



9. Jakarta History Museum, Taman Fatahillah, upper floor

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The following is based on visits by the author; maybe the expositions in the Museum have been changed since then.

1. Jakarta History Museum, upper floor, hall

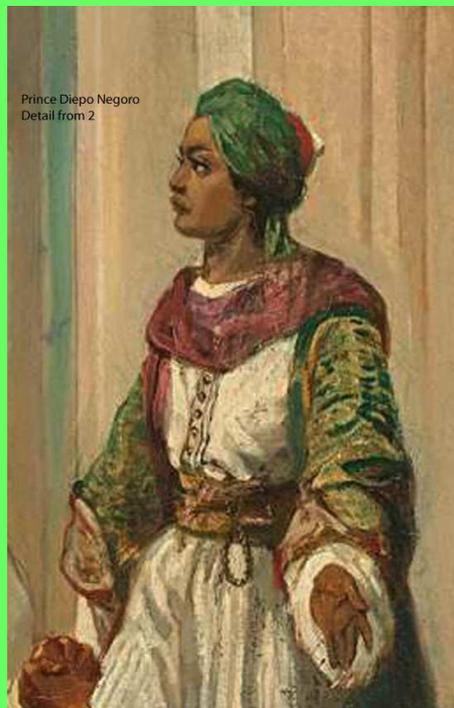
1.1 Introduction

The surface of the rooms on our drawing is not based on the real situation.

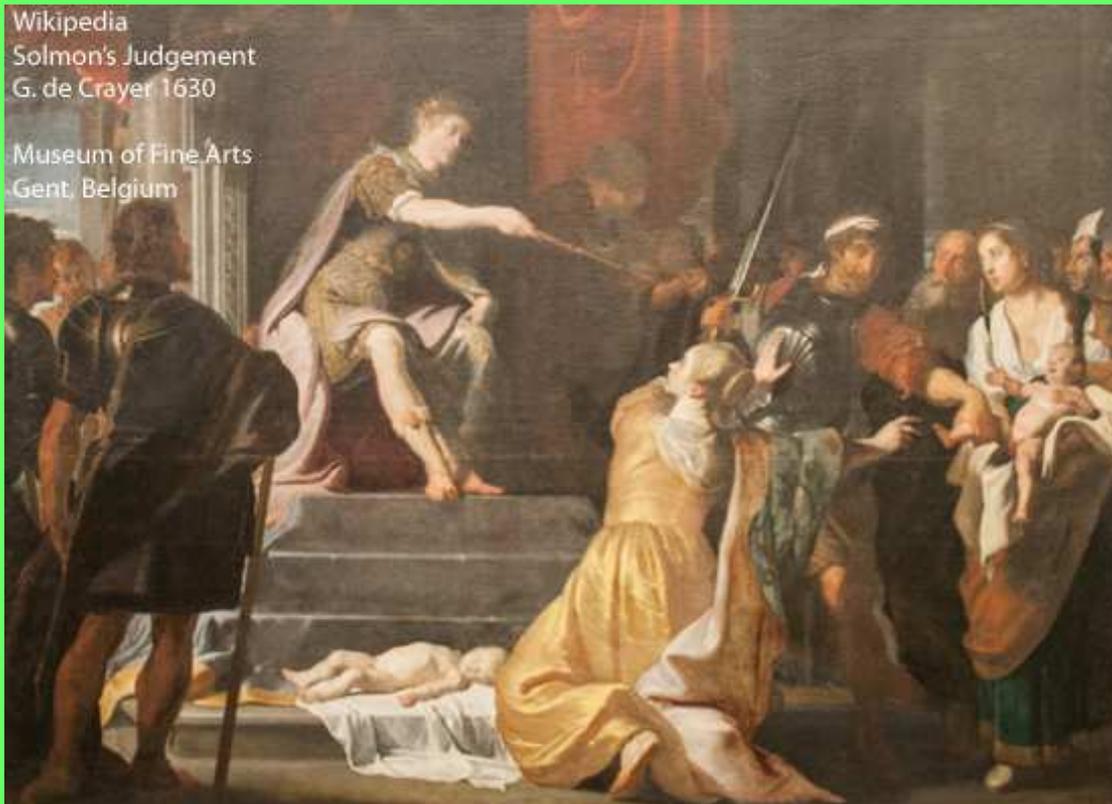
The Museum contains a lot of colonial furniture dating from the 17th, 18th and 19th century. This furniture can be found on the ground floor, but most of it is exposed on the upper floor. There are a lot of paintings in the rooms east from the staircase on this upper floor. The balcony room is worth a visit.



1.2 Pictures



1. Pangeran (Prince) Diponegoro
Detail from 3.



2. Judgment of King Solomon (Bible, Old Testament) by Gerard de Crayer, 1584-1669; Museum of Fine Arts Gent Belgium, see triptych by J. J. de Nijs 1661, Jakarta History Museum (upper floor)

From https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Crayer_-_Judgement_of_Salomon.jpg



3. Painting by Nicolaas Pieneman 19th century: Pangeran Dipo Negoro surrenders to the Dutch, Magelang Java 1830; Jakarta History Museum (upper floor)

From dr. F.W. Stapel: *Geschiedenis van Nederlandsch-Indië*, vol. V; Amsterdam 1939 p. 225

A 17th century wooden room divider
From the former Batavia Castle

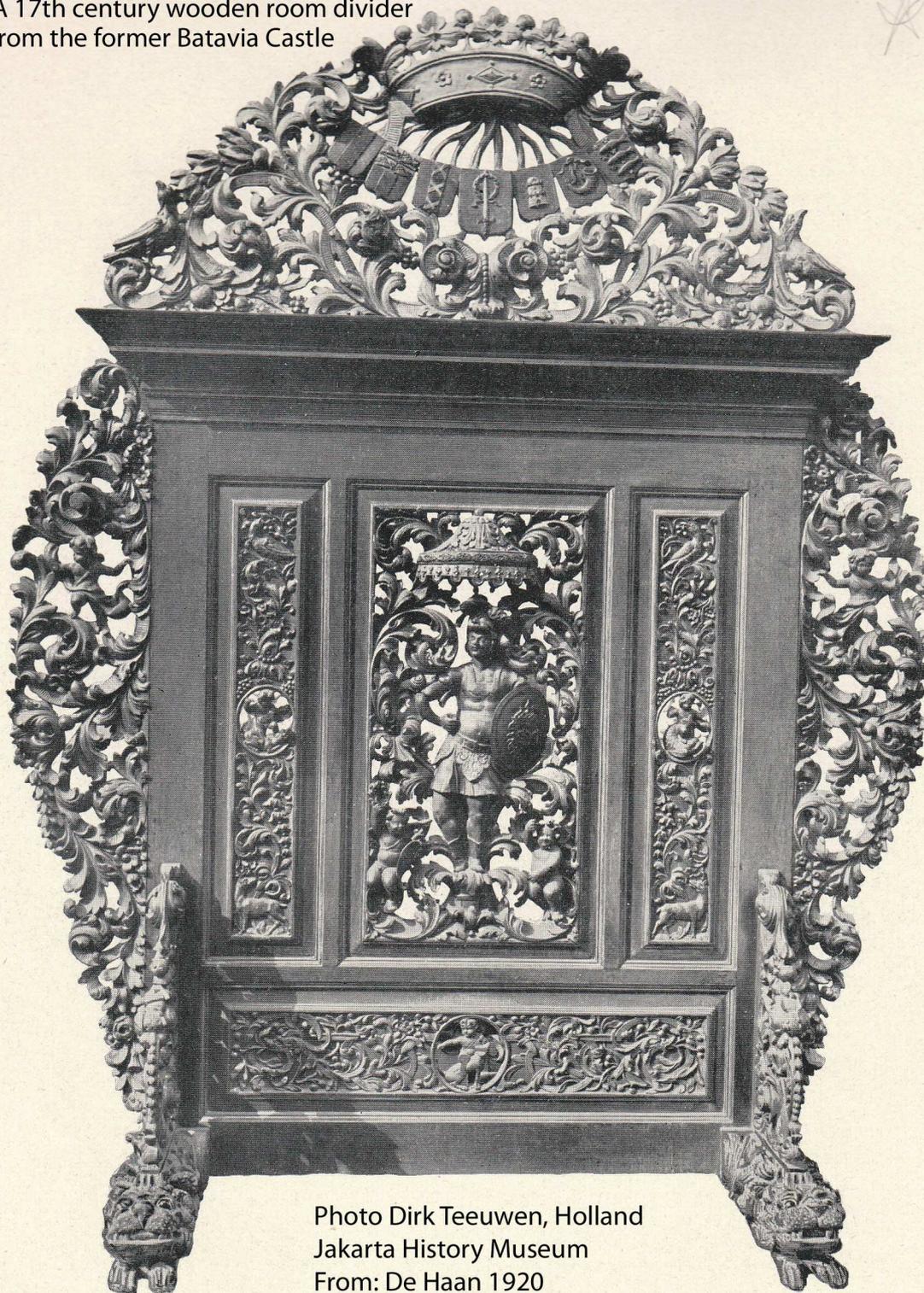


Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Jakarta History Museum
From: De Haan 1920

4. Wooden room divider, 17th century: room divider from the Castle of Batavia, showing Pallas Athena and a coat of arms
From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923

1.3 Tour Guide

The following is based on experiences of the author; maybe the expositions have been changed since then.

The most important part of the collection can be found on the upper floor. You reach the upper floor by climbing the stairs in the main hall. Upstairs you land in a similar hall Z with attributes concerning justice in the 17th and 18th century. Over the doors at the backside of the hall on the upper floor there is an oil painting made by the Dutchman Jacob de Nijs in 1661. I hope you know your classics and your Bible, because the beautiful triptych - with bloody details - suggests "Three Judgements": a Judgement by King Cambyses (left), a Judgement by King Zaleukos (right) and a Judgement by King Solomon (centre). Walk into the small room R and overlook the beautiful backyard.

Most probably in hall Z, the Museum displays an old screen, a wooden room divider from a board room in the Castle of Batavia, showing to us Pallas Athena, beautifully painted in black and gold. Pallas Athena was the Greek goddess of art, of crafts, as well as the goddess of war strategy and much more. Over Pallas Athena a screen of wood should be visible showing the coats-of-arms of the Dutch East-India Company.

When the author was there, a tripartite screen (excellent woodcarving!!) from the Batavia Castle was exhibited in this hall. In the centre of this screen, you can admire a voluptuous lady. She handles diverse weapons in a symbolic way. Old, beautiful, Dutch fanlights are displayed everywhere on the upper floor. Walk into the small room R and overlook the backyard. Step into room S.

Room S, once in 1830, was the forced accommodation of the prisoner Prince Dipo Negoro. Dipo Negoro was the leader of an uprising, from 1825 until 1830, against the Sultanate of Jokyakarta, against the extortion of the farmers by Javanese rulers and the growing influence of the Dutch. The Prince's aspiration was the founding of an Islamic State in Java. In this room you can have a look at a painting showing the submission of Dipo Negoro to the Dutch in the town of Magelang in Java, 1830. This painting is a copy of a 19th century one painted by the Dutchman Nicolaas Pieneman and owned by the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

2. Jakarta History Museum, upper floor, Balcony Room

2.1 Introduction

The surface of the rooms on our drawing is not based on the real situation.

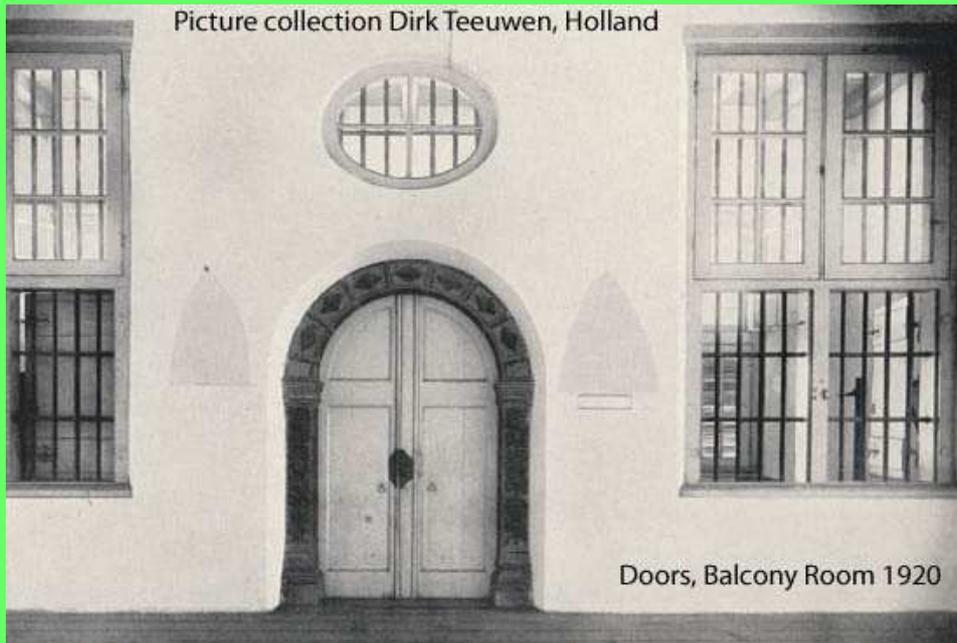
Walk to the Balcony Room at the other side of the hall on the upper floor. Before about 1810 condemned persons were confined in the dungeons under the platform the day before their execution. The next day a convict was shown to the judges in one of the court rooms on the upper floor. After identification by the judges the execution could take place. Most executions were done around the "Galgenveld" (Gallows Field) east from Batavia Castle, and its garrison, in an attempt to escape trouble making drunks, like sailors, soldiers and specially slaves. Remember (avoid prejudices!): Batavia was a dangerous society and harsh measures were necessary very much.



2.2 Pictures

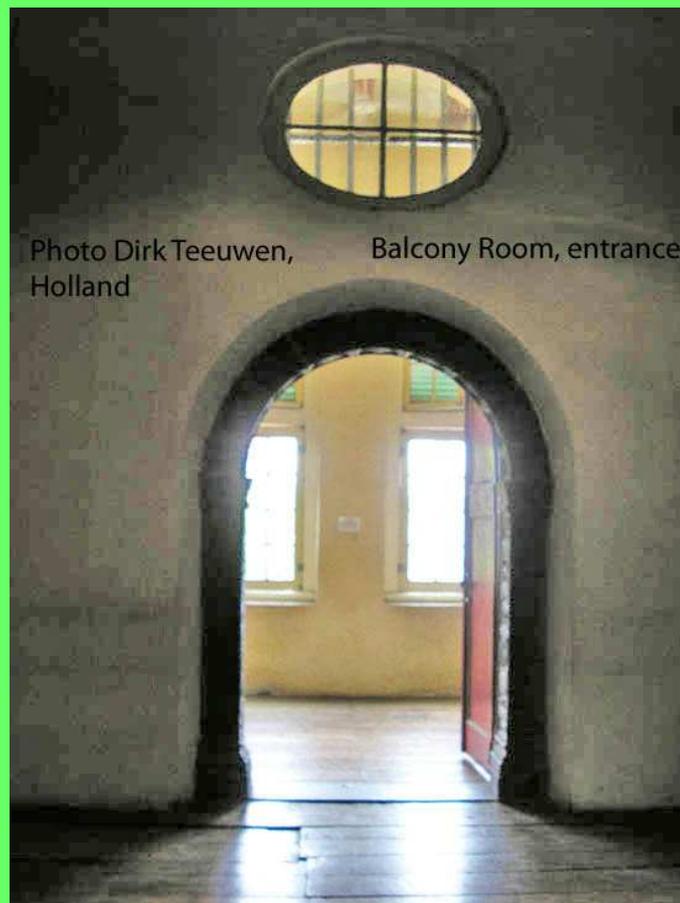


1. The Balcony Room of the Jakarta History Museum
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2006



2. Balcony Room, armoured doors and barred windows

From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923



3. Looking in the Balcony Room
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
View from the Balcony Room
Jakarta History Museum



4. View from the Balcony Room
Photo Dirk Teeuwen Holland, 2002

2.3 Tour Guide

The following is based on experiences of the author; maybe the expositions have been changed since then.

The entrance to the Balcony Room is blocked by armoured doors. The doors are not locked; so, step in the Balcony Room X. From here, because of their responsibility judges and magistrates were obliged to look at executions of sentences on Town Hall Square. They were witnesses because of their responsibility and

certainly not because they enjoyed the event. The latter is a foolish fabrication. Look at the barred windows in the wall that separates the Balcony Room X from the landing Z. Once there were guards beside the closed doors during executions. Judges and magistrates sometimes feared the alcoholic Dutch courage of riffraff on the square. Because public could become agitated, executions often took place near Batavia Castle.

3. Jakarta History Museum, upper floor, eastern wing

3.1 Introduction

The surface of the rooms on our drawing is not based on the real situation.

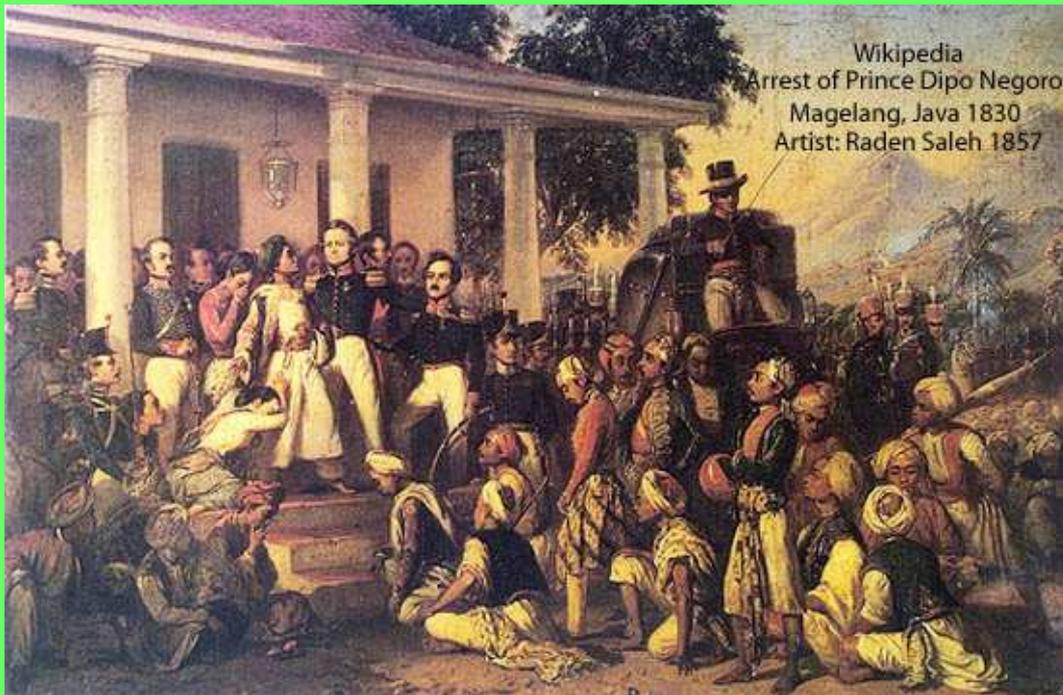
Go back to the hall Z of the upper floor and enter the eastern wing. In this wing, rooms O, X, Y mainly 18th century furniture, beds and portraits are displayed. Most artists of the portraits are unknown and the portraits are not very special from an artistic point of view.



3.2 Pictures



1. Money box made from wood, metal fittings, 18th century
From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923



Wikipedia
Arrest of Prince Diponegoro
Magelang, Java 1830
Artist: Raden Saleh 1857

2. Arrest of Prince Diponegoro, painting by Raden Saleh 1857
https://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarief_Bastaman_Saleh#/media/File:Raden_Saleh_-_Diponegoro_arrest.jpg

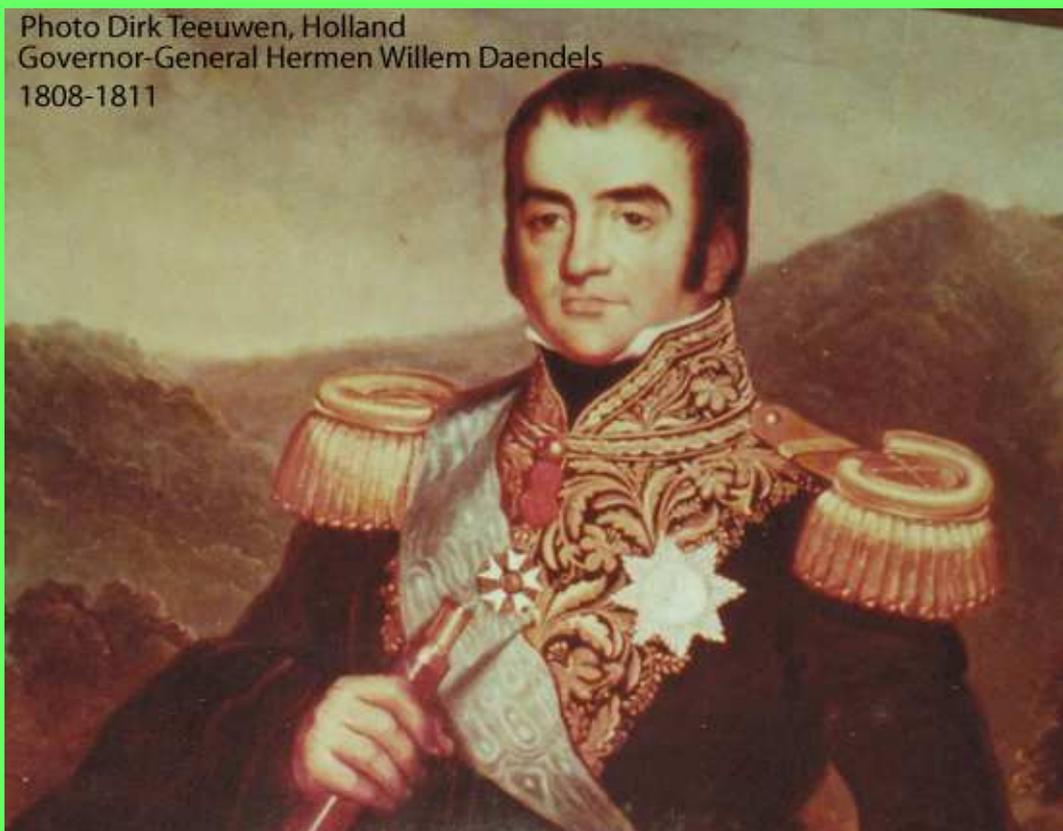
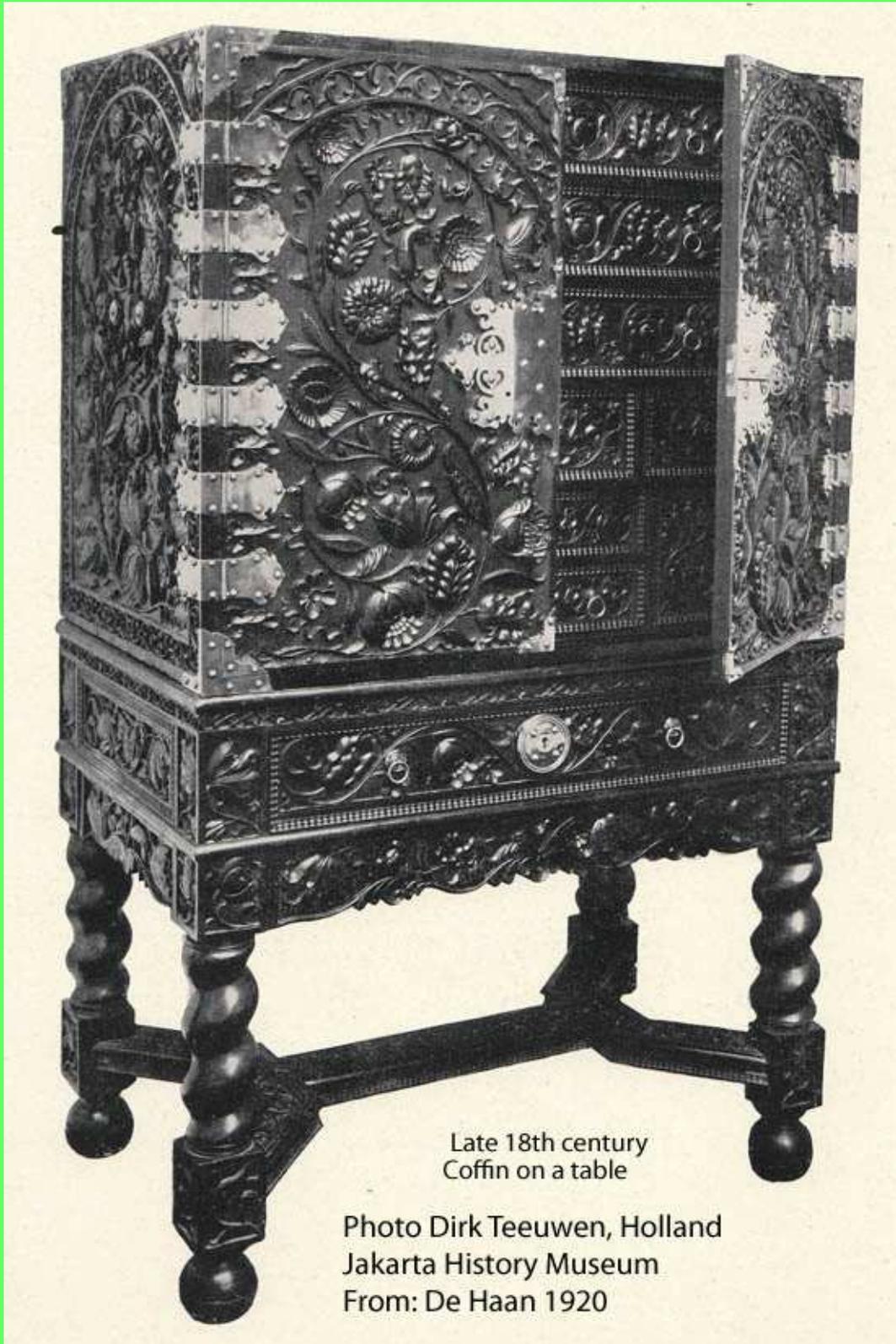


Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Governor-General Herman Willem Daendels
1808-1811

3. Governor-General Herman Willem Daendels, 1808-1811, painting by Raden Saleh (1811-1880)

From dr. F.W. Stapel: *Geschiedenis van Nederlandsch-Indië*, vol. V; Amsterdam 1939 p. 33

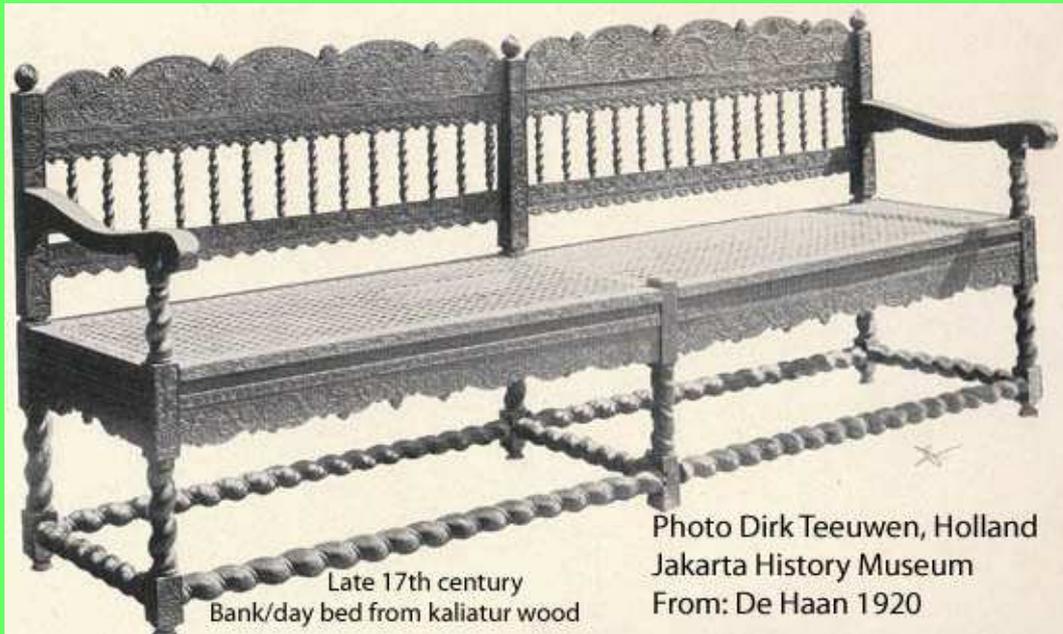


Late 18th century
Coffin on a table

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Jakarta History Museum
From: De Haan 1920

4. Coffin on table, 18th century

From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923

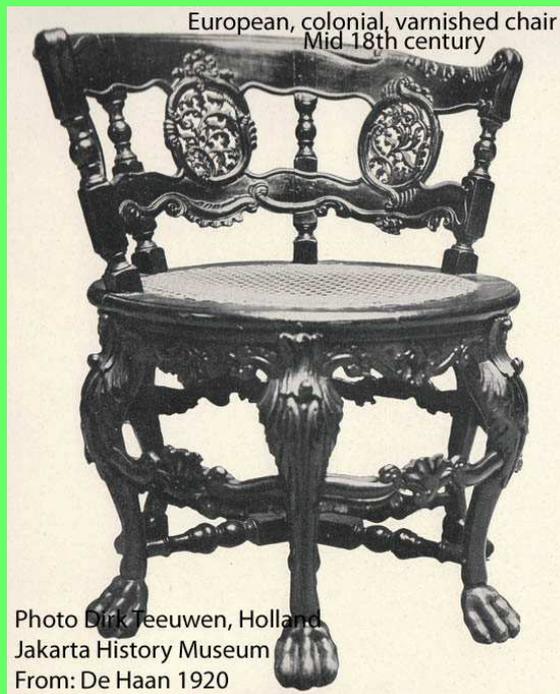


Late 17th century
Bank/day bed from kaliatur wood

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Jakarta History Museum
From: De Haan 1920

5. Bank and day bed, from tropical wood, 17th century

From dr. F. de Haan: *Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923*



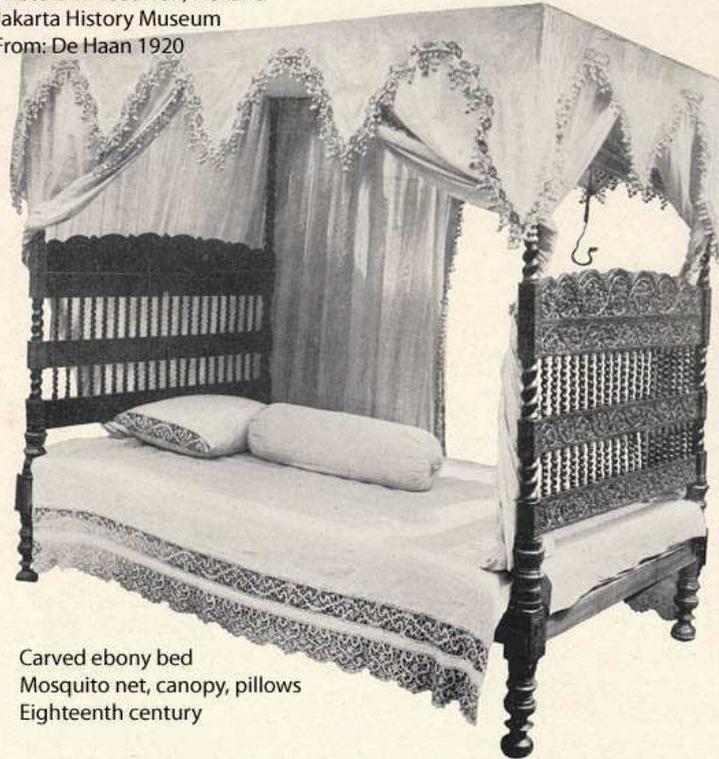
European, colonial, varnished chair
Mid 18th century

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Jakarta History Museum
From: De Haan 1920

6. Colonial European, varnished, luxury chair, 18th century

From dr. F. de Haan: *Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923*

Photo Dirk Teeuwen, Holland
Jakarta History Museum
From: De Haan 1920



Carved ebony bed
Mosquito net, canopy, pillows
Eighteenth century

7. Eighteenth century carved ebony bed, mosquito net, canopy, pillows; the long pillow was called "Dutch wife" (no compliment I am afraid)

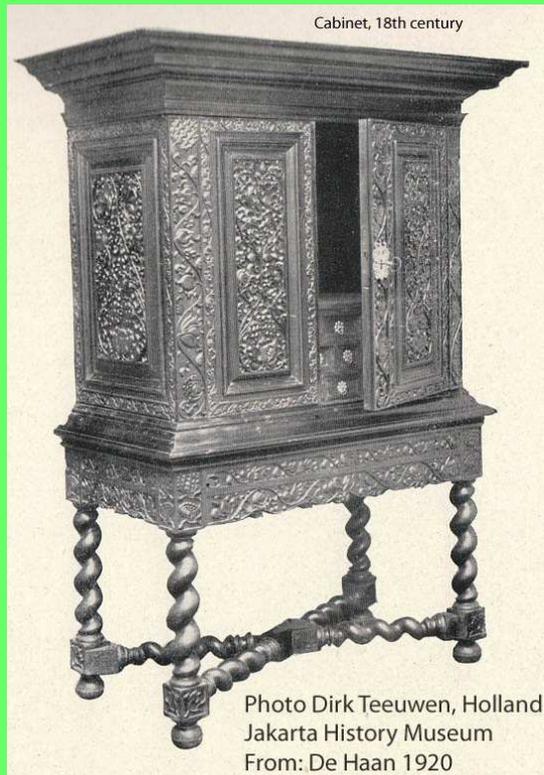
From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923



Cradle 18th century, Batavia
From: De Haan, 1920
In: Jakarta History Museum
Dirk Teeuwen, Holland

8. Cradle, 18th century

From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923



9. Beautifully carved cabinet, 18th century

From dr. F. de Haan: *Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923*

3.3 Tour Guide

The following is based on experiences of the author; maybe the expositions have been changed since then.

Upstairs in the main building you will find also the old court chambers O and T. In rooms O, X and Y you can find a lot of 18th and 19th century furniture. The highest court in the times of the Dutch East-India Company, VOC, was its Court of Justice. This Court had its seat in the Batavia Castle first, but later, after 1710, the VOC Court administered justice inside the Town Hall. They did so in the eastern side on the first floor of the main building, in room O: close to the VOC-prison, which was domiciled on the ground floor of the eastern lower wing. In 1800 the Company went bankrupt. Later it was the meeting room of a Court of Justice of the Dutch East-Indies until 1868. After 1868 the modern Batavia Court of Justice sat in the beautiful building which you can discover on the east side of the Town Hall Square.

However, room O is devoted to Raden Saleh now, a painter who caused a furore in Dutch East-India as well as in Europe. You see one more copy of a painting of the surrender of Prince Diponegoro to the Dutch in 1830. This one is painted by Raden Saleh. The other one, in room S, is painted by the Dutchman Nicolaas Pieneman, see Tour (9). Aside: the old mansion of Raden Saleh is very beautiful and can be visited. Location: near Cikini Hospital in Jakarta.

A lot of furniture from the period of the Dutch East-India Company is exposed in rooms X and Y also. This exposition includes beds, which are rather special. Nevertheless rooms X and Y deserve your attention in particular because of a portrait gallery. There are portraits of the Governors-General, almost all of them.

4. Jakarta History Museum, upper floor, western wing

4.1 Introduction

The surface of the rooms on our drawing is not based on the real situation.

Walk again to hall Z on the upper floor and enter the western wing. The highlight of your visit to the museum could be room T in the western wing. The management of the museum tried to realize a 18th century reconstruction of the meeting room of the highest governmental body of Dutch East-India, the so-called "Council of the Indies".

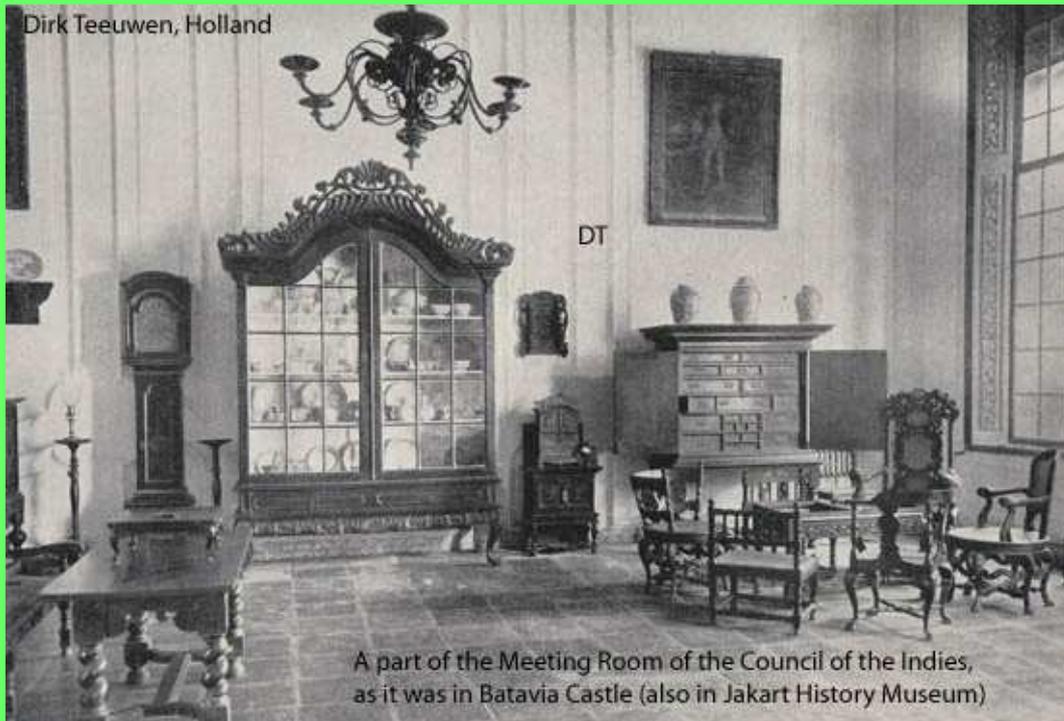


4.2 Pictures



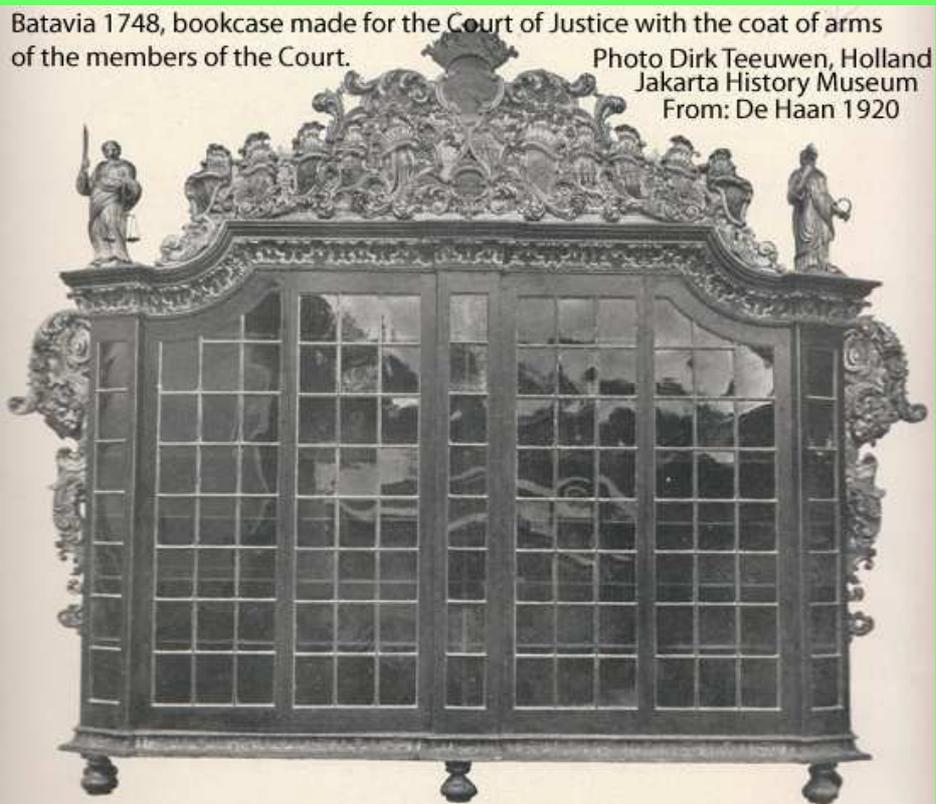
1. Wall lamp, 17th century

From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923



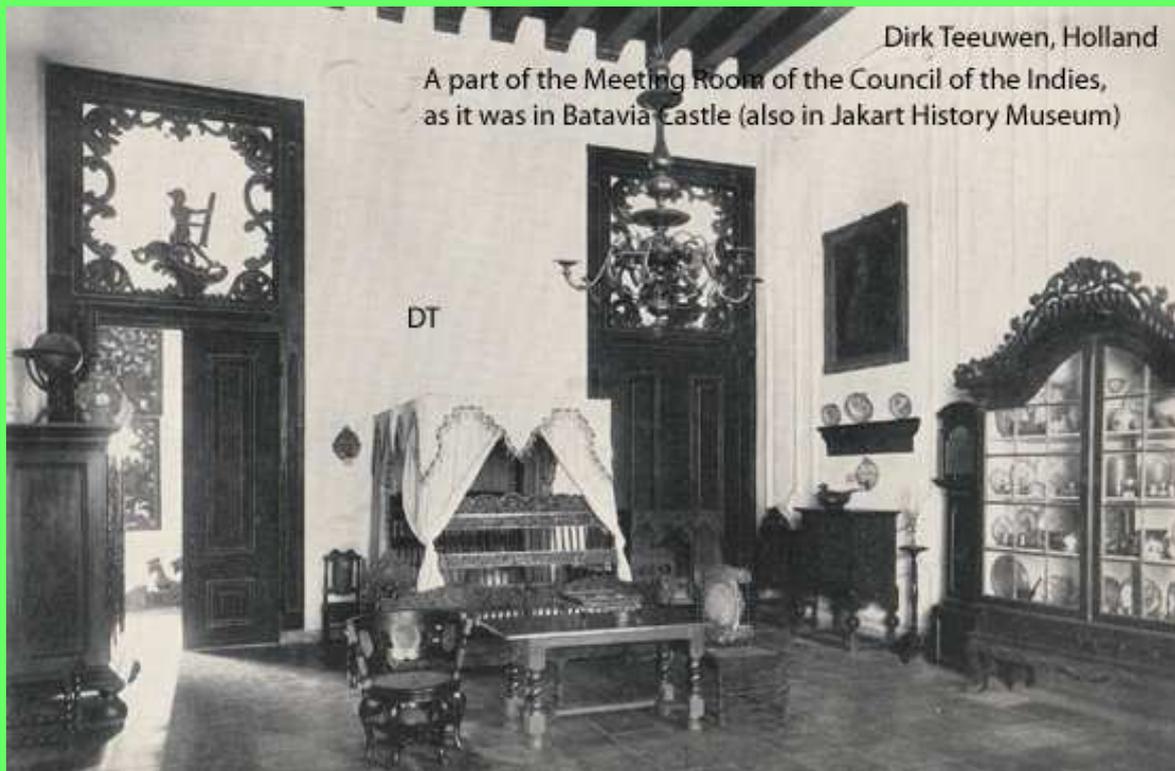
2. Interior of the Meeting Room of the Council of the Indies, an impression, 18th century

From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923



3. Bookcase made for the Court of Justice with the coat of arms of the members of the court, Batavia 1748

From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923



4. The meeting Room of the Council of the Indies, an impression, 18th century
Ir. H.A. Breuning BSc: Het voormalige Batavia; Amsterdam 1954 pict. 12



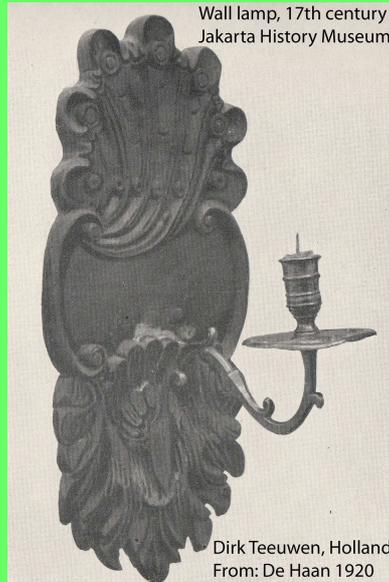
5. The Meeting Room of the Council of the Indies, an impression, 18th century,
the bookcase is from the meeting room of the Court of Justice in the Town Hall
From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923



6. Meeting Room of the Council of the Indies from the west, Batavia Castle 1739
J.W. Heydt: *Allerneuester Geographisch- und Topographischer Schau-Platz von Africa und Ost-Indien*; Willhernsdorff Preussen 1744 p. 34



7. Meeting Room of the Council of the Indies from the east, Batavia Castle 1739
J.W. Heydt: *Allerneuester Geographisch- und Topographischer Schau-Platz von Africa und Ost-Indien*; Willhernsdorff Preussen 1744 p. 37



8. Wall lamp, 17th century

From dr. F. de Haan: Gedenkboek Oud Batavia Volume III, Platenalbum; Batavia 1923

4.3 Tour Guide

The following is based on experiences of the author; maybe the expositions have been changed since then.

The municipal Batavia Bench of Magistrates held their meetings in the western side of the first floor, in the large room T, close to the Municipality Prison in the western lower wing. The surprise on the upper floor, is this room T. The Council of the Indies, once the highest advisory board, held its meetings in Batavia Castle. The Governor-General ruled Dutch East India together with The Council of the Indies. Later the Council of the Indies held its meetings in the "White Palace", now the Indonesian Ministry of Finance, on the eastern side of Lapangan Banteng (Buffalo Square), near Medan Merdeka.

The management of the Jakarta History Museum tried to reconstruct this original meeting room, as it was in Batavia Castle. Room T gives us a good impression! Have a look at the beautifully carved table, chairs, cabinets and the even more beautifully carved chair of the chairman of the Council.

For centuries people, sitting on these chairs behind this table, made the decisions, decisions essential regarding the life of millions of people in the far East and regarding the colonial possessions of the Dutch. Find more furniture in rooms V and W.

Ending