

Part 293 for Cathy's Blog

Thursday 28th August to Sunday 31st August, 2025

Thursday 28th August, 2025.

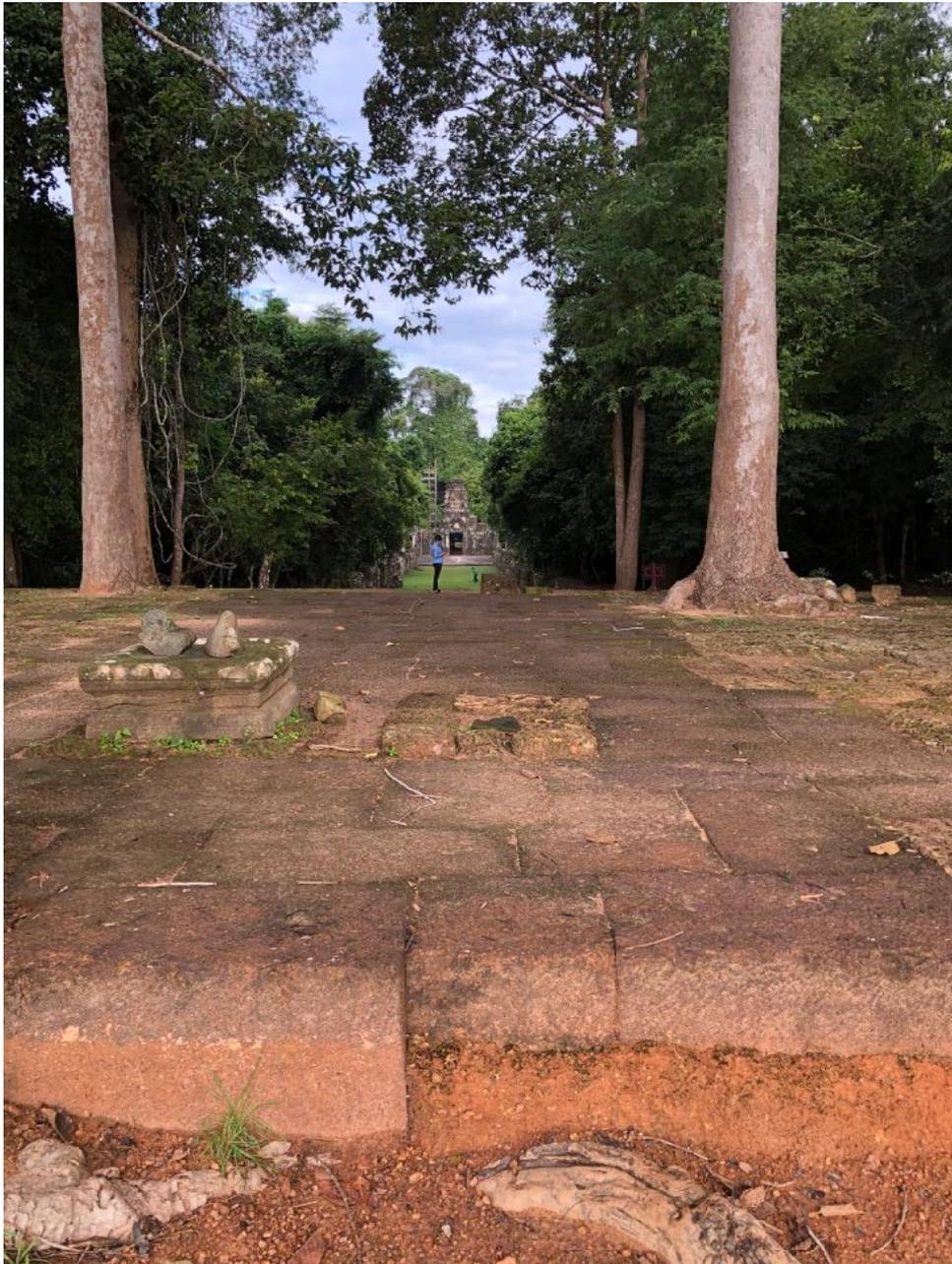
Temple Day : Preah Khan

We started out with a motorbike lesson. Although I am not as nervous now, I wouldn't say I am confident yet.

Then we rode almost directly across the road and down the east side of Preah Khan, stopping about 600m down, at the East entrance of the temple.

Looking east, you look across the North Baray, to the island with Neak Poan temple and further to Phnom Bok.





Looking west over the laterite foundation of the landing stage and road, along the grassed walkway to the east gopura of the temple (the temple itself is this far further on).

Preah Khan is a big temple complex.



It has a wide moat, with the Divas and Asuras holding the tail of the Naga, leading to the three towers of the gopura.

Every 50m along the outer wall, there are Garuda.



These Garuda are big!



We walked inside this wall and along, staring on a path close to the wall, and saw fungus and grasshoppers and spiders and berries.



Some spiders take refuge from the camera by running under the leaves.



Small fungus collection growing in the moss on the laterite wall.



Interesting thin dragonfly.



A different thin one. I like the green eyes.



The seeds in the fallen fruit are germinating.





The bushes and vines are growing new shoots too. These make perfect places for the dragonflies to perch.



At Preah Khan, the trees grow over the stone wall too.



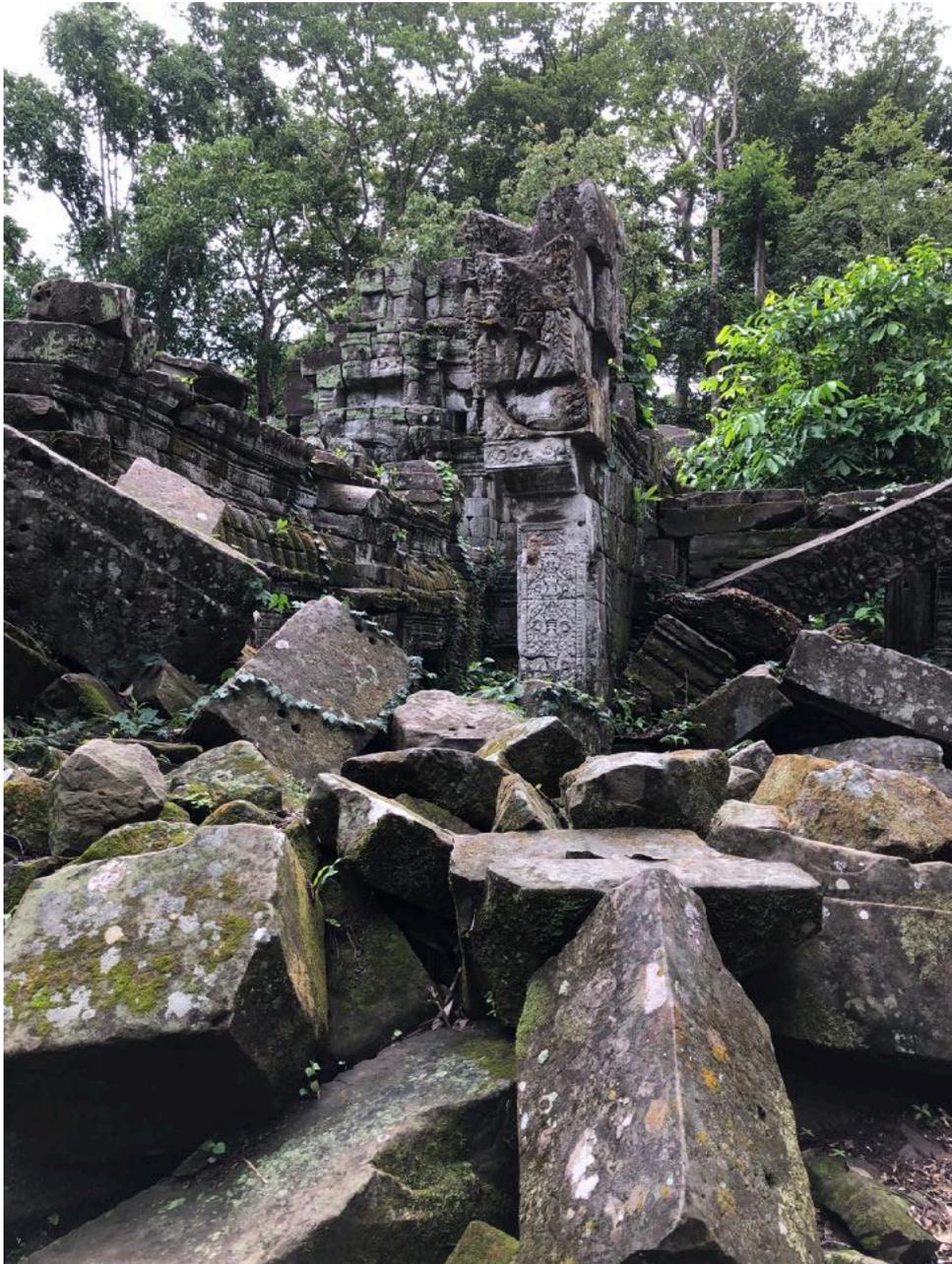
This is the south gopura at Preah Khan. It is in need of some restoration work.



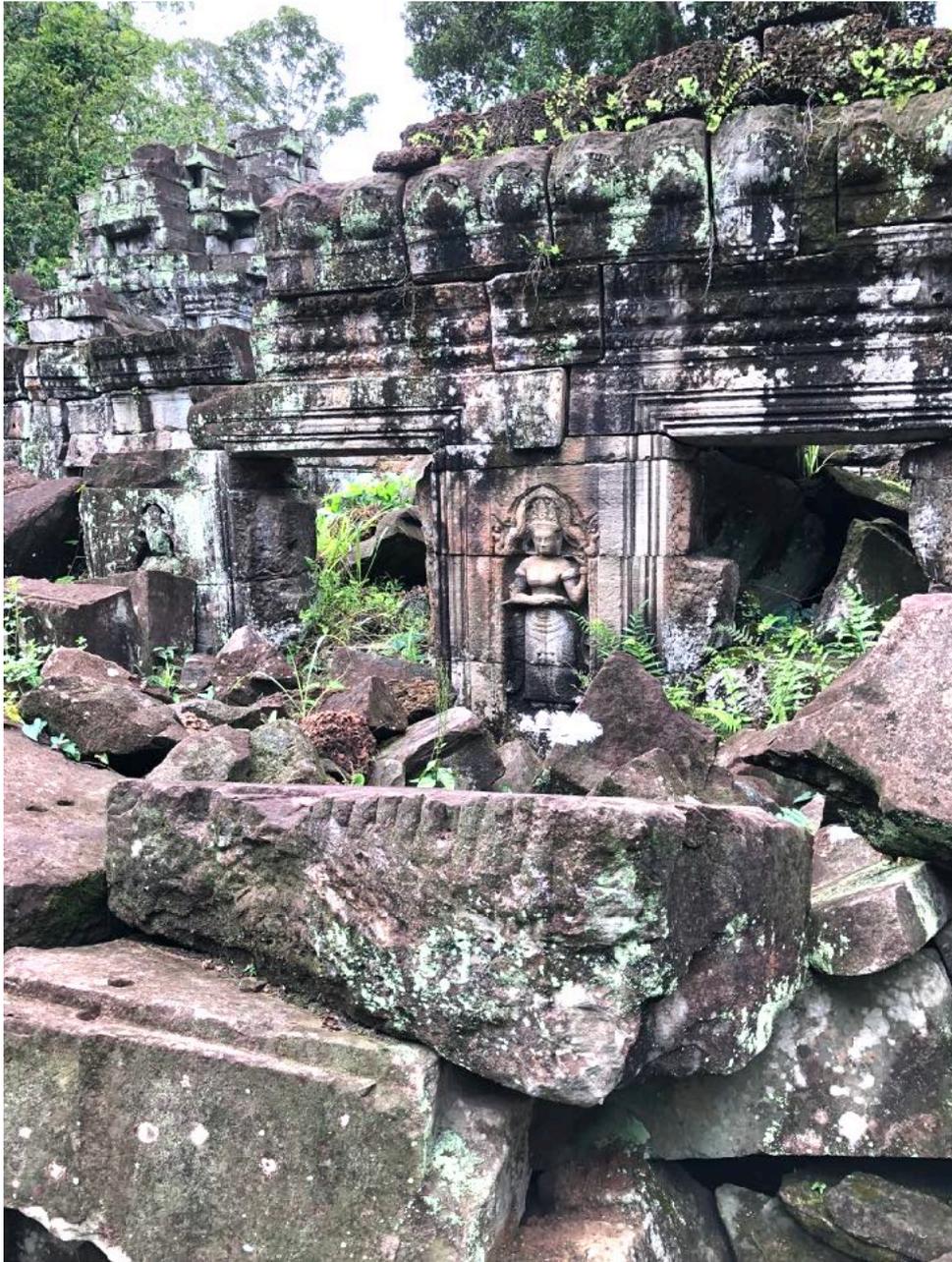
The entrance itself at the south gopura showing the effect of the weight of the stones. This is looking into the temple grounds.



The remains of the lion statue.



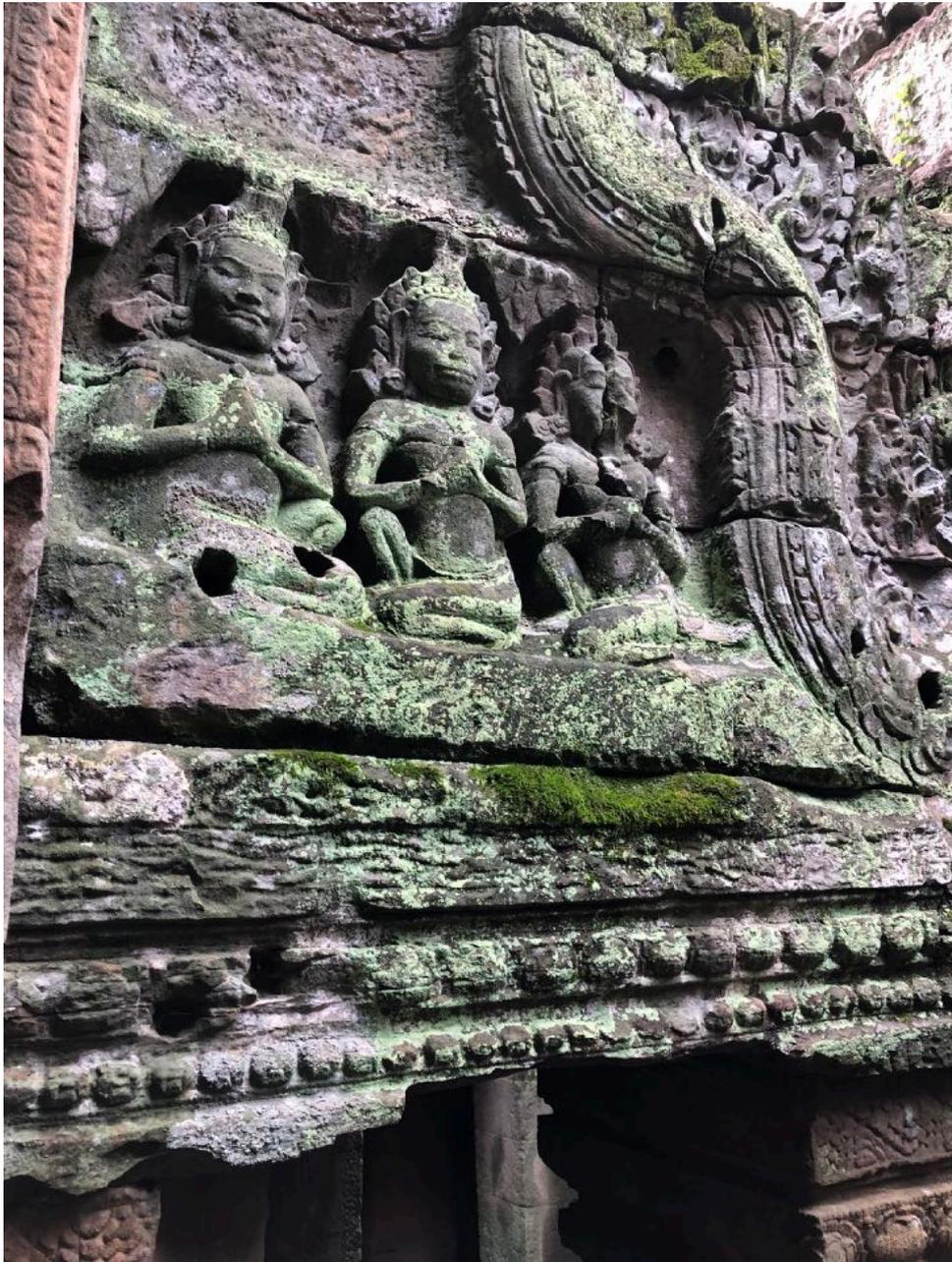
Inside the temple the sandstone blocks have fallen and blocked courtyards and walkways.



Even with good shoes, you need to be younger and more agile than I am to get closer to some of these carvings.



Two warriors guarding the entrance.



A different style of carving is found near the centre of the temple.



This is looking in to the central tower of the temple, chamber after chamber with stories carved in the lintels. Preah Khan has very wide doorways.



Carved nagas in the stacked blocks in one of the courtyards.



The famous two storey library.



The eastern entrance to the inner temple.



Pretty butterfly.

? *Cirrochroa tyche*



Riding home, we actually stopped to photograph these toadstools!

In the afternoon, I had my language class with a different teacher (a good teacher). It is good to have a change now and then... keeps you on your toes.

Friday 29th August, 2025.

Another language class, for both of us.

After class, we consider it the beginning of our weekend. Another week has gone by.

It rained later in the afternoon.

Saturday 30th August, 2025.

Due to the rain, our roadway is flooded. You cannot walk through it without getting wet, ankle deep even on the sides, so it was a Tuktuk to the supermarket.

Sunday 31st August, 2025.

We went out on the bike to the bank (and withdrew our 1 million riel = \$250. That will last us a month).

Another month has passed, a busy month for family back in Australia and the welcome arrival of baby V.

