This tour can be done in one morning. That is to say! Ask yourself: am I an art connoisseur or am I a tourist with ambition? If you belong to the second kind - the kind of people with simple ambition – you can do the tour during one morning.

This tour will guide you through a part of Jakarta Kota, Town Hall Square - named Taman Fatahillah now. The texts are composed by Dirk Teeuwen in The Netherlands. He owns most of the pictures.

In 1628, and in 1629 once more, Batavia-Colonial Jakarta endured sieges by the Sultan of Mataram, but after 1629 the town grew steadily into a sort of colonial Amsterdam with a lot of canals. Many houses on these canals were Amsterdam look-alikes. Some monuments from then are still there, such as the old Town Hall on Stadhuisplein (Town Hall Square), now Taman Fatahillah. During this tour we are going to visit Museum Wayang, Museum Keramik and trendy Café Batavia. You know now: this tour can be done during one morning. We shall comment on the old Dutch Town Hall, now Jakarta History Museum, separately during our next tour (III).

We leave Hotel “de Rivier”, “the River” in English, and walk along Kali Besar and set foot on Stadhuisplein, Town Hall Square, Taman Fatahillah.

2. Museum Wayang, a colonial past

2.1 Pictures

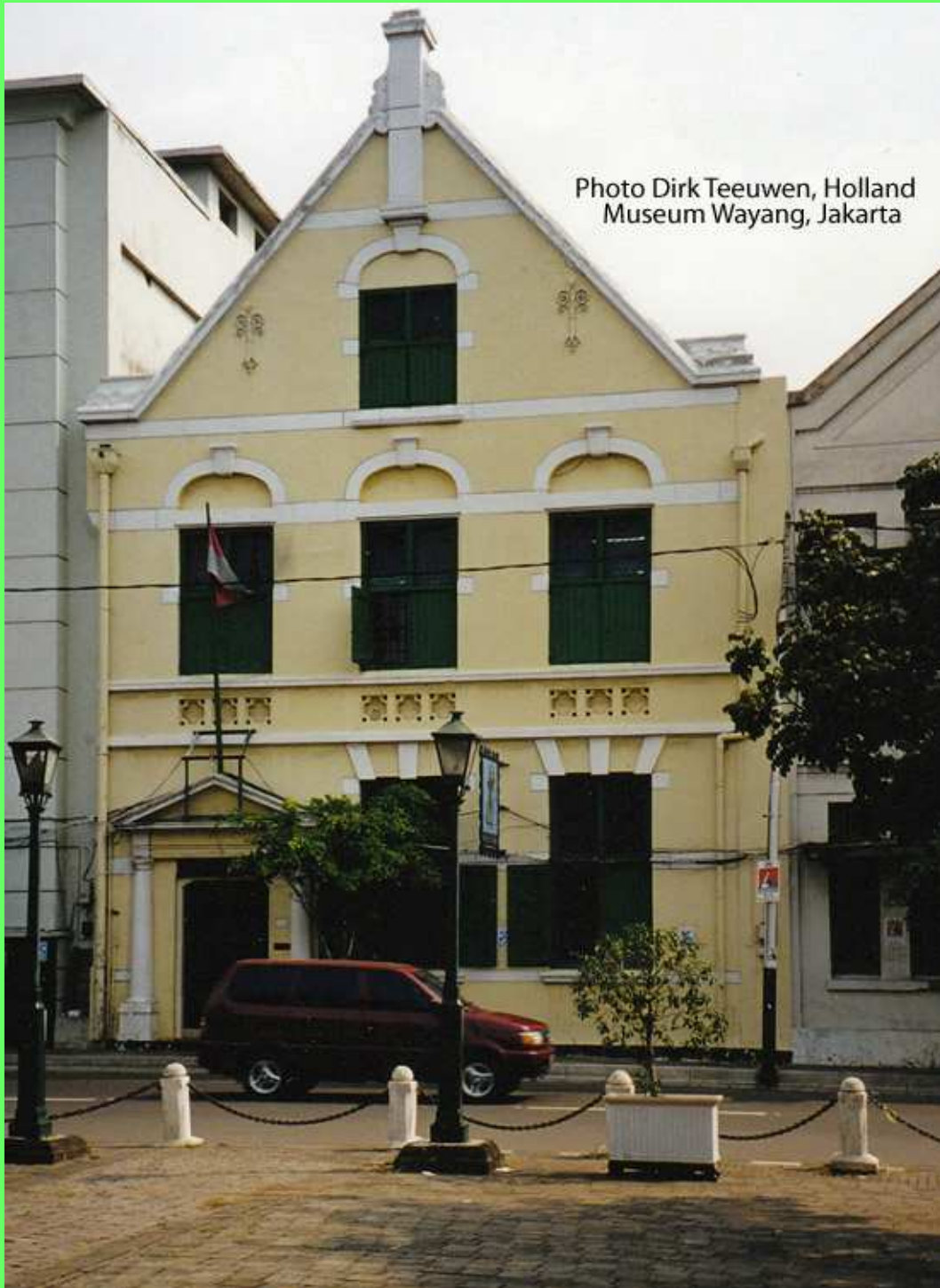


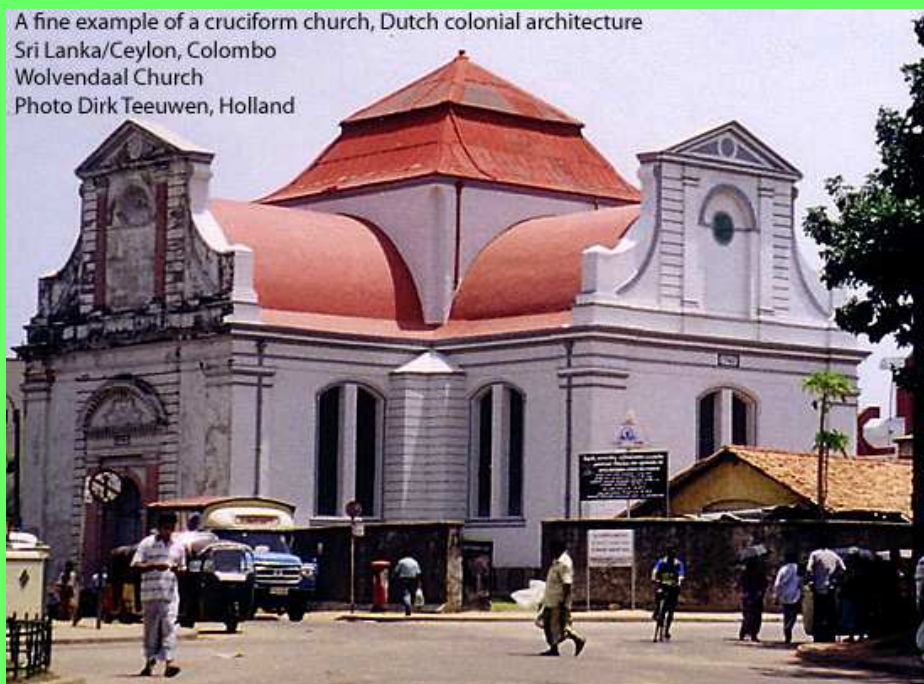
Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Museum Wayang, Jakarta

1. Nineteenth century building, now known as Museum Wayang
Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



2. The Old Dutch Church in 1682, a cruciform church, once on the site of Museum Wayang

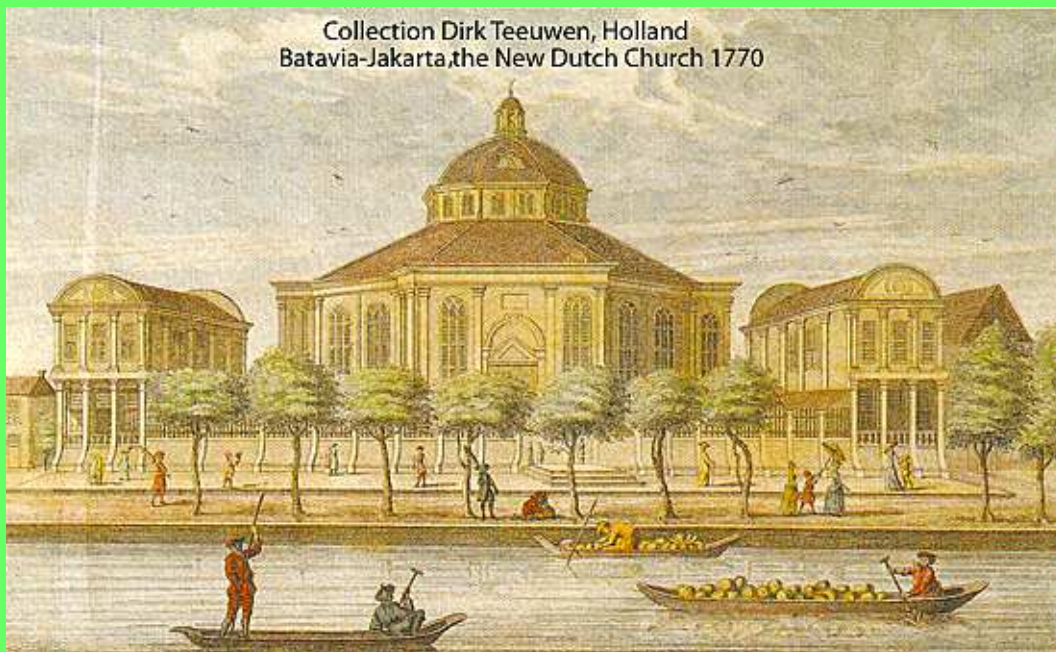
From J. Nieuhof: *Gedenkwaardige Zee- en Lantreize; Amsterdam 1682* page 198 (Van Meurs Heirs), in Feith 1937. See also: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:De-Kruis-Kerk-op-Batavia-1682.jpg>



3. A fine example of a cruciform church, the Wolvendaal Church built by the Dutch VOC in 1749 in Colombo, Sri Lanka/Ceylon
Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



4. View of the Town Hall Square in 1738 from the east, view of the Town Hall including the New Dutch Church
 From J.W. Heydt; *Allernewerster Geographisch- und Topographischer Schauplatz von Africa und Ost-Indien*; Wilhermsdorff Preussen 1744, page 10, in Feith 1937



5. View of the New Dutch Church in 1770, view from the west, from Kali Besar
 From J.C.M. Radermacher, W. van Hoogendorp: *Korte scthes van de Bezittingen der Nederlandsch-Oost Indische Maatschappij*, vol. 1; Rotterdam 1781, p. 49 (school of drawing, Johannes Rach 1770)



6. This bird's eye view is no prize winner: Gereja Immanuel, Immanuel Church from 1835 in Jakarta east from uptown Medan Merdeka, the church is a lookalike of the New Dutch Church
Photo (detail) Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

2.2 Tour Guide

Discover Museum Wayang

We discover Museum Wayang along the east side of Taman Fatahillah. In fact the address is no. 27 Jalan Pintu Besar Utara, formerly "Nieuwpoortstraat" in Dutch or New Gate Street in English. Later - after walking into this Museum - you will see some information about the history of the building in the court on a wall. We ask you stand still in front of the Museum and try to imagine the historic relevance of the site of this building! Once River Ciliwung meandered here and, because of that, the subsoil under the Museum still is very muddy. Nevertheless from 1630 until 1808 Dutch churches and graveyards were realized on this site. They were part of a growing city. A city designed as a sort of colonial Amsterdam with canals, canal houses, protestant churches, pubs, sailors, soldiers, merchants, a lot of brothels, etc. About 1750 there were more than 100.000 inhabitants. What makes the history of this site so special? Maybe you could have a look at the pictures first. Museum Wayang is closed on Mondays and holidays.

About the Old Dutch Church

From 1640 until 1730 the Protestant Old Dutch Church, a cruciform church, occupied the site of Museum Wayang. Before 1630 a branch of River Ciliwung flanked the east side of the Town Hall Square. This branch channelled more to the east in 1630. Until 1630 the site of, what is now, Museum Wayang had a swampy

structure. Channelling or not, churches - the Old Church and later the new one - were built on a muddy subsoil. For that reason the Old Church, built in 1640, turned out to be a ramshackle complex in which a church organ was not present. During church services on Sundays a cantor used to sing a psalm first and after doing so the congregation sang along. Imagine these church services! Please do! In your imagination perhaps you can see worshippers walking stately and slowly to the church, accompanied by slaves holding parasols. Ladies showing expensive bibles and psalm books, showing expensive clothes and jewellery. Imagine the singing and preaching within the church, while outside the church slaves were waiting for their master's return, waiting in an ill mannered way. Normally, trying to kill time, they gambled. While gambling, their shouting voices carried all the way to the believers present within the church.

In 1732 a church organ arrived from Holland, but this one was much too big. So the Old Church was demolished in 1732 as well as, very regrettably, most of its 174 tombs and crypts.

About the New Dutch Church

Don't give up reading, it is not a commonplace story. In 1736 the much bigger Protestant New Church, with a gigantic dome, was built on a lot of piles. The Church dominated the houses very much for some decades, so that sailors were able to use the dome as a beacon.

Nevertheless, in 1799 a lot of defects came to the surface. In 1808 the Dutch Governor-General Daendels sold the church to a Mr Zimmer, a local shop- and innkeeper with a fat beer belly. Mr Zimmer sold the stones of the church bit by bit. Much later, even in 1820, some ruins were left.

After 1820 a customs warehouse was established on the site of Museum Wayang. In 1829 the warehouse was relocated more to the north, to a location near the, still existing, Chicken Market Bridge on Kali Besar.

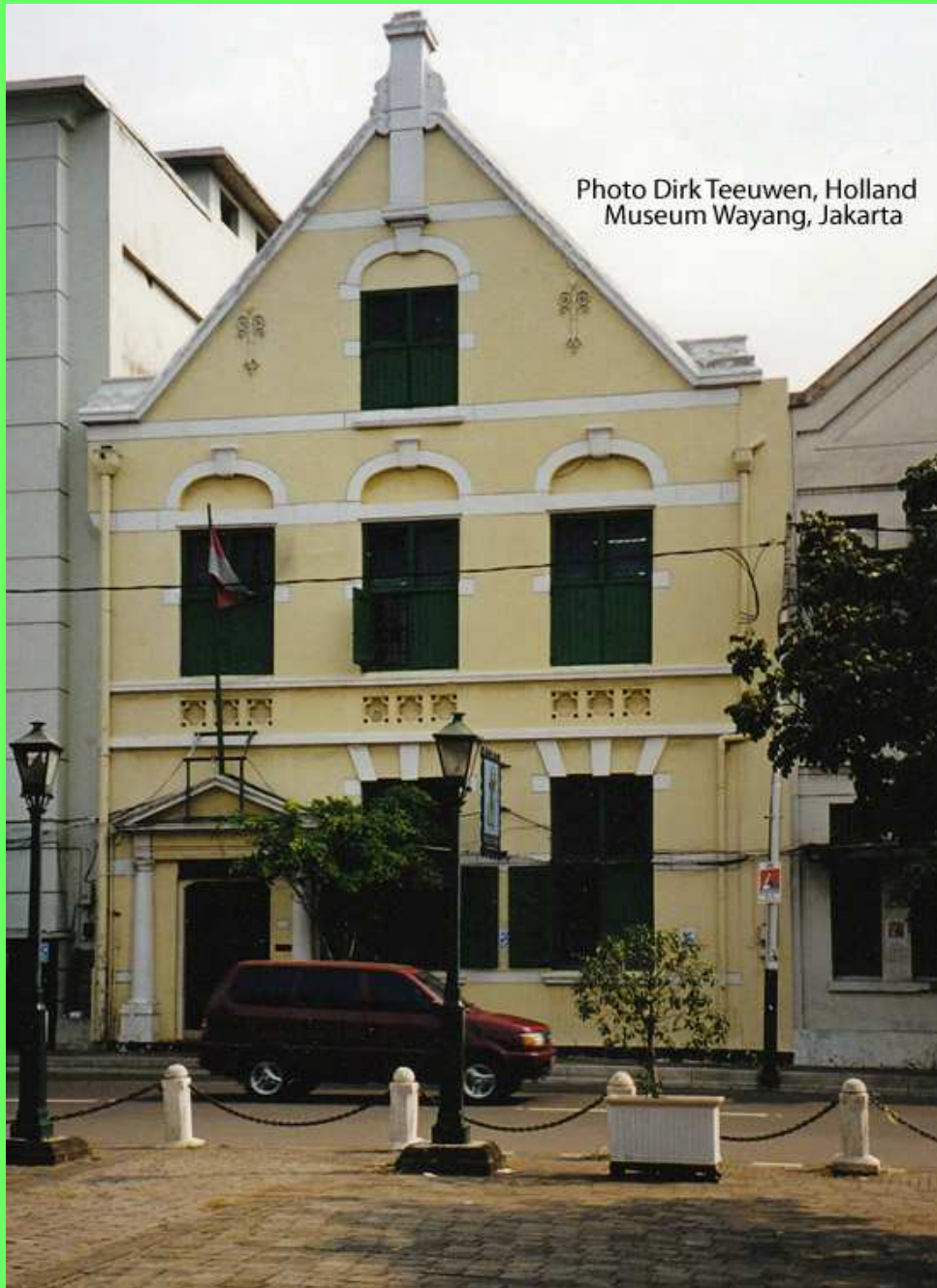
When, after 1808, the New Church was demolished, nobody took care of the few, still existing, historic tombs in and around the church. In the centre of the Museum there is a sort of memorial inner court where inscriptions and tombstones bring a past into mind. There is a memorial stone to honour Governor-General Coen, the founder of Batavia-Jakarta in 1619, as well as a memorial stone to honour Governor-General Van Imhoff (appointed from 1743 until 1750). Van Imhoff was a reformer: he introduced liberal regulations for the Dutch inter-Asian trade and he undertook much more than that. Both great men ended prematurely. Governor-General Coen died of cholera in 1629 and Van Imhoff died of malaria in 1750.

Stand still for one more moment, look around the square and sigh. History looks at you. Come on, jump into Museum Wayang.

Walk into the Museum and go the inner court first. Pay short attention again to the most interesting (and regrettably rather unknown) history of this location. After that, admire the collections of puppets and there is much more than that. Stay in the museum for a while.

3. Museum Wayang, Puppet Museum

3.1 Pictures



**1. 1. Nineteenth century building, now known as Museum Wayang
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2006**



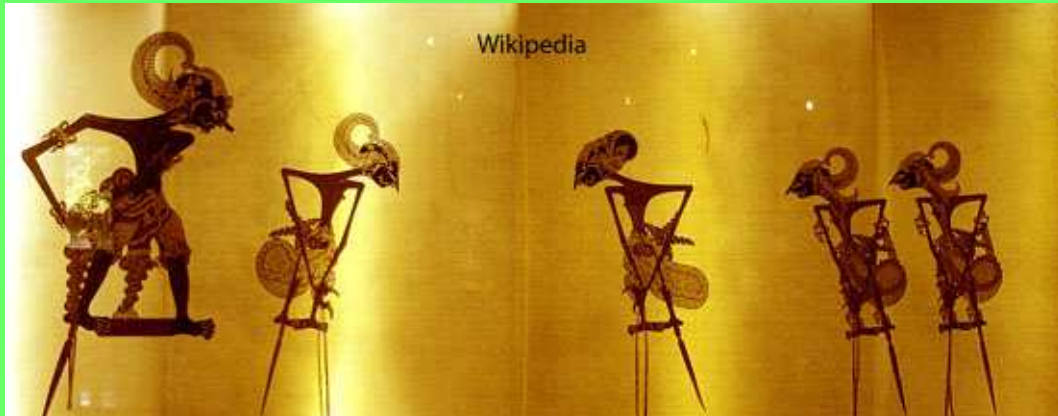
2. Memorial stone remembering Governor-General Jan Pietersz Coen, who founded Batavia-Jakarta in 1619

Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2006



3. Museum Wayang

Wiki Commons 2016



4. Museum Wayang
Wiki Commons 2016



5. Model of the New Dutch Church 1736-1808, now in the Jakarta History Museum, Taman Fatahillah
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2006

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Corner Jalan Pintu Besar near Museum Wayang
Nineteenth century architecture



6. Corner next to Museum Wayang, nineteenth century architecture
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2006

3.2 Tour Guide

Introduction

Museum Wayang was established by the Dutch “Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen” in 1939. This “Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences” was founded in 1778 and disbanded in 1962. In 1817 the Society also

set up the "Botanische Tuinen". These Botanic Gardens, now Kebun Raya Bogor, surround the President's Summer Palace near Bogor, 50 km south from Jakarta. Formerly this palace was the Summer Residence of the Dutch Governor-General. The Botanic Gardens are open to the public. In 1779 the Society established Museum Nasional next to Jakarta's Medan Merdeka, "Koningsplein" (King's Square) in the olden days. Most of the former collection of the Society houses now in Museum Nasional and in the Jakarta Batavia History Museum. Museum Wayang is closed on Mondays and holidays.

Discover Museum Wayang

Discover Museum Wayang, a long and narrow building designed in so-called "Dutch Colonial Neo-Renaissance Style", on the east side of Taman Fatahillah. It was constructed in 1912 and served until 1938 as a warehouse of the private corporation Whery & Co, a company settled in Amsterdam selling tobacco and tea. In 1938 a renovation took place and in 1939 the "Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences" established here their Batavia Museum. In 1957 the ownership of the building was transferred to the Institute of Indonesian Culture and in 1968 the Museum Wayang organization got permission to use it.

It's collection

The Museum shows an impressive collection of wayang puppets and much more. These wayang puppets as well as masks and musical instruments originate not only from Indonesia, but from around the world. The collection of all kinds of puppets, including shadow puppets, stick and glove puppets and marionettes is breathtaking. The presentation of wayang shows are presented on the Museum's first floor and they are remarkable indeed. Here, accompanied by a traditional gamelan orchestra and singers, visitors can see how some of the puppets are used to entertain audiences with stories. While I was there these performances were held during the weekend, but maybe they do it daily now. Ask the staff in your hotel

Urgent advice

Enter the museum and admire its impressive collection of puppets. See memorials and tombstones from the colonial past, among which tombstones of Dutch Governors-General.

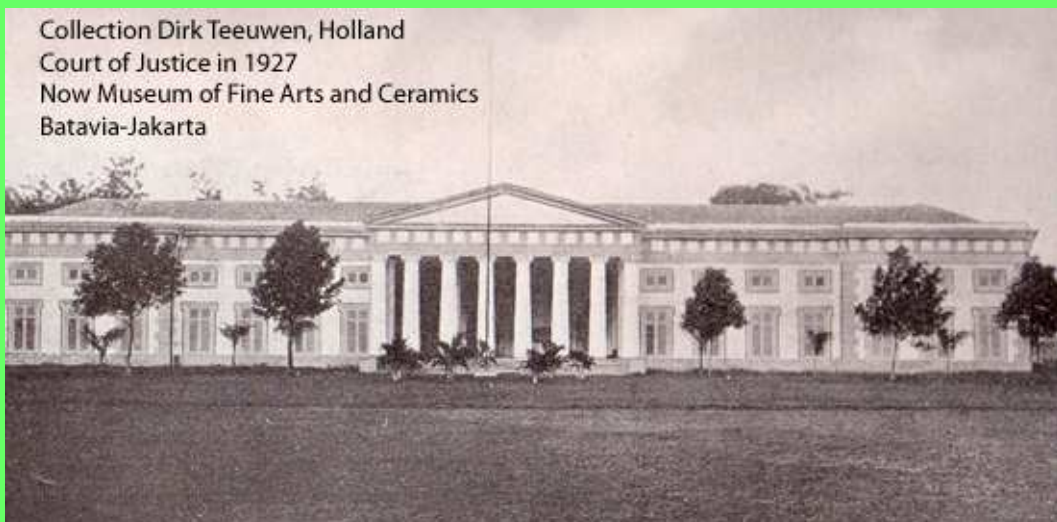
After leaving Museum Wayang you could walk straight to the Museum of Fine Arts and Ceramics, located east from Taman Fatahillah. The Museum of Fine Arts and Ceramics is clearly recognizable by its colonial classical colonnade.

4. Museum Seni Rupa dan Keramik, Museum of fine Arts and Ceramics

4.1 Pictures



1. Jakarta's Museum of fine Arts and Ceramics, formerly the accommodation of the Batavia-Jakarta Dutch "Raad van Justitie", in English "Court of Justice"
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2006



2. Batavia-Jakarta 1927, Court of Justice
From > De Vries, J.J.: Jaarboek van Batavia en Omstreken 1927; Batavia 1927 p. 144

Court of Justice, Batavia-Jakarta about 1925
Now Museum of Fine Arts and Ceramics
Wikipedia



3. Picture 3; Batavia-Jakarta 1927, Court of Justice, one more view
Batavia Court of Justice Wiki Commons 2016



4. Batavia-Jakarta 1770, the Tiger Canal to the north
Tiger Canal in Old Batavia/Jakarta Kota, 1770
Drawing by Johannes Rach, Collection Dirk Teeuwen, Holland



5. Detail of picture 4

Picture 1; Jakarta's Museum of fine Arts and Ceramics, formerly the accommodation of the Batavia-Jakarta Dutch "Raad van Justitie", in English "Court of Justice"

Picture 2; Batavia-Jakarta 1927, Court of Justice

Picture 3; Batavia-Jakarta 1927, Court of Justice, one more view

Picture 4; Batavia-Jakarta 1770, the Tiger Canal to the north

Picture 5; Detail of picture 4

4.2 Tour Guide

Introduction

The Jakarta Museum of Fine Arts and Ceramics, formerly accommodation of the colonial Dutch "Raad van Justitie" - in English "Court of Justice" - is now Jakarta's very wonderful "Museum Seni Rupa dan Keramik". This building is visible at the east side of Taman Fatahillah: at the other side of Jalan Pos Kota, formerly the local Dutch elegant "Tijgersgracht", in English "Tiger Canal". So, east from Museum Wayang, you discover one more building in neo-classical style constructed between 1866-1868. Our Museum Keramik itself was founded in 1976. The Museum is closed on Mondays and holidays.

Let us walk trough history

Cross over Taman Fatahillah to the east and Jalan Pos, at the east side of the square. Take your time before crossing over Jalan Pos

and before you are going to enter Jakarta Museum of Fine Arts and Ceramics. Before crossing over Jalan Pos the author advises you to stand still for a while on the pavement and cast a couple of looks. A look to the north (left into Jalan Pos Kota) and a look to the south (right into Jalan Lada). Jalan Lada is a southern continuation of Jalan Pos Kota. Until about 1800 you could find here the "Tiger Canal" with its quays and luxury houses. "Tiger Canal" and "Kali Besar" were the most fashionable neighbourhoods within the walls of Dutch Old Batavia. Here the most elegant people (whites, Chinese, people of mixed blood, native aristocrats) walked around, enjoyed boat trips or were going out for a drive in their expensive coaches with servants; servants on front and at the rear, sitting and standing on coach-boxes.

Batavia was a sort of colonial Amsterdam and was featured by a lot of canal houses, mostly two-storied Amsterdam-like accommodations. Nowadays the canals are gone, because after about 1790 the Dutch filled in their canals and that's why those waterways are history right now. Why did they do so? Well, malaria, cholera and typhus caused more and more misery in those days.

The centre of the city moved gradually from downtown Old Batavia to uptown Batavia, to the area around, what is called now, Medan Merdeka (in English, Liberty Square) and Lapangan Banteng (in English, Oxen Square).

Downtown Old Batavia, Jakarta Kota shows us a lot of broad, wide streets. The explanation is simple. Once there were a lot of canals.

It's collection

Inside the Museum of fine Arts you find a lot of Indonesian paintings: contemporary art as well as romantic art from 1800 up to now. The Indonesian-Arabic romantic painter Raden Saleh (1811-1880) is honoured with a Raden Saleh exposition space, called the Raden Saleh Era Room. The Museum also displays ceramics from Indonesia, China, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan and Europe. Most of the exposed ceramics are rather contemporary.

The third Vice-President of Indonesia, Adam Malik (1917-1984), left behind an impressive collection of ceramics. The greater part of his collection is displayed in this Museum.

Urgent advice

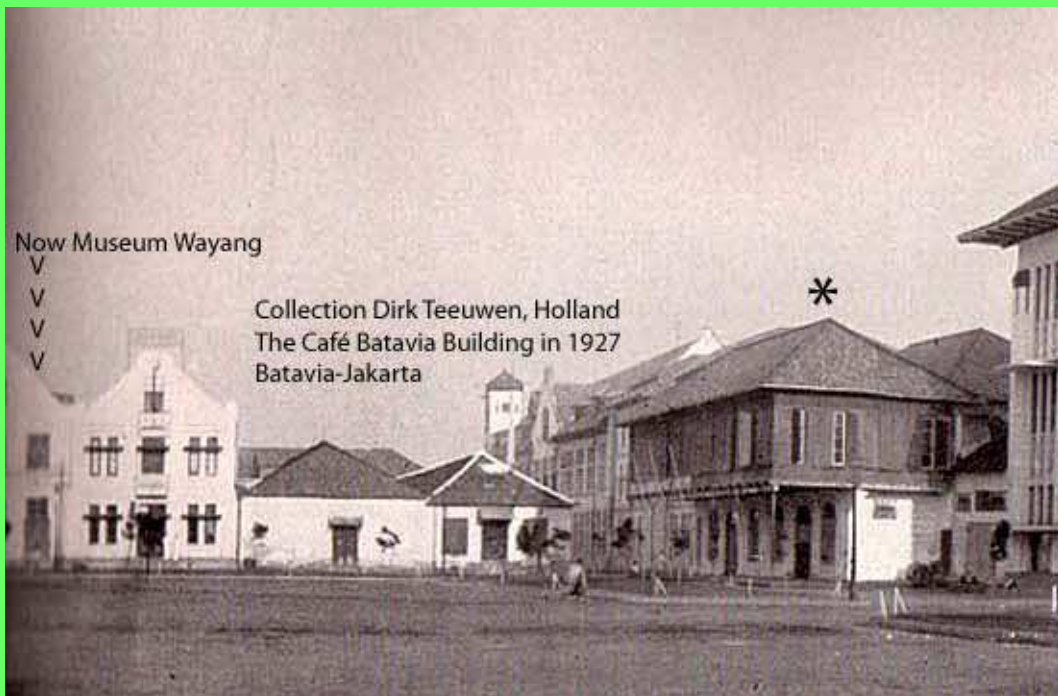
Enter the museum and admire its 19th century architecture and enjoy its unique collection. Leave Museum Keramik, walk back to northern side of Taman Fatahillah and jump in wonderful Café Batavia.

5. Café Batavia, Tempo Dulu

5.1 Pictures



1. Café Batavia on Town Hall Square
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002



2. Under the star, Café Batavia in 1926

From > De Vries, J.J.: Jaarboek van Batavia en Omstreken 1927; Batavia 1927 p. 120



Wikipedia

3. Impressions of the interior of Café Batavia
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Café Batavia

4. Impressions of the interior of Café Batavia
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Café Batavia

5. Impressions of the interior of Café Batavia
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002



Photo-Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Café Batavia

6. Impressions of the interior of Café Batavia
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Café Batavia

7. Toilets with an atmosphere of the fifties
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002



Photo
Dirk
Teeuwen,
Holland
Café
Batavia

8. Toilets with an atmosphere of the fifties
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002



Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Café Batavia

9. Staircase to the restaurant upstairs, Governors-General are watching you
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002



10. Jalan Pintu Besar in 1890, next to the Town Hall, the 18th and 19th architecture of the house fronts remained unchanged

From J. van Mourik: *Indrukken van een Totok*; Amsterdam 1897, p. 135
Collection Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

5.2 Tour Guide

Introduction

Café Batavia is located in the north-west corner of Taman Fatahillah. There is a café-bar as well as a restaurant on the ground floor and a dressy restaurant on the first floor. The dressy one is frequently visited by local politicians and by business men/women. It is the place to be seen. So, don't expect budget prices, but you are welcome here to enjoy good coffees and snacks. The Café is very special. The menu is European, Indonesian, Chinese and Japanese. Bands play in the evenings. Even the toilets are trendy. Going to the toilet is mostly a must, but in Café Batavia it is an adventure. Café Batavia is trendy, it is suffused with a spirit of the past: the roaring twenties, the fifties and all of this in colonial Dutch style. Do you want to enjoy a colonial feeling for a while? Please don't hesitate! Take a run, jump in! The Café is open every day.

Building, Café

Have a look at the building first. Café Batavia is the second oldest building in Fatahillah Square, erected in the first half of the 19th century. The ground floor is the oldest part, maybe from before 1800. From 1850 until 1870 the building got its architecture as it appears to us now. It has served as residence, warehouse, office and coffee shop.

Step into the Café, step into Dreamland. In 1993 the Café has been beautifully converted into a “boogie-woogie roaring twenties” and “rock-and-roll fifties” place. The stylish toilets are decorated with James Dean, Elvis Presley, Bill Haley and with many other rockers and movie stars. Now you think that the author is trying to be funny! Absolutely not! Swinging jazz music from the forties takes us back into time during the evening hours. So, have nice dreams after sunset. The café-bar is situated on the ground floor and furnished with art deco designed wooden chairs and tables on old parlour floors; everything in colonial style. A remarkably designed wooden staircase brings us to the dressy restaurant upstairs. On our way to the first floor a lot of portraits show up. Many Dutch Governors-General are looking down on us, average citizens, like they always did in the olden days. The view of Fatahillah Square from the first floor dressy restaurant is unforgettable.

Urgent advice

Get a bite in this café. When you leave the Café walk, west from the old Town Hall, into Jalan Pintu Besar Utara (New Gate Street) for a while and have a look at the 18th and 19th century fronts of the houses. Then, our next tour, we are going to pay a visit to the Jakarta History Museum in the Dutch Town Hall. Enjoy your lunch in Café Batavia. Try to feel colonial. Tempo dulu feels not so bad. We thank you very much for your attention. Join us in our next afternoon tour to pay a visit to the old Dutch Town Hall, now the Jakarta History Museum.