

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

History dealt with previous periods; even history was more than just a retelling of past events. It left traces in the form of statues, fortresses, monuments, inscriptions, buildings, and other relics that could give insight into the events and development of society. History allowed us to track the evolution of human civilization, to understand the underlying causes of current events, and to take advantage of past experiences. In addition to showing what had happened, history also helped us to understand what underlied the problems, changes, and patterns that determined our present reality. In this framework, there were various forms of history that evaluated and understood the progress of human history. Some general history categories were political history, social history, economic history, cultural history, intellectual history, and historical buildings.

Historical buildings could be interpreted as silent witnesses of the past containing important historical values. Each historical building had its own story and meaning that reflected events and happenings that occurred in the past. Through historical buildings, we could understand and feel the life and culture of the people of ancient times. Bengkalis had some historical buildings. These buildings included the Bengkalis Grand Mosque, Panglima Minal's Cemetery, the Yellow Mosque, and Nine Dara's Cemetery, which were some of the Dutch historical buildings in Bengkalis.

There were some Dutch historical buildings that symbolized the history that the Dutch once came to Bengkalis around 1575 A.D. The Dutch buildings that still stood firmly in Bengkalis were silent witnesses to the colonial period that had affected the development of this region. One example was the Bengkalis Post Office Building, which was a historic building with typical Dutch architecture that had high aesthetic value. Other buildings included the Dutch Water Tank, Huis Van Behauring Jail, Wisma Megat Kudu, and many other buildings such as churches,

government offices, and old houses. With the presence of Dutch historical buildings in the city of Bengkulu, people and visitors could see and feel directly how Dutch footprints had shaped and influenced the development of this city.

However, these decades-old buildings faced a variety of problems, mainly related to maintenance and sustainability. According to the pre-observation results, the employees of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Youth, and Sports of Bengkulu Regency, especially the cultural sector, did not dare to design new buildings because of the rules stating that the buildings could only be renovated and not modified. Although there were many Dutch historical buildings in Bengkulu, there were also many untouched buildings. Even the employees of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Youth, and Sports of Bengkulu Regency had difficulty making these buildings a cultural reserve because there were so many procedures to go through. It was important to note that the attractiveness that was poorly managed and less recognized by society would suffer a gradual decline due to a lack of attention and proper management. In addition, the lack of video information about Dutch historical buildings, especially in English, could also make the buildings less known and therefore less visited by wider tourists. The conservation and preservation of these Dutch buildings were an important challenge for governments and local communities to preserve valuable cultural and historical heritage, as well as a means to enrich knowledge and appreciation of local history in Bengkulu.

Based on the above background, this research was focused on making an informational video of Dutch historical buildings in Bengkulu for local communities and visitors from outside.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

The problem was formulated into “How are the Processes of Making of an Informational Video of Dutch Historical Buildings in Bengkulu?”

1.3 Limitation of the Study

There were many Dutch historical buildings in Bengkulu, such as the Dutch Water Tank, Dutch's Cemetery, Wisma Megat Kudu, Huis Van Behauring Jail, Panglima Minal's Cemetery, Nine Dara's Cemetery, Black Lada Perigi, Yellow Mosque, Cable House, government offices, churches, and other old houses.

However, in this study, the selected buildings were Residentiele Hoge Ambtswoning Oostkust van Sumatra te Bengkalis (Datuk Laksamana Raja Dilaut Regional Building), Rest House of Sultan Siak (Sultan Syarif Kasim Museum), Wateropslagtank (Dutch Water Tank), Mr. Controleur's House (Wisma Megat Kudu), Huis van Behauring (Dutch Jail), Hoofd van Dienst van het Boschwezen and Bun Syu Cho (Bengkalis Forestry Office), Mr. Coupon's House (the Bengkalis Military Rayon Commander's House) because there were still many people who did not know that these buildings were Dutch historical buildings. The selection of these Dutch historical buildings for the video to be made was because only these buildings still had sufficient data sources to be exposed. In addition, to having various architectural styles, the buildings were not too far apart from each other, making the video production process easier.

1.4 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to make an informational video of Dutch historical buildings in Bengkalis.

1.5 Significances of Study

1.5.1 Significance for Bengkalis

This informational video of Dutch historical buildings in Bengkalis aimed to increase public understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural heritage in the area. Through this video, it was hoped that people could learn more about the history, architecture, and values contained in these historic buildings. In addition, this video was also expected to encourage awareness of the importance of preserving cultural heritage in order to increase the interest of tourists to visit. Thus, this video was expected to be an effective educational and promotional medium to preserve and introduce Bengkalis' cultural heritage to future generations.

1.5.2 Significance for the Tourists

The informational video about Dutch historical buildings in Bengkalis was intended to attract the interest of outsiders and give them a clear picture of what they could find in Bengkalis. This video served as a virtual tour guide, introducing