

ARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH IN BANTEN IN THE YEAR 1976 (SUMMARY)

by

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The archaeological research in Banten in 1976 was the first step towards investigation on urban archaeology and settlement archaeology.

It was evident from written sources that the "town" of Banten was based on an urban system consisting of a number of subsystems, i.e. neighbourhoods, hamlets or other clusters. However, it was difficult to determine from these sources such as the map of old Banten by L. Serrurier (1900) and the report of F. Valentijn (1726), how many of these clusters there were and where they were located.

With the present research, several sites which were once parts of these clusters have been identified. Moreover, based on this identification, it has been possible to determine the existence of industrial sites.

These industrial sites were encountered in the clusters **Kepandean** and **Pajantran** in the hamlet Sukadiri (SKD) and the hamlet Panjunan (PJN). The sites in the cluster Patraan and Panjunan were sites of a local ceramics industry. Many tools used in pottery-making were found, such as anvils, in addition to a large number of sherds.

The cluster Kapandean, on the other hand, was the site of a metal industry. At this site, a kind of crucible (melting pot) was found in a large number as well as metal casting moulds, pieces of melted bronze and iron crust.

With evidence provided from finds such as these, the character of several sites could be determined.

Results of an analysis of local ceramics finds have established nine types of local ware: bowls, rectangular and round dishes, circular and cylindrical jars, flowerpots, kendis (ewers), cooking pots, casseroles, pans and trivets.

The basic shapes are made using three techniques: direct shaping, the anvil technique and the wheel technique.

Observing the decorated ware it is remarkable that the patterns used are

quite sophisticated. Some of the techniques employed in making these patterns are: incised, accurate and measured beaten, impressed (stamp and non-stamp), expressed and applied (moulded and non-moulded).

The decorated finds collected during the excavation showed in all 75 patterns, including single as well as multiple designs.

The role and function of ceramics in the Banten community were extremely important in the past. They have been part of domestic life and therefore an indispensable source of data. Some of them were used as daily household equipment, others as industrial utensils in the process of metal casting (bronze and iron).

In an urban society with a craft centre like Banten many activities went on which probably required the use of ceramics of this nature.

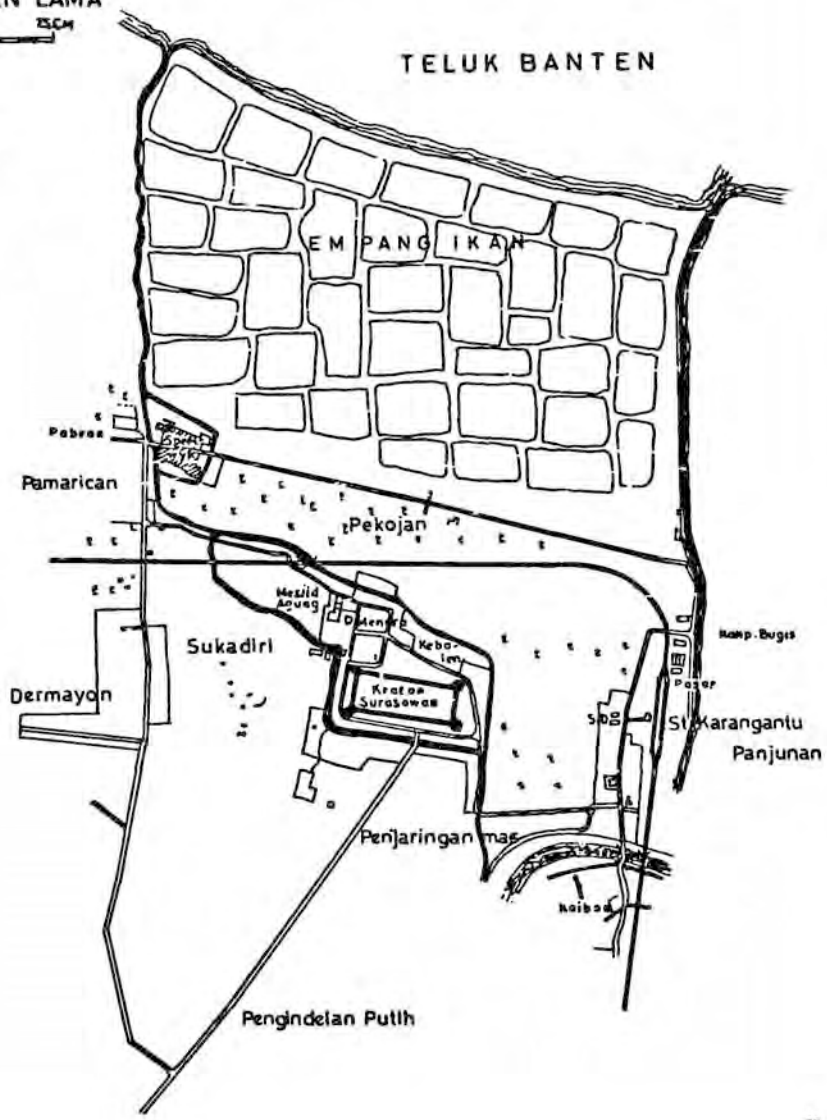
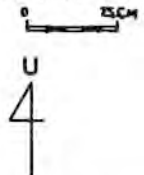
In addition to local pottery, the people of Banten in the past had extensive knowledge of foreign ceramics. Almost all the sites yielded finds from China, Annam, Japan and Europe. From the samples gathered from surface finds as well as those obtained from excava-

tions at sites in Banten Lama (Old Banten) and Banten Girang, at least 11 types of foreign ceramics have been recorded: dishes, bowls, boxes, bottles, jars, cups, vases, martavans, kendis (ewer), spoons and decorative pieces. Analysis, revealed that most of the imported ceramics from the Banten Lama sites date from the Ching Dynasty (1644-1912) whereas the ceramics of the Banten Girang site date from the Sung Dynasty (960-1280).

The results of the research in Banten of 1976 have not yet led to full interpretation of all the finds. Moreover, several problems connected with the urban structure and settlements such as the location of the market, the location of settlements of native and foreign inhabitants, the lay-out of buildings in the kraton (palace) complex of Suraswan, have not yet been clearly resolved. This is to be expected, however, as the research in 1976 was only undertaken in a small part of the whole research area which is very extensive, and in a relatively short time period. Therefore it is necessary to continue and expand the research in the Banten area.

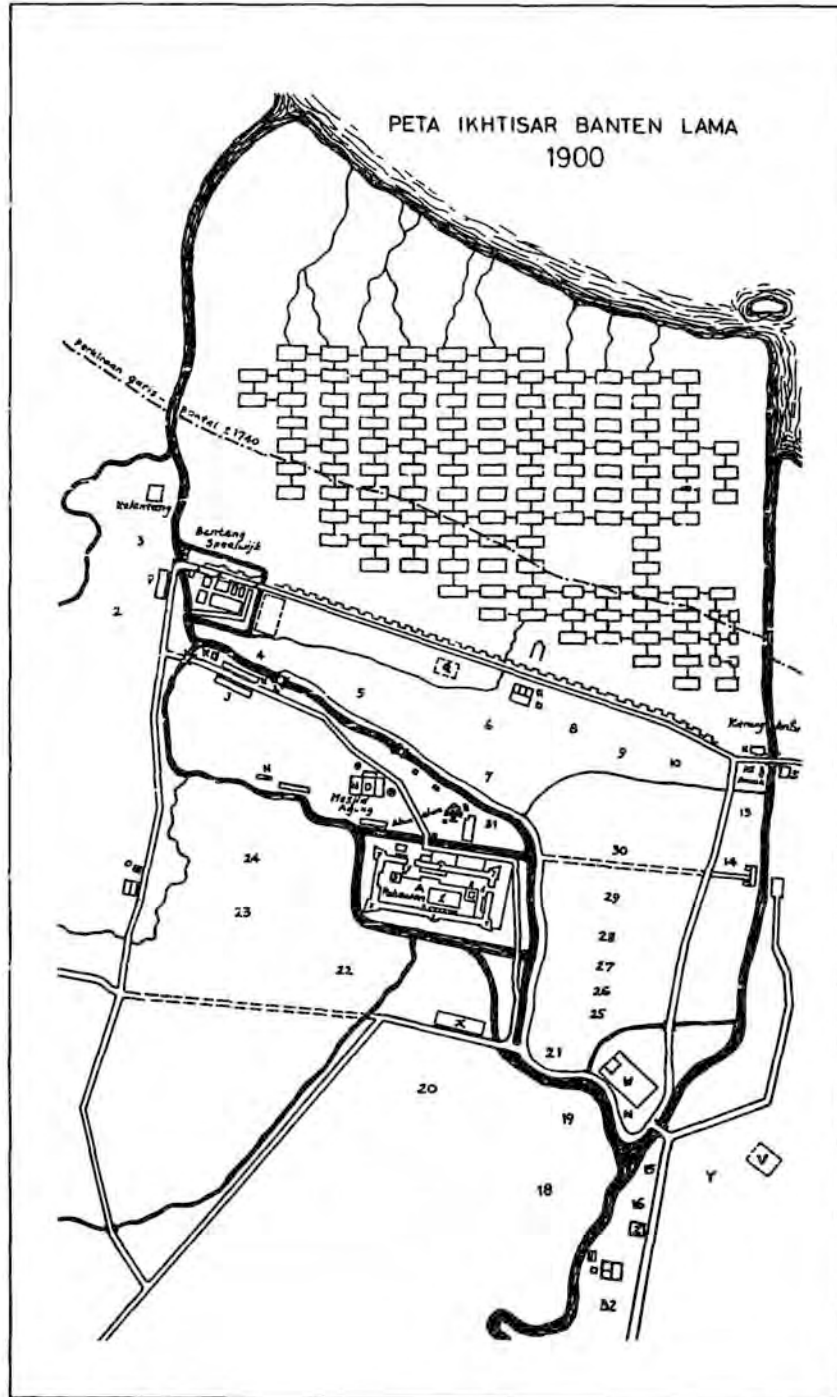
*Reprinted from the Berita Penelitian
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PETA IKHTISAR
KEPURBAKALAN
DI
BANTEN LAMA

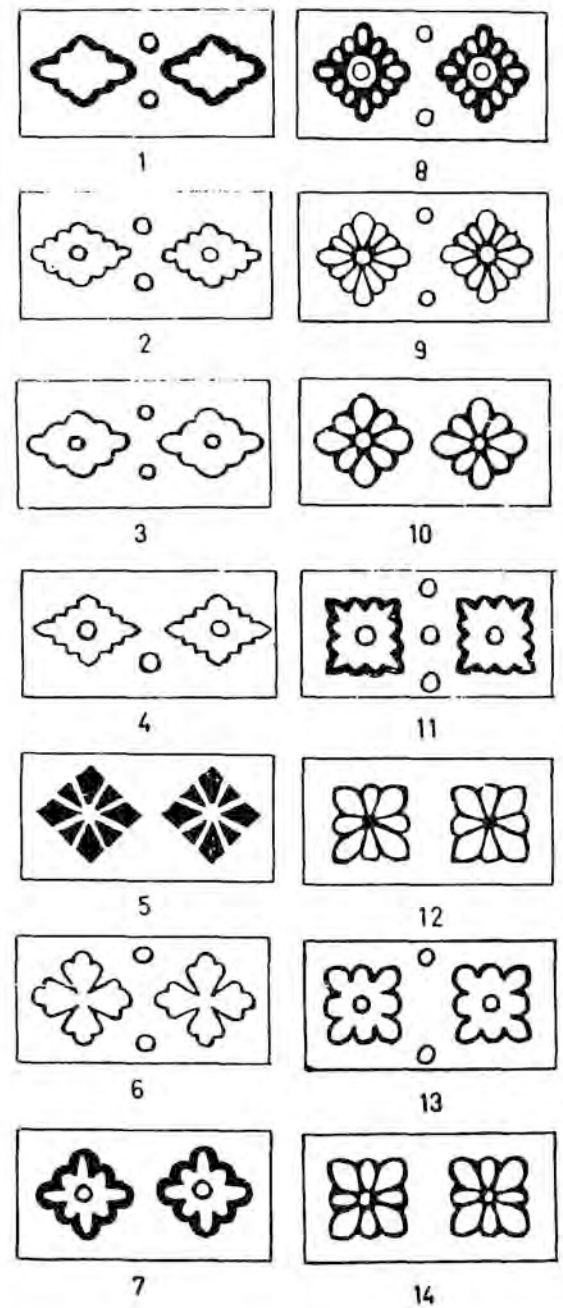


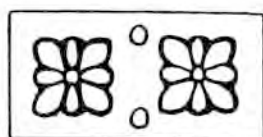
Pl. 1 Map of Old Banten.

Pl. 2. Map of Old Banten in the year

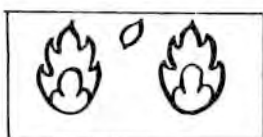


Pl. 3. Local ceramic motif

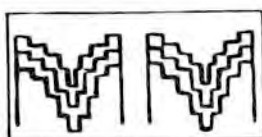




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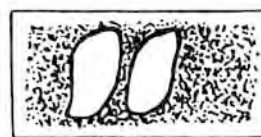
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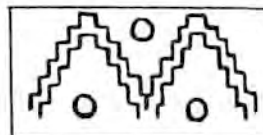
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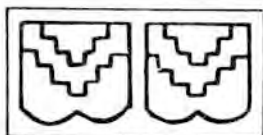
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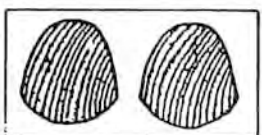
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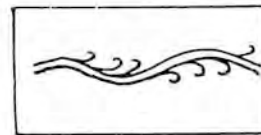
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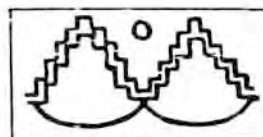
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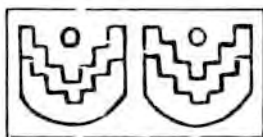
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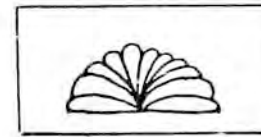
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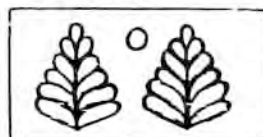
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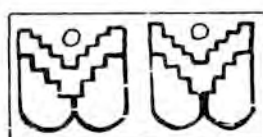
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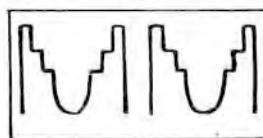
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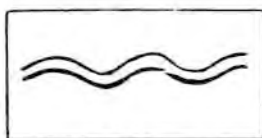
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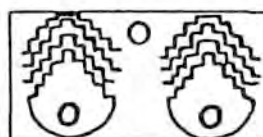
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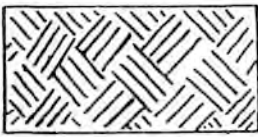
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Detailed view of the excavation at the site of the Royal Palace Sorasowan. (16-19 century A.D.)

Fortress Speelwijk at Banten put up by the Dutch (17 century A.D.)



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Restoration of one of the fortresses at the Royal Palace Sorasowan (17 century, A. D.)



Excavation at the site of the Royal Palace Sorasowan (16-19 century A.D.)