

Architecture in Indonesia since Independence (Architectuur in Indonesië sinds de Onafhankelijkheid)

Lecture by Dipl.-Ing. Suwondo Bismo Sutedjo, Universitas Indonesia
Jakarta, 1986

*From 12 March to 3 April 1986, the Architecture Department of Technische Hogeschool van Delft, later called Technische Universiteit Delft) held an exhibition to commemorate the retirement of Prof. Coenraad Liebrecht (Coen) Temminck Groll (1925–2015). He was a professor at TH Delft and a consultant on the restorations of the Taman Fatahillah public square in Jakarta and Fort Rotterdam in Ujung Pandang. The exhibition looked at the development of architecture in Indonesia from ancient times (400 AD) to the present. At that time, many Indonesian architecture students were studying at TH Delft. Thus, Suwondo was asked to contribute his thoughts on contemporary Indonesian architecture alongside speakers from different countries: Reimar Schefold (*1938, Amsterdam), Ben F. van Leerdam (Delft), Alain M. Viaro (Geneva), Cor Passchier (*1945), and Laurens Vis, both from the Netherlands. In his manuscript, written in Dutch, Suwondo briefly describes some of the most significant architectural projects in Indonesia since 1945. He divides this period into two parts: (1) from 1945 to 1965, coinciding with the tenure of Sukarno as Indonesia's first president, and (2) from 1965 to 1985, the time of Soeharto's presidency as Sukarno's successor.*

The text was translated by by Hedista Rani Pranata and Setiadi Sopandi for the project Dipl.-Ing Arsitek: German-trained Indonesian Architects from the 1960s and edited by Eduard Kögel and Moritz Henning with Alisa Kotmair. Footnotes are by the translators and editors.

| 1945 Tropical Architecture & Modern 1965 | | | | | 1965 Modern, Het zoeken van een eigen identiteit 1985 | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------|--------------------------|------|---|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Architect | Project | Concept | Plaats | Jaar | Type van gebouwen | Architect | Project | Concept | Plaats | Jaar |
| Nationbuilding, Vivere Pericoloso, Op eigen benen staan | | | | | Hulp, IGGI, Wereldbank, Asian Development Bank, Staatsfilosofie Pancasila | | | | | |
| | Nationaal Monument | Reuzenkandelaar | Merdeka-plein Jakarta | | Monumenten | | | | | |
| | De omgeving van het Paleis Hoog Raad, Staatssecretariaat | | Jakarta | | Paleis | | | | | |
| Sujudi es | Conferentie van de nieuw opkomende naties ("U.N. East") | | Jakarta | | Parlement | Sujudi es | Parlement | | Jakarta | 1965 |
| Bianpoen | Katholieke Kerk in Jelasbar | | Jakarta | | Kerken | Wanda Basoeki | Katholieke Kerk | Pendopo | Jakarta | |
| Soedarsono | Moskee in het Paleis Complex | | Jakarta | | Moskeeën | Susilohadi | Moskee | | Banjarmasin | |
| Silaban | Istiqal Moskee (prijzsvraag) | | Jakarta | | | Noekman | Moskee Salsan ITB | | Banding | |
| Sujudi | Fransse Ambassade | | Jakarta | | Ambassades | Sujudi | Indonesische Ambassade | | Kualalumpur | |
| Hatmadi | Hotel Asbaruga | | Yogyakarta | | Hotels | | Bali Hyatt | Wantilan | Bali | |
| Sorensen | Hotel Indonesia | | Jakarta | | | | Danu Toba | Traditionele Motieven | Medan | |
| | Hotel Samudera Beach | | Pelabuhan Ratu | | | Darmawan | Rusa Dua | Traditionele Motieven | Bali | |
| | Hotel Bali Beach | | Den Pasar | | Musea | | Museum | Reuzen Adathuis | Banjarmasin | |
| | PP | | | | | | Museum | Reuzen Adathuis | Medan | |
| Hatmadi | Procureur Generaal Dept. V. Voorlichting | | Jakarta | | Kantoorgebouwen | Paul Rudolph | Darmala gebouw | Lokaal Karakter | Jakarta | |
| Muluk | Koagoro gebouw | Glazen toren | | | Banken | Nihon Architect | Lippo gebouw | Glazen doos | Jakarta | |
| | | | | | Ziekenhuizen | Hiro "Jahjono" | " Pekalongan | Plaatselijk Vernakular | Den Pasar | |
| | | | | | | Suwondo | Fertamina Ziekenhuis | | Pekalongan | |
| | | | | | | " | Fertamina Ziekenhuis | | Cilacap | |
| | | | | | | " | Stadion Bima | | Cirebon | |
| | | | | | | Ari W. Peju | Bina Management | | Jakarta | |
| Azhar es | Sportcomplex, stadia en atleten dorp (voor het houden van de Asian Games) | | Jakarta | | Sportcomplexen | Noekman | Eriese Vlag | | | |
| Han Awal | Schering fabriek | | | | Fabrieken | Perkins&Will | Landbouwinstituut | Versinsbeelding van Rogor | | |
| | | | | | Universiteiten | | Universiteit van Indonesie | Enheid in verscheidingspook heid | Jogyakarta | |
| Adinegoro | Gejah Mada Universiteit: Administratiegebouw | | | | Luchthavens | Aeroport de Paris | Genkarang Int.Luchthaven | Joglo | Jakarta | |
| | Flats voor het personeel van het departement van buitenlandse zaken | | Kebayoran Baru | | Flats | Atelier 6 | Luchthaven | | Medan | |
| | | | | | | Perumnas | 4 lagen flats voor de laag inkomen groep | | Jakarta | |

Figure 1: Initial idea mapping of the article.

The first 20 years of the young republic were marked by what President Sukarno called “nation building”, which should erase the notion of being “a nation of coolies” and “a coolie among the nations”. In this context, major projects were carried out: the construction of government offices, four first-class international hotels – Hotel Indonesia in Jakarta, Bali Beach Hotel, Samudera Beach Hotel in Pelabuhan Ratu, Ambarrukmo Palace Hotel in Yogyakarta – and the Attorney General’s building in Jakarta. The latter two buildings were designed by Hatmadi Pinanjojo,¹ one of the first graduates of Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB, Bandung Institute of Technology, formerly Technische Hogeschool Bandung).

The first department store was built and named Sarinah. Some of these projects were financed from Japanese reparations for war damages. The National Monument with the huge candlestick and the golden flame on Merdeka Square (called “Koningsplein” during the Dutch rule; before the war, an annual fair, “Pasar Gambir”, was held here) was the winning design of the architectural competition for the monument.

As host of the first Asian Games, Indonesia built a vast sports complex between the heart of Jakarta and a newly constructed satellite city, Kebayoran Baru. These sports venues include a

¹ Hatmadi Pinanjojo (b. 1931) and Azhar (b. 1926), together with Han Awal, Adhi Moersid, Soejoedi Wirjoatmodjo, Soenaryo Sosro, Darmawan Prawirohardjo, and Suwondo Soetedjo, were part of a group who founded the Jakarta chapter of the Indonesian Institute of Architects. Pinanjojo and Azhar served successively as chair and secretary in 1969. Both were among the first architecture students enrolled in the Faculty of Engineering at Universiteit Indonesia in Bandung.

covered stadium for 100,000 spectators, several smaller stadiums (open and covered), and an athletes' village designed by Azhar.²

Towards the end of Soekarno's term, Indonesia withdrew from the United Nations, and Soekarno ordered the construction of a building for the Conference of the New Emerging Forces (CONEFO) in Jakarta. The architect was Soejoedi,³ a former student in Bandung, Paris and Delft, and an alumnus of TU Berlin, who had worked part time at Hentrich and Petschnigg in Dusseldorf. An American architecture magazine called it "UN East". According to this magazine, the building (today's MPR building) resembled a resort hotel in Hawaii.

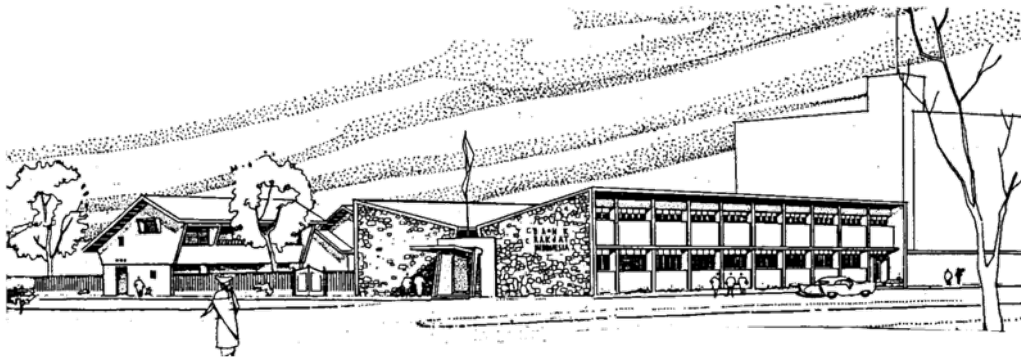


Figure 2: Perspective of the Indonesian People's Bank in Medan, 1958, by architects Job & Sprey.

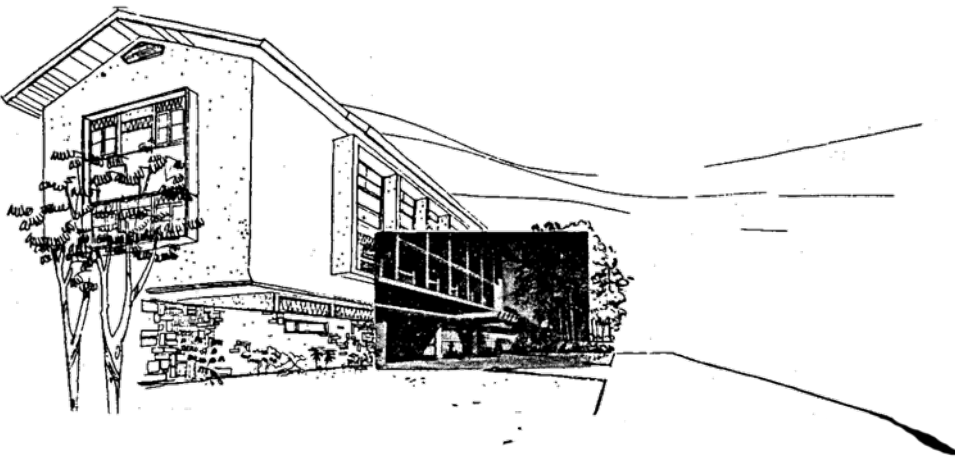


Figure 3: Perspective of Bayer-Hoechst Indonesia, 1958, by architects Job & Sprey, Jakarta.

Numerous Dutch architects and building contractors were still active in Indonesia. The first Indonesian architectural magazine of July 1958 featured the architecture firm Job & Sprey with two of its designs: the Bank Rakyat Indonesia (BRI) in Medan and a building for Bayer-Hoechst Indonesia in Jakarta, which used a metal roof construction by De Vries Robbe-Lindeteves.

² See note 1.

³ Also known as Soejoedi Wirjoatmodjo.

These Dutch architects also engaged architecture students at ITB for their practice (in 1950, the architecture department was dominated by Dutch lecturers), such as Kwee Hin Goan,⁴ who worked with Job & Sprey in 1954 to design a house for the New Zealand Insurance Co. in Jakarta. The design was based on natural ventilation and protection from heat, direct sunlight, and tropical rain; this was achieved through large cantilevers, steep roofs, and open facades. However, the ceilings were not as high, and the walls were not as thick as in colonial times.

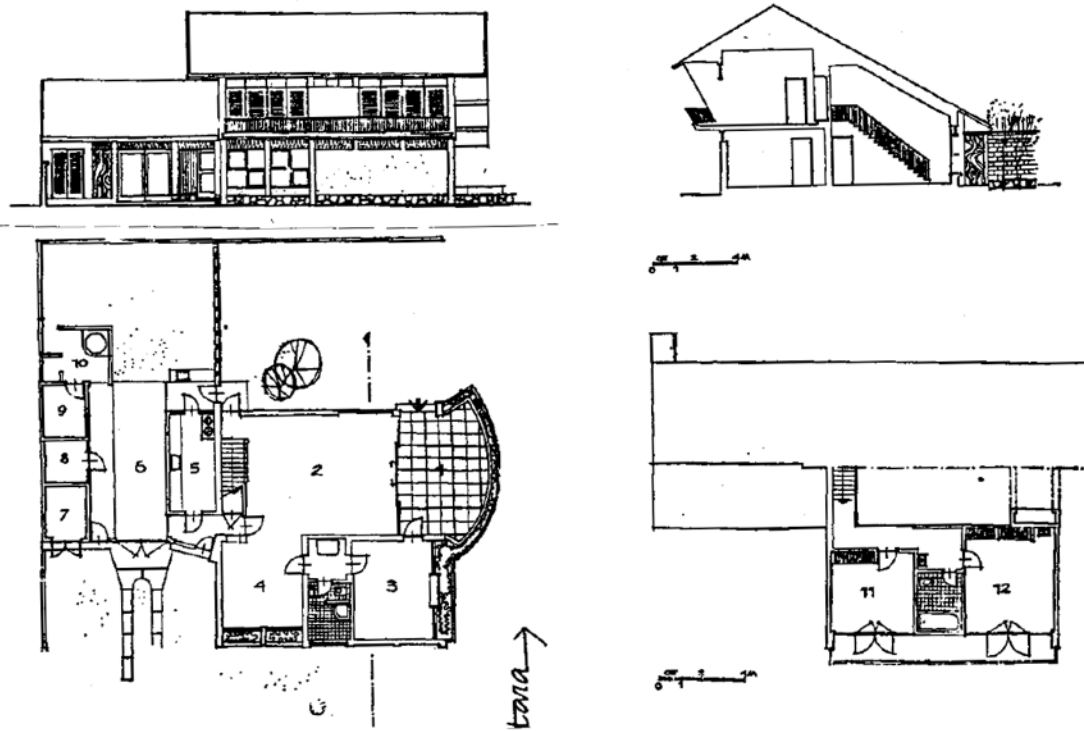


Figure 4: Private home in Jakarta, designed by Kwee Hin Goan, 1954.

Gmelig Meyling⁵ designed the Indonesian Bank for Development (BAPINDO). He tried to give it an Indonesian character by emphasizing the ridges, as in the *pendopos*⁶ of *keratons*,⁷ and

⁴ Kwee Hin Goan (*1932) belongs to the first generation of Indonesian architects. He was one of the first post-war graduates from the Faculty of Engineering at Universitas Indonesia. After several internships, he worked for the architecture firm Job & Sprey and for the architect Soenarjo Sosrodidjojo during the first years of independence. He is one of the co-founders of the Indonesian Institute of Architects. In 1966, he left Indonesia for Cologne, Germany, where he worked briefly with King-Han Oei for Heier, Monse & Partner before moving to Rotterdam and working for Kraaijvanger Architecten until his retirement.

⁵ Albertus Wilhelm Gmelig Meyling (1909–1991) was a Dutch architect who worked in the Dutch East Indies. He was appointed as an adjunct lecturer at the ITB (1947–1955) and worked in Indonesia until 1957, when he returned to the Netherlands. He headed Ingenieur Bureau Ingenegenen Vrijburg, which produced important architectural works in the early years of Indonesian independence.

⁶ The pendopo (also pendhapa) is a pavilion-like structure located in front of the main building. It is an essential element of various traditional building types in Sumatra, Java, Bali, and Kalimantan as well as on the Malay Peninsula and parts of mainland Southeast Asia.

⁷ The keraton (also kraton or karaton) is the palace where a ruler (king or queen) ruled or resided.

through the facades. Due to growing political tension over New Guinea, a decree was issued that put an end to the Dutch architecture firms in 1959.

The most important Indonesian architect at that time was Friedrich Silaban.⁸ He designed the Bank Indonesia building in Jakarta. He emerged as the winner of the design competition with Liem Bwan Tjie⁹ and Ingeniebureau Ingenegeren-Vrijburg (IBIV). He was assisted by Han Groenewegen.¹⁰

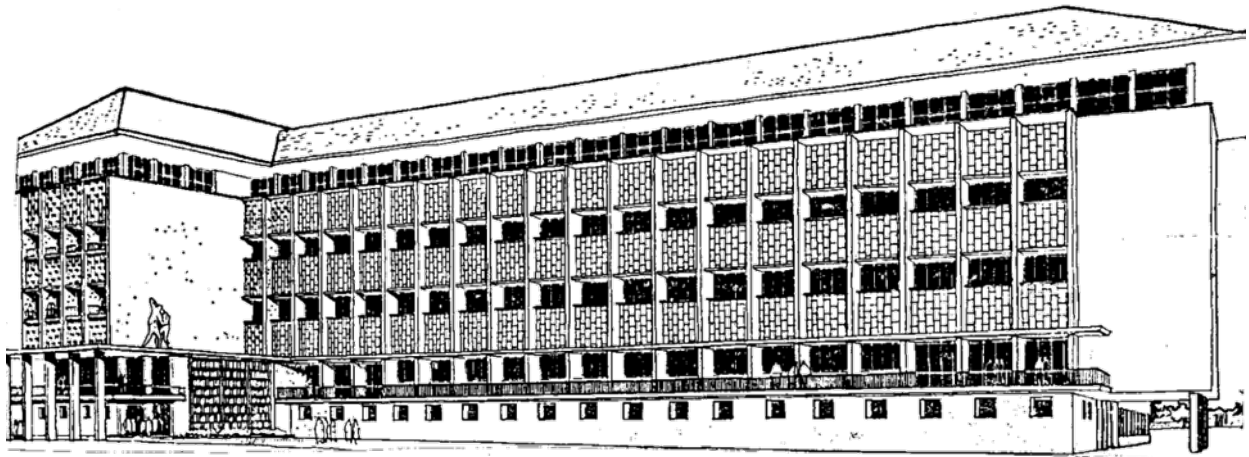


Figure 5: Perspective of Bank Indonesia building, Jakarta.

Soehamir designed the Department of Finance in Surabaya, the Central Statistics Office in Jakarta, and the Embassy of Indonesia in New Delhi.

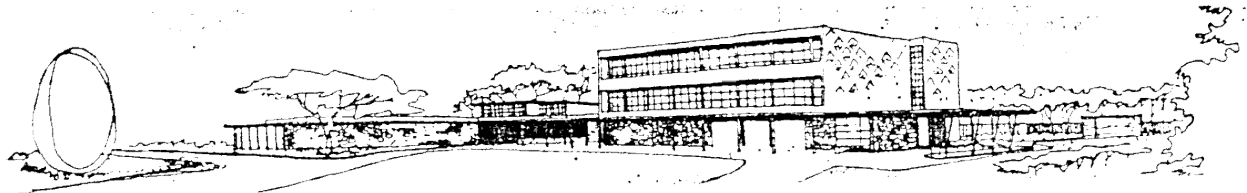


Figure 6: Perspective of the Indonesian Embassy in New Delhi.

⁸ Friedrich Silaban (1912–1984) was Indonesia's most famous architect. He was trained in a vocational school during the late colonial period and made a name for himself as an architect in the 1940s and 1950s. He won a number of important national architectural competitions in 1955 and was a close confidant of President Sukarno. He was among the founders of the Indonesian Institute of Architects.

⁹ Liem Bwan Tjie (1891–1966) was a famous Indonesian architect who worked during the colonial and post-colonial periods. He completed his training and worked in China, France, and the Netherlands. After independence, he established his practice in Indonesia and was involved in many important projects. He was one of the founders of the Indonesian Institute of Architects.

¹⁰ Johannes Martinus (Han) Groenewegen (1888–1980) was a Dutch architect who worked in Indonesia from 1927 until his death. He opened his practice in The Hague and designed several important buildings in the Netherlands. During the Great Depression, he moved to Medan in the Dutch East Indies, where he designed significant buildings for the city. In 1947 he moved to Jakarta. As the tensions mounted between Indonesia and the Netherlands, Groenewegen began a partnership with Silaban in 1957, and they worked together on a few projects. He remained in Indonesia until his death in 1980.

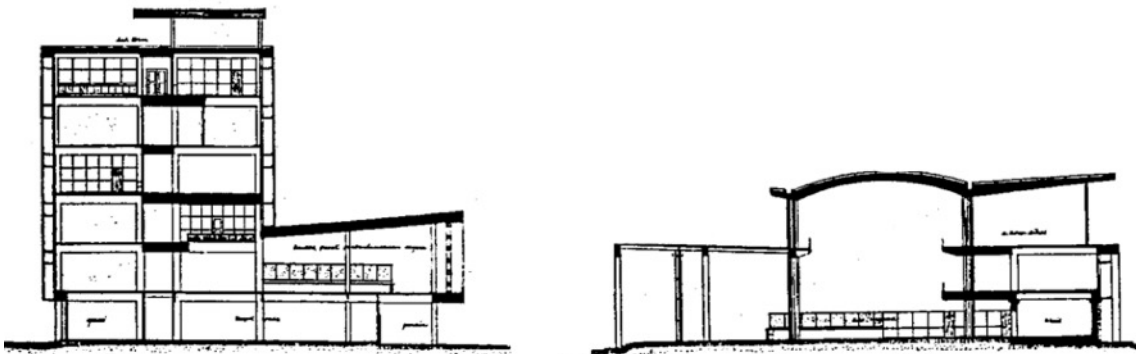
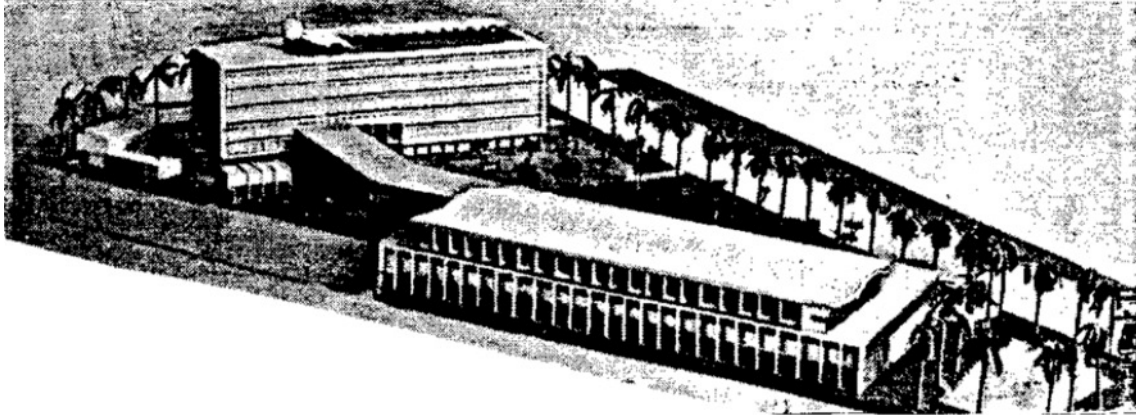


Figure 7: Architectural model and drawings of the Department of Finance in Surabaya.

Pembangunan Perumahan¹¹ designed the first flats for the Department of Foreign Affairs in Jakarta. They were intended as temporary housing for officials returning from overseas posts who had to wait for permanent housing.

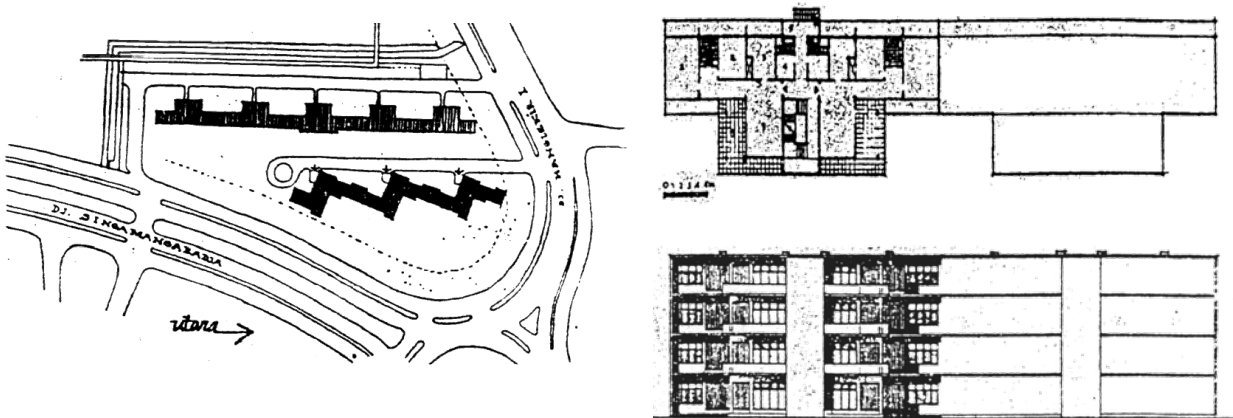


Figure 8: Site plan, ground floor plan, and elevation of the first apartment buildings in Jakarta.

¹¹ Pembangunan Perumahan (literally translated: housing development) is a state-owned company founded in 1953 as a housing company to build flats for the second-oldest cement manufacturer, Semen Gresik. Over the course of half a century, the company has grown as both a developer and general contractor, providing services for large government and public projects.

Silaban also designed the largest mosque in Southeast Asia. The Istiqlal Mosque has a central dome resting on pillars, surrounded by mezzanines where women take part in prayers. Spatially, the building is connected with the palace complex by a large mall. The back of the building faces the Cathedral, which faces Banteng square, with the Irian Jaya Liberation Statue in the centre and the Borobudur Hotel on the other side of the square. Silaban initiated the design for this hotel with enormous rooms, but later it was built in a more economical size.

Other mosques include Noe'man's¹² Salman Mosque in front of ITB and the Sunda Kelapa Mosque of Goestaf Abbas¹³ in Jakarta's elite district; both mosques have minarets but no domes. The mosque lies on a corner of a square in a residential area; it is adjacent to the National Planning Board (BAPPENAS), formerly the Adhuc Stat Freemason Lodge, which in turn borders another square – the one with the Kartini¹⁴ statue. According to Noe'man, there are essentially three opinions on mosque construction. The first asserts that traditional forms must be used, and the second says that commonly recognized symbols from the Middle East should be used, such as domes, minarets, and various wall-opening shapes. The last opinion is that forms are not limited to specific periods or regions. What matters is the direction to Mecca and the availability

of a front space where people can gather before going inside together. According to this view, the architect may consider the minaret, which can be justified functionally, as a mass element for the spatial composition.

The French embassy, which lies close to Sarinah, the first Indonesian department store, was also designed by Soejoedi. It is located on the same road as the embassies of Australia, Japan, Russia, Germany, Great Britain, and Japan. Kwee and Soemarjo¹⁵ designed the now-demolished Asoka Hotel, the former press centre.

Other graduates from the Netherlands and Germany, who received their degrees around 1960, designed churches (Han Awal and Bianpoen), residential buildings (Han Awal and Pamuntjak), offices, and factories. The buildings of Universitas Katolik Indonesia Atma Jaya (Atma Jaya Catholic University) were designed by Han Awal. They are located on Sudirman Boulevard, which intersects with Thamrin Boulevard, which has several embassy buildings.

The Catholic Church¹⁶ of Bianpoen has a sloping roof that rises towards the altar. The roof consists of three parts, each of which is a hyperbolic surface covered with aluminium plates and attached to steel wires stretched between concrete structures. The patented *cakar ayam* (crow's feet) by Professor Dr. Ir. Sedyatmo¹⁷ was used for the foundations.

¹² The architect Achmad Noe'man (1926–2016) is known for his mosque buildings. He studied at the Faculty of Engineering at Universitas Indonesia in Bandung from 1948 to 1953. His early work – and at the same time his best-known masterpiece – was the Salman Mosque, built in 1964.

¹³ Architect Goestaf Abbas graduated from the Faculty of Engineering at Universitas Indonesia in Bandung and is known for designing the mosque Masjid Agung Sunda Kelapa (Sunda Kelapa Great Mosque, 1970).

¹⁴ Raden Adjeng Kartini (1879–1904) is a figure of Indonesian women's emancipation.

¹⁵ No information available about Soemarjo.

¹⁶ Gereja Kristoforus (demolished in 2021).

¹⁷ Raden Mas Sedyatmo (also Sedijatmo or Sedyatmo, 1909–1984) is a famous Indonesian civil engineer best known for his patent for a foundation slab for soft soil without excavation, referred to as *cakar ayam* (crow's feet).

The owner of the Schering pharmaceutical factory was quite progressive and included extensive social facilities in his list of requirements, such as a canteen and spacious washrooms worthy of a pharmaceutical factory. Given the local regulation that only allowed for 20 percent of the site to be built on, we can imagine how genuine tropical construction manifested itself here: narrow blocks, large overhangs, and courtyards, all surrounded by plenty of greenery. And all this without any interference from foreign architects.

While several large projects had to be tackled simultaneously in this first period, implementation was carried out under the motto *berdikari* or *stand on your own feet*, and meant *vivere pericoloso* or *living dangerously*. A high inflation rate had to be faced as a result. No wonder, then, that the second period of economic development was characterized to a large extent by foreign aid and foreign investment. With these investments also came foreign experts who brought their technology. In this way, several universities were designed by foreign experts, such as the Agricultural University of Bogor (Institut Pertanian Bogor), University of Technology in Surabaya (Universitas Teknologi Surabaya), University of Ujungpandang,¹⁹ and agricultural training centres throughout the country.

In that first period, we were not so concerned about the appearance of national identity in the buildings. Silaban thought that we should make modern designs but also take the climate into account. For him, that meant steep tiled roofs with large eaves and concrete sunshades. But others could also do flat roofs and adapt Corbusier's pilotis, like Hatmadi²⁰ with his offices.

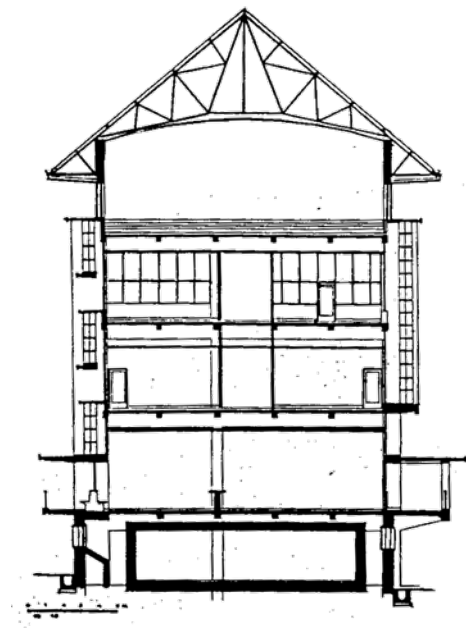


Figure 10: Section of Bank Indonesia, designed by Silaban.

¹⁹ Universitas Ujungpandang is presumably present-day Universitas Negeri Makassar (Makassar State University).

²⁰ Hatmadi Pinandoyo was among the first 20 Indonesian architects who are registered in the Indonesian Institute of Architects. He served as the first chairman of its Jakarta chapter from 1969–1974.

Flooded with foreign ideas and materials, the need emerged for a recognizable Indonesian architecture, which was then to be realized in several ways:

- 1) Display of local vernacular buildings. An excellent example is the *Bank Ekspor Impor* (Exim Bank) office building in Denpasar, designed by Robi Sularto.²¹
- 2) Giving traditional forms a new function. The entrance lobby of the Hotel Bali Hyatt implemented this principle by using the *wantilan*, a Balinese version of the Javanese *pendopo*.

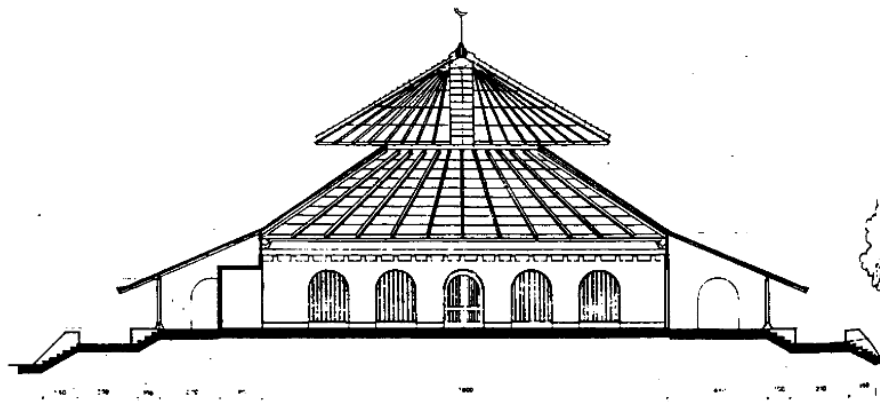


Figure 11: Section of the entrance lobby of the Bali Hyatt Hotel, 1973,

Another example is Adhi Moersid's²² mosque, whose roof slopes 45 percent downwards, while Gunawan Tjahjono²³ designed a mosque with a small fibreglass dome on the roof.



Figure 12: Section of Jami 'Said Na'um Mosque, designed by Adhi Moersid, 1980.

²¹ Architect Robi Sularto Sastrowardjo (1938–2000) graduated from Bandung Institute of Technology in 1967. He was one of the six founders of the firm Atelier 6 Arsitek (or Atelier Enam Arsitek). He worked for Soejoedi Wirjoatmodjo on the CONEFO project, where he gained insights that influenced his practice. He was famous for his dedicated studies on Balinese architectural tradition, building practices, and modern interpretations of traditional architecture.

²² Architect Adhie Moersid (1937–2019) is one of the six founders of the firm Atelier 6 Arsitek (or Atelier Enam Arsitek), together with Robi Sularto. He led the firm from 1968 to 2019 and was chairman of the Indonesian Institute of Architects from 1985 to 1989.

²³ The architect and educator Gunawan Tjahjono (b. 1945) is based at Universitas Indonesia. Together with his colleagues, Tjahjono designed the master plan and main buildings of the Universitas Indonesia campus in the early 1980s.

Wanda Basoeki's church²⁴ applied the concept of the *joglo*,²⁵ giving the building a central shape through the use of a traditional Javanese roof.

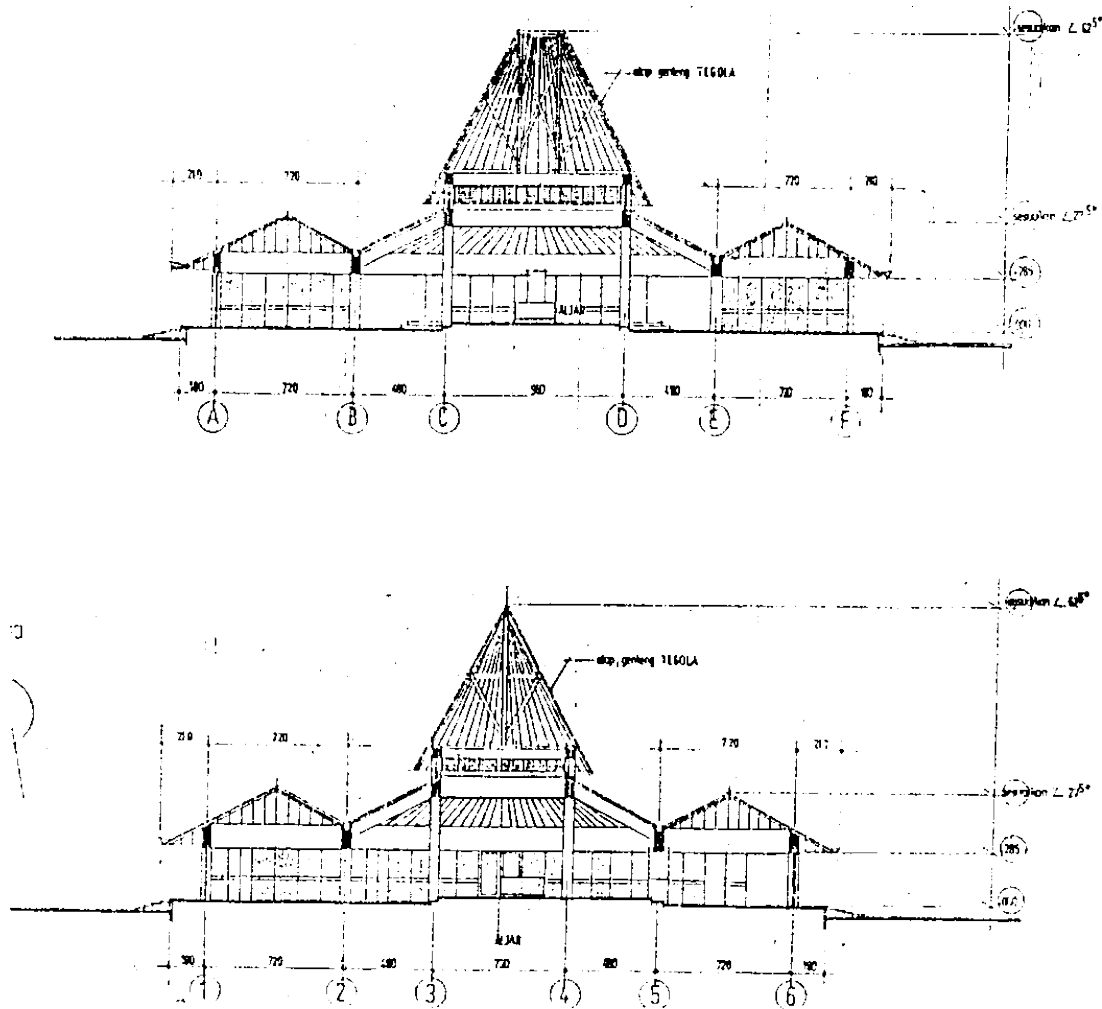


Figure 13: Saint Stephen Catholic Church in Cilandak, Jakarta, by Wanda Basoeki, 1981

3) A combination of these two views can be found in the Nusa Dua Beach Hotel in Bali (1983), where several motifs, both functional and decorative, are richly applied. The entrance of this hotel is modelled after the Candi Bentar, originally the entrance to a temple complex.

²⁴ Saint Stephen Catholic Church in Cilandak, Jakarta, designed by Wanda Basoeki and built from 1979 to 1981. Her incorporation of the *joglo* into the design is a prime example of traditional architecture that is well integrated in urban settings.

²⁵ The *joglo* is a traditional vernacular house of the Javanese people. The word *joglo* refers to the shape of the roof. In the highly hierarchical Javanese culture, the type of roof on a house reflects the social and economic status of its owner. *Joglo* houses are traditionally associated with Javanese aristocrats.

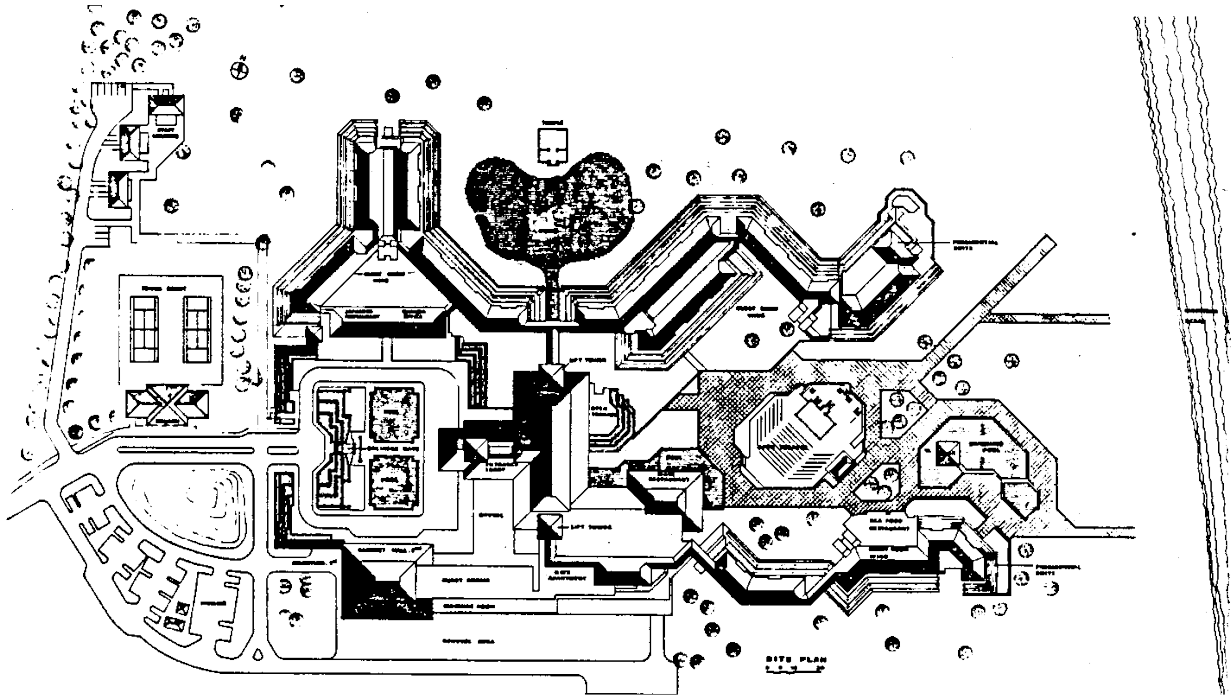


Figure 14: Nusa Dua Beach Hotel, Bali, 1983

On a modest scale, these motifs were incorporated into the design of the Hotel Danau Toba in Medan. While the upper part of the facade consists of a series of stylized roofs, the entrance features a roof reminiscent of traditional Batak houses. The use of the traditional roof for hotel entrance halls is becoming increasingly popular, as Kartika Plaza Hotel also recently gave its entrance hall a *joglo* shape. Provincial museums such as those in Mataram, Palu, Banjarmasin, Pontianak, Medan, Palembang, and Bengkulu seek to use the region's architecture for their buildings, stylizing and often re-exploring the traditional shapes of houses and barns.

4) Yet another view is reflected in the design of the new campus of Universitas Indonesia in Depok (1982–1987). The late Rector of Universitas Indonesia, Professor Nugroho Notuosusanto,²⁶ believed that a university bearing the name Indonesia should use the common denominator of all the traditional architectural forms of the country's different regions rather than using only local forms. The faculties were therefore designed as villages (clusters) based on traditional principles: the different departments are each housed in an elongated building, arranged in two rows to the left and right of an elongated central open space, which accommodates, sometimes arranged diagonally, spaces for general purposes in a central shape with a gabled roof.

²⁶ Raden Panji Nugroho Notosusanto (1930–1985) was president of Universitas Indonesia and Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia from 1982 to 1985.

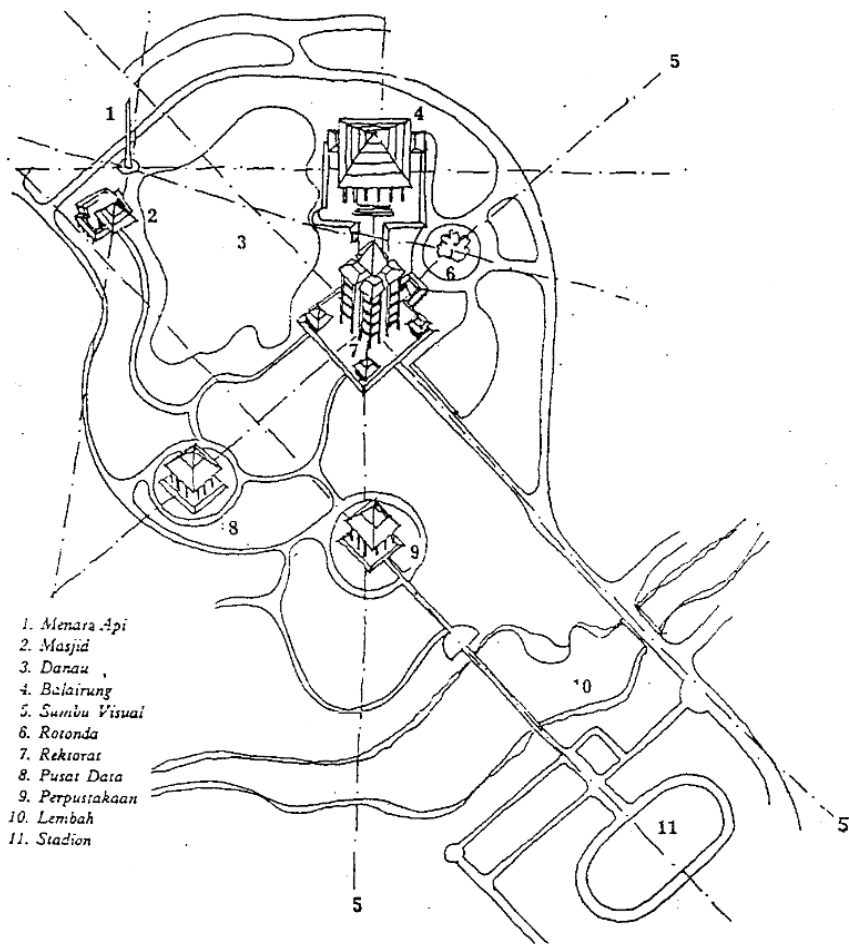
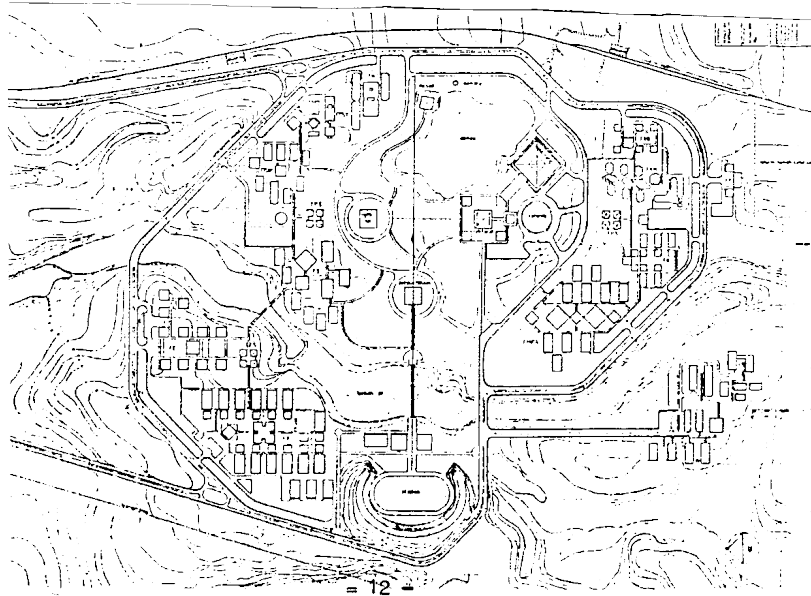
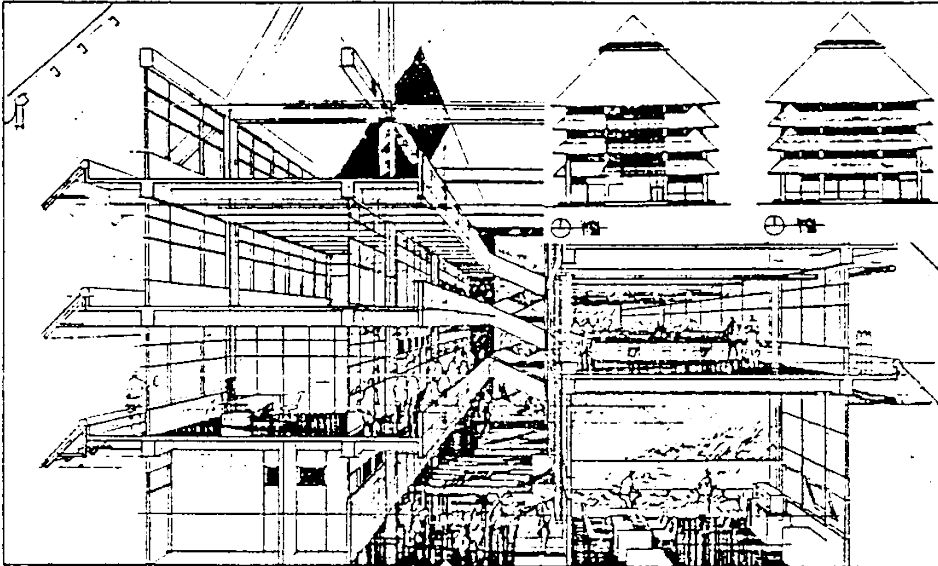


Figure 15: Site plan and master plan of Universitas Indonesia.



GEDUNG : FAKULTAS MIPA

Konsultan Perancang :
 - Lembaga Teknologi FTUI
 - PT Aparc

Konsultan MK :
 PT Jasa Ferrie

TAHAP 1-A

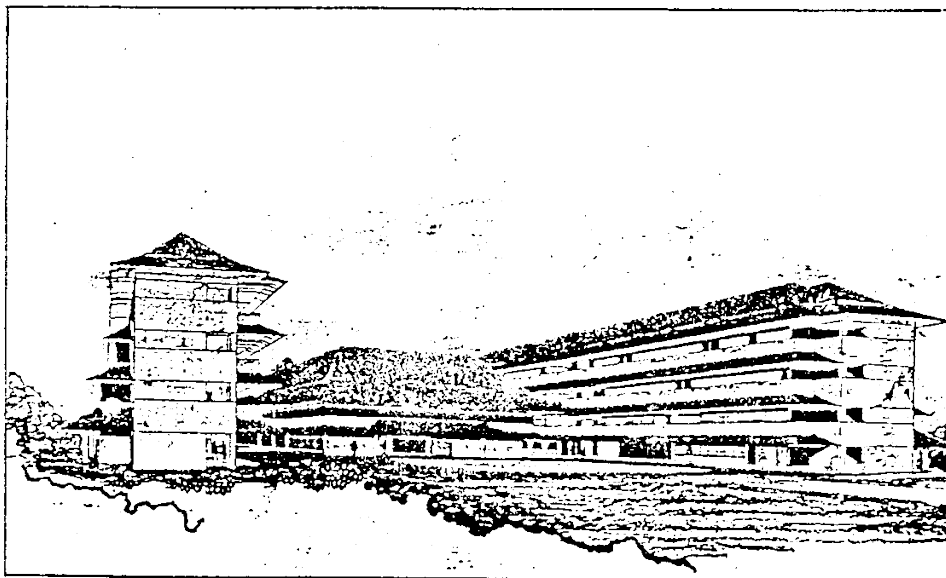
Luas : 4.745 M2

Status : Perencanaan

Pelaksana : -

TAHAP 1-B

Luas : 9.595 M2



GEDUNG : FAKULTAS HUKUM

Konsultan Perancang :
 - Lembaga Teknologi FTUI
 - PT Gubah Laras

Konsultan MK :
 PT Encona Engineering

TAHAP 1-A

Luas : 4.526 M2

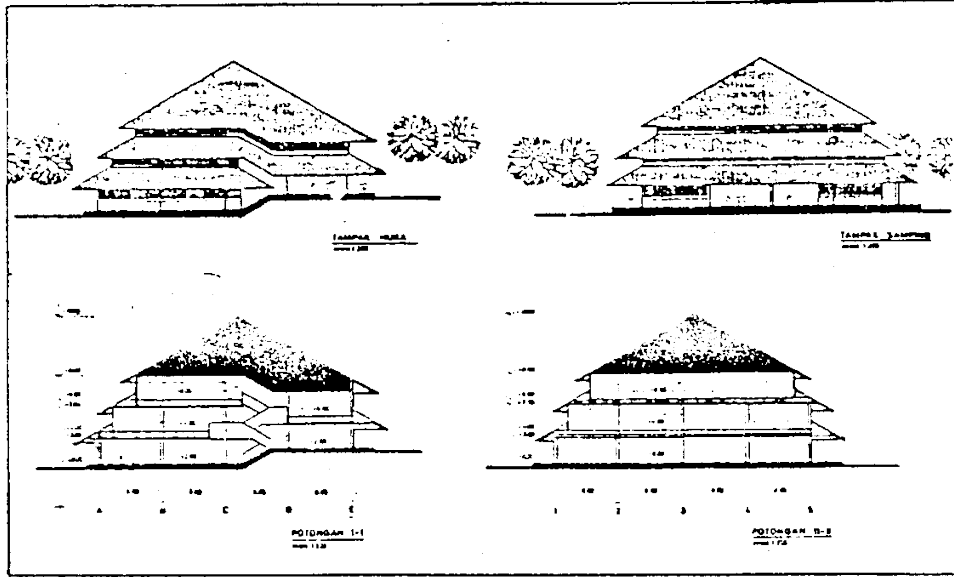
Status : Pelaksanaan

Pelaksana : PT Kali Raya Sari

TAHAP 1-B

Luas : 2.030 M2

Figure 16: Fakultas MIPA and Fakultas Hukum of the Universitas Indonesia



GEDUNG : FAKULTAS SAstra

Konsultan Perancang :

- Lembaga Teknologi FTUI
- PT. Han Awal

Konsultan MK :

PT Encona Engineering

TAHAP 1-A

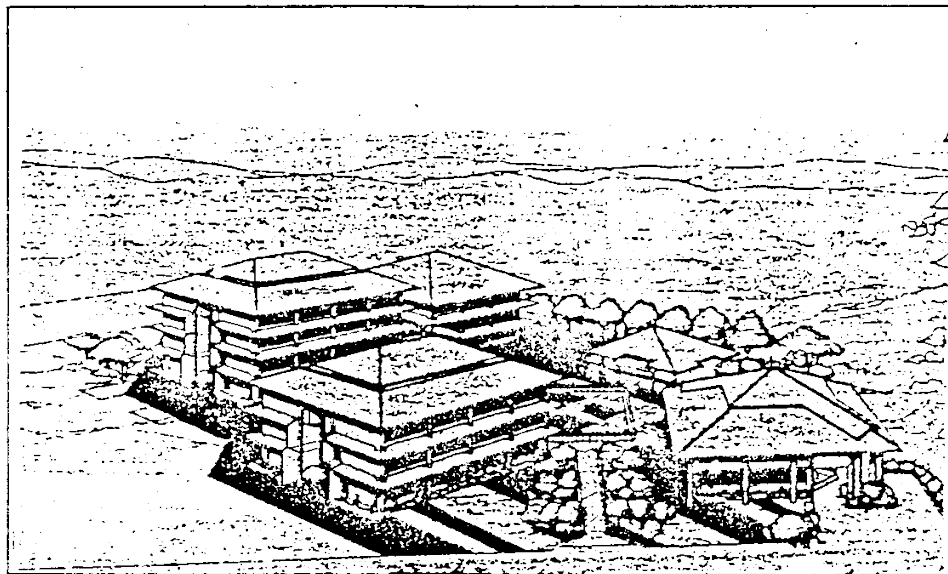
Luas : 4.650 M²

Status : Persiapan Lelang

Pelaksana : -

TAHAP 1-B

Luas : 4.170 M²



GEDUNG : FAKULTAS PSIKOLOGI

Konsultan Perancang :

- Lembaga Teknologi FTUI
- PT Team 4

Konsultan MK :

PT Encona Engineering

TAHAP 1-A

Luas : 4.120 M²

Status : Pelaksanaan Fondasi

Pelaksana : CV Budi Agung

TAHAP 1-B

Luas : 1.820 M²

Figure 17: Fakultas Psikologi of the Universitas Indonesia

Each of the 15 departure halls built by Areoport de Paris for the first phase of the Soekarno-Hatta International Airport²⁷ has a pointed roof, a French version of the Javanese *joglo* or *pendopo*. These spaces are connected to the main entrance hall by open galleries that, unfortunately, require climbing up and down stairs. The goal was to avoid the use of complicated mechanisms.

Rusjdi and Warman²⁸ built a five-storey shopping centre in Blok M, Kebayoran Baru in Jakarta, with a basement for parking. The top floor has an exterior wall inclined at 45°.

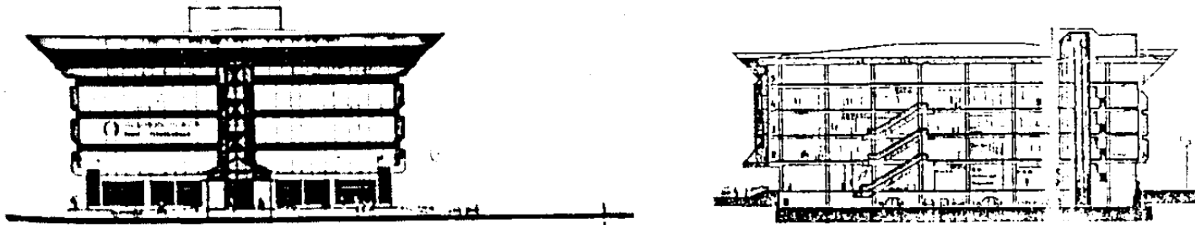


Figure 18: Elevation and section of the five-storey shopping centre at Blok M, designed by Rusjdi and Warman.

However, the large office buildings depended on artificial air conditioning and, in some cases, even artificial lighting, so more and more glass boxes made of dark-tinted or reflecting glass were built. Actually, these immense buildings were not that suitable for expressing national identity.

In contrast to the reflecting glass towers and glittering white concrete colossi clad in ceramic tiles, the American architect Paul Rudolph²⁹ saw the opportunity to design a skyscraper that he felt could stand nowhere but in Jakarta. For him, that meant open verandas, slender columns, large eaves, and tiled roofs.

At the Presidential Palace Complex, near the State Secretariat, a building for Dewan Pertimbangan Agung (DPA)³⁰ was designed by Slamet Wirasondjaja MLA (1936–2016) and Boediono Soerasno (b. 1946). These buildings were given a style corresponding to the palace, albeit in a four-story building.

²⁷ The first phase was designed by French architect Paul Andreu (1938–2018), who also designed Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport. The tender for the construction project was won by the French Aeroport de Paris in late 1976.

²⁸ Rusjdi Hattamarrasjid, Warman, and Purnomo are the founders and principles of PRW Architects, a firm known for projects such as Aldiron Plaza, one of the country's first modern shopping complexes; Sahid Jaya Hotel, a multi-storey five-star hotel built in the early 1970s; and the Ministry of Social Affairs (1985–1986).

²⁹ Paul Marvin Rudolph (1918–1997) was a renowned American architect who was chair of Yale University's Department of Architecture for six years. Late in his career, he was commissioned to design several projects in Southeast Asia: The Colonnade (1986) and The Concourse (1994), both in Singapore, Wisma Dharmala Sakti (1982) in Jakarta, and The Intiland Tower (1997) in Surabaya.

³⁰ DPA is the Supreme Advisory Council, which was dissolved in 2003. The building was later renovated and has served as the Vice Presidential Palace since 2012.

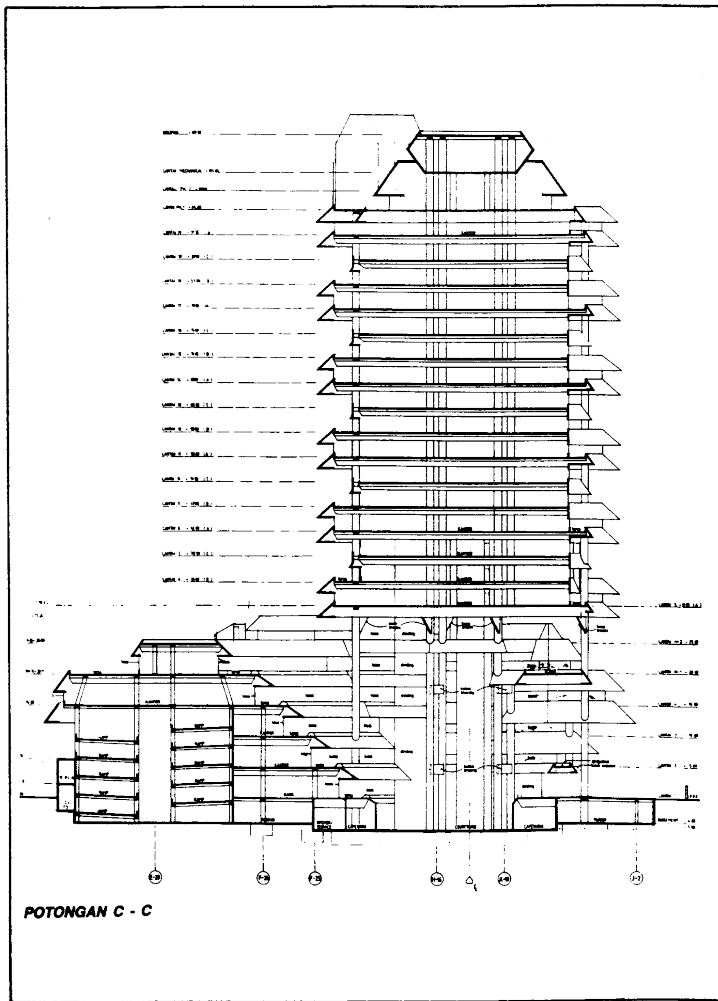


Figure 19: [Wisma Dharmala Sakti](#) Building by Paul Rudolph, Jakarta, 1990.

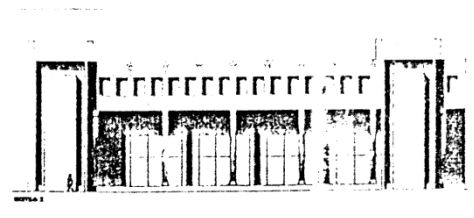
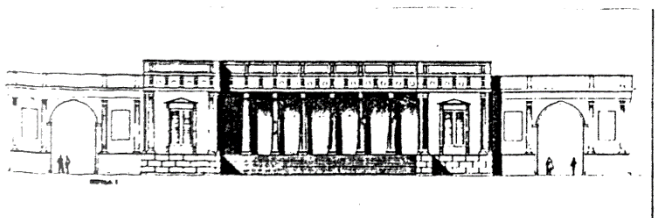


Figure 20: Elevation of the palace and the high council building.

The government provided four-storey apartments³¹ without an elevator to the low-income population, preferably on slum sites. Priority was given to former slum dwellers, but only a third chose to stay. The new way of living took time to get used to, so earlier conditions were more favourable for home industries and other means of earning a livelihood. The government improved the state of the *kampongs*. This improvement led to a shift in the population rate.

³¹ The English-version draft of this manuscript mentions five-storey low-income housing.

On the outskirts of large and smaller cities, real estate developers are building large housing complexes for middle and high-income groups. These vast “seas” of large houses with too-small roofs, too-small gardens and too-large fences are often in the so-called European style.

Noe'man designed the Friese Vlag³² factory, where powdered milk is processed into condensed milk. He also built a dwelling for his brother, painter Ahmad Sadali (1924–1987). The slides show the drawing process from different sides.

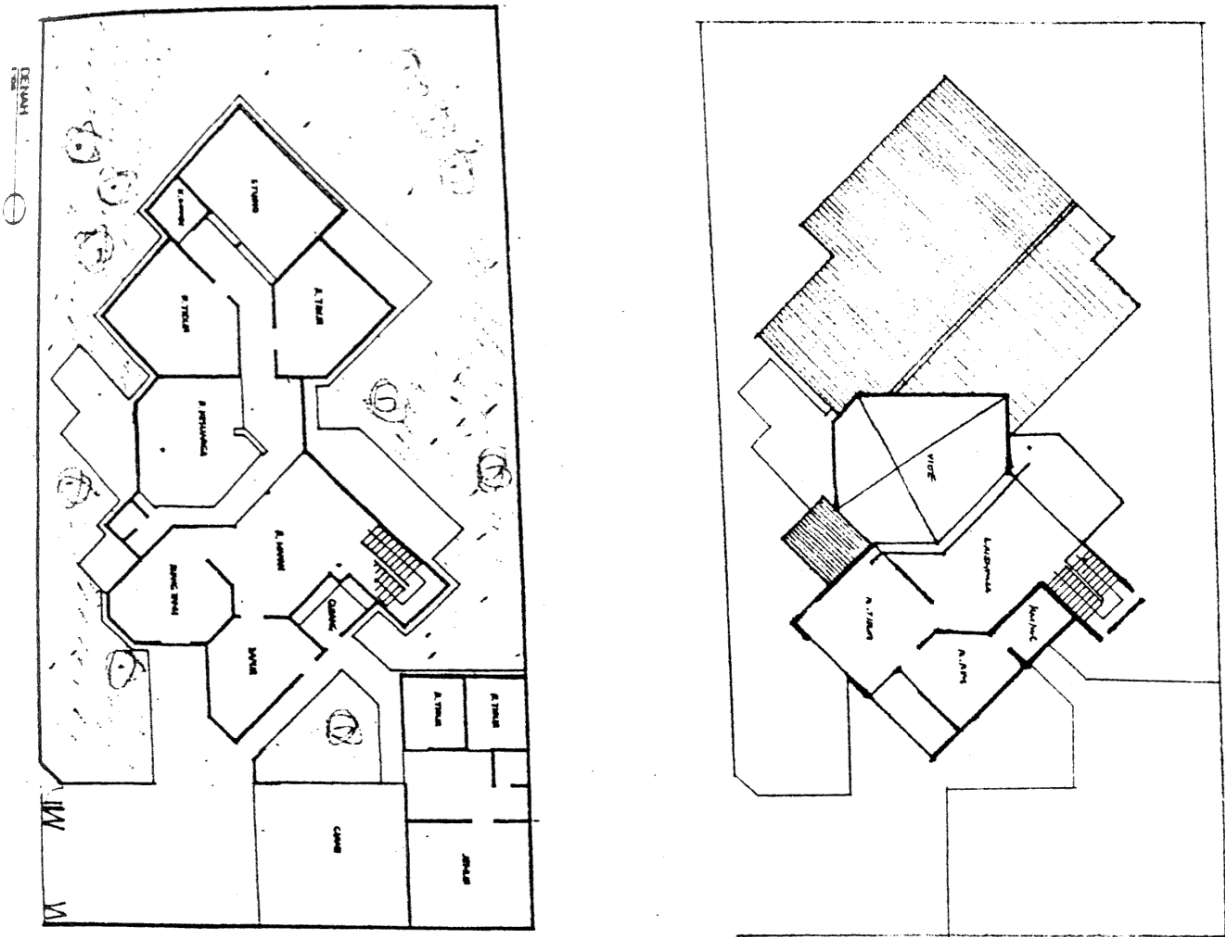
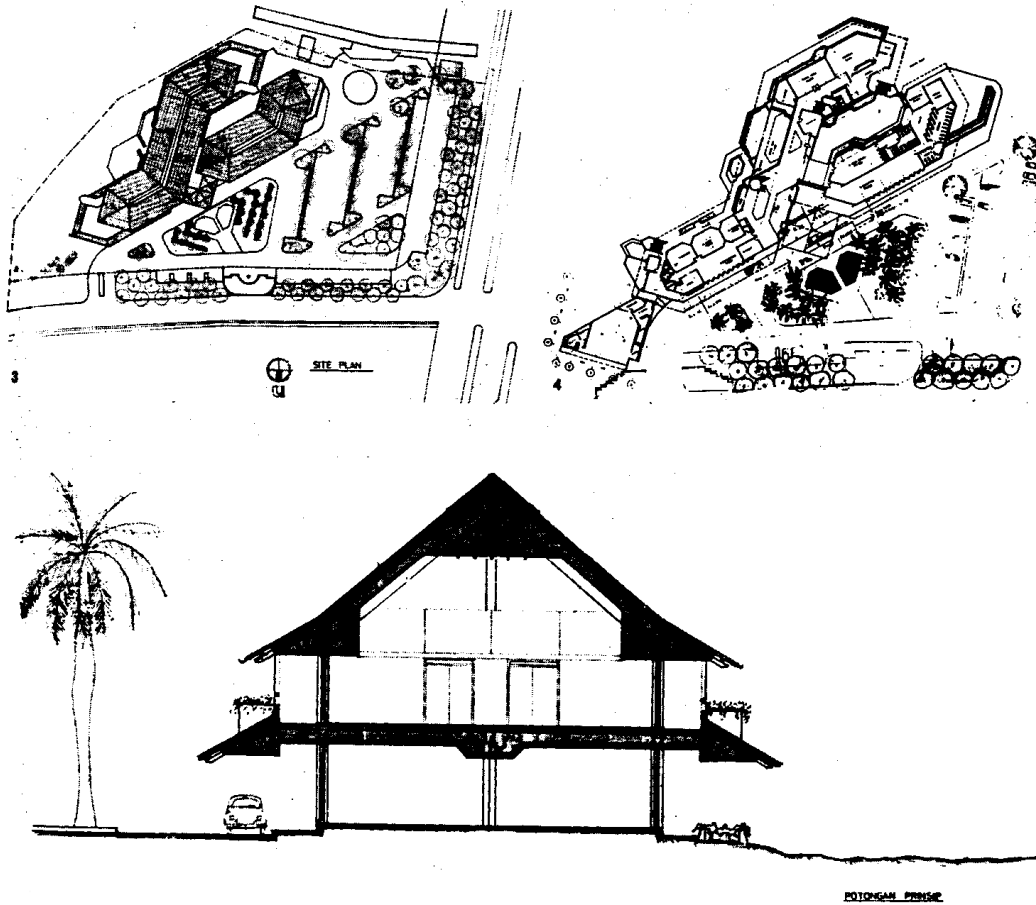


Figure 21: House for the painter Ahmad Sadali

³² Frisian Flag is a dairy brand that now operates in Indonesia as Frisian Flag Indonesia, a subsidiary of Royal FrieslandCampina NV.

On the site of the old golf club, Robi Soelarto designed a brand-new rural-style club building (1980–81) in Jakarta.



1. Pandangan bangunan dilihat dari arah masuk • 2. Bangunan dilihat dari arah lapangan
3. Gambar situasi • 4. Denah Lantai Dasar • 5. Potongan prinsip.

Lokasi : Rawamangun, Jakarta.
 Luas lantai : 2.500 m² (2 lantai).
 Biaya : Rp.750.000.000 ,00
 Tahun pembangunan : 1980 - 1981
 Konsultan Perencana : **PT. ATELIER 6.**
 Arsitek : Ir. Robi Sularto dan
 Team Atelier 6.
 Konsultan Struktur : Ir. Soetarto Kartono.
 Konsultan M/E : Ir. Kusnartoyo dan Rekan.
 Kontraktor : PT. Wijaya Karya.
 Pemilik : Jakarta Golf Club.

Figure 22: Country Club in Jakarta

In this brief overview, only three examples of non-residential construction are mentioned: the factories for Schering, the Friese Vlag, and the airport buildings.

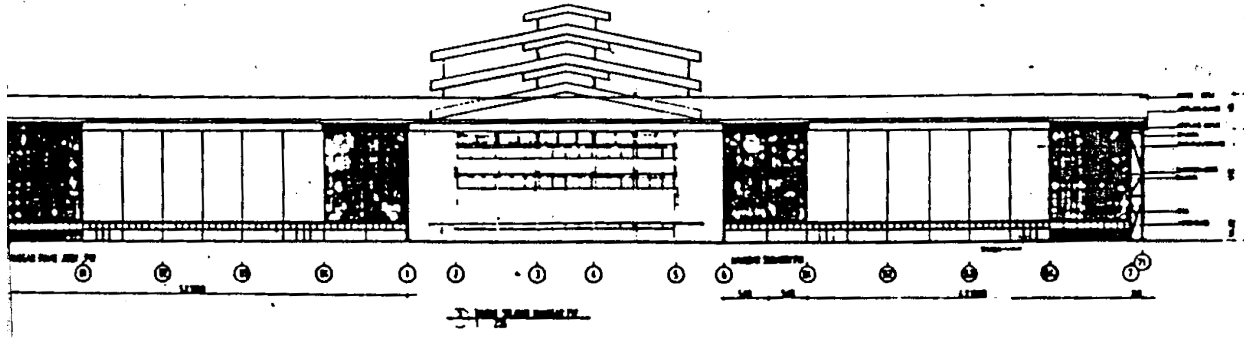


Figure 23: Airport building, Bandung

The sports complex for the Asian Games (1962) gave Indonesian architects and engineers the opportunity to demonstrate their skills. As a result, the design and construction of the parliament³³ were also awarded to these young Indonesians. However, we do not hesitate to hire foreign experts for the construction of hotels and hospitals. Will the young Indonesian students in this room be able to replace these experts?

The problems of that time no longer exist. Indonesia is now a well-established nation, a valued member of the Southeast Asian community and the United Nations.

The doubts I had here (30 years ago) could be swept away with the assertion by Dr. ter Kuile (1900–1988) that western architecture would become world architecture.³⁴ You will have other questions now, and Indonesia has other problems now. Recognize what a privileged place you have here in an established society, free from the daily perils and blemishes that could easily occur.

We expect you to have a thorough knowledge of the basics of modern construction. In Delft, you will be in good hands. You will also need to be able to apply this knowledge in a completely different environment and convince the surrounding community of these applications. Finally, you will need to take a fresh look at things that many companies have become blind to identity and tradition, and whether these things are still relevant.

³³ Originally referred to as “UN East” by Sukarno.

³⁴ See Engelbert H. ter Kuile, *De bouwkunst van Hellas tot heden* (Zeist/Arnhem/Antwerpen: De Haan, 1961).