

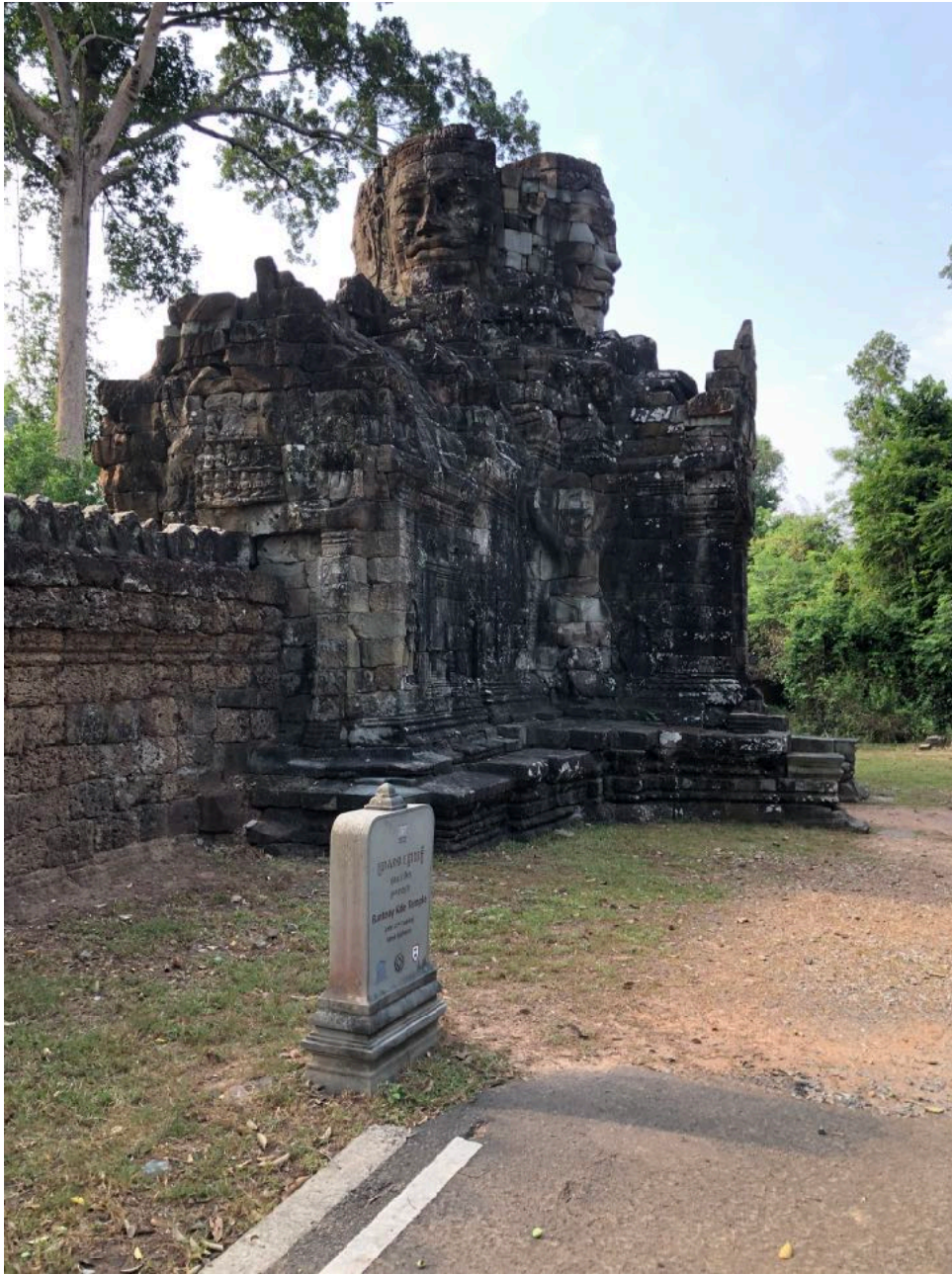
Part 349 for Cathy's blog

Tuesday 28th April, 2026.

Temple Day : Banteay K'Dei, west entrance



“Our” geese have goslings.

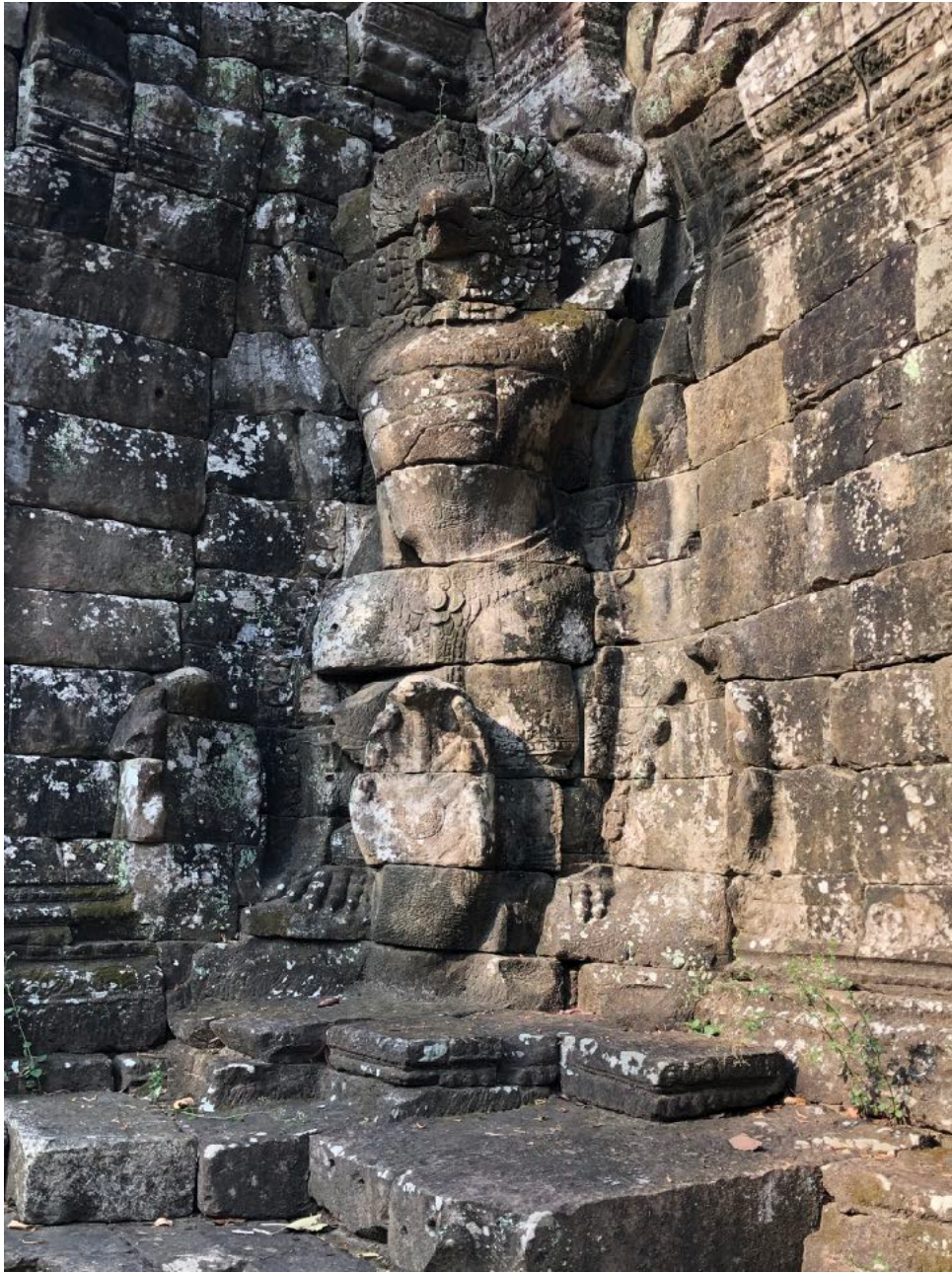


Most people enter Banteay K'Dei through the east entrance (opposite the Srah Srang). You can easily enter through the west entrance too.



Although it needs repairs, the carvings are beautiful.





The Garuda holding the naga (three nagas, with five heads each).



We stopped for a drink of water and were “set upon” by this cat (I’m not sure how many tourists bring food for them...)



Sandstone walkway to and through the inner wall into the Banteay K' Dei temple.



Warriors guard the entrances.



This is a Beng seed pod.



Sometimes they have more seeds than this.



There are thousands of stones stacked neatly around the temple.



And a few small buildings.



This photo is taken just outside the inner wall, looking into the temple. The building on the right was once a two storey library.



A closer view of the two storey library.



There are some beautiful carvings in the stacked blocks.











The lizards enjoy the blocks in the sunshine.

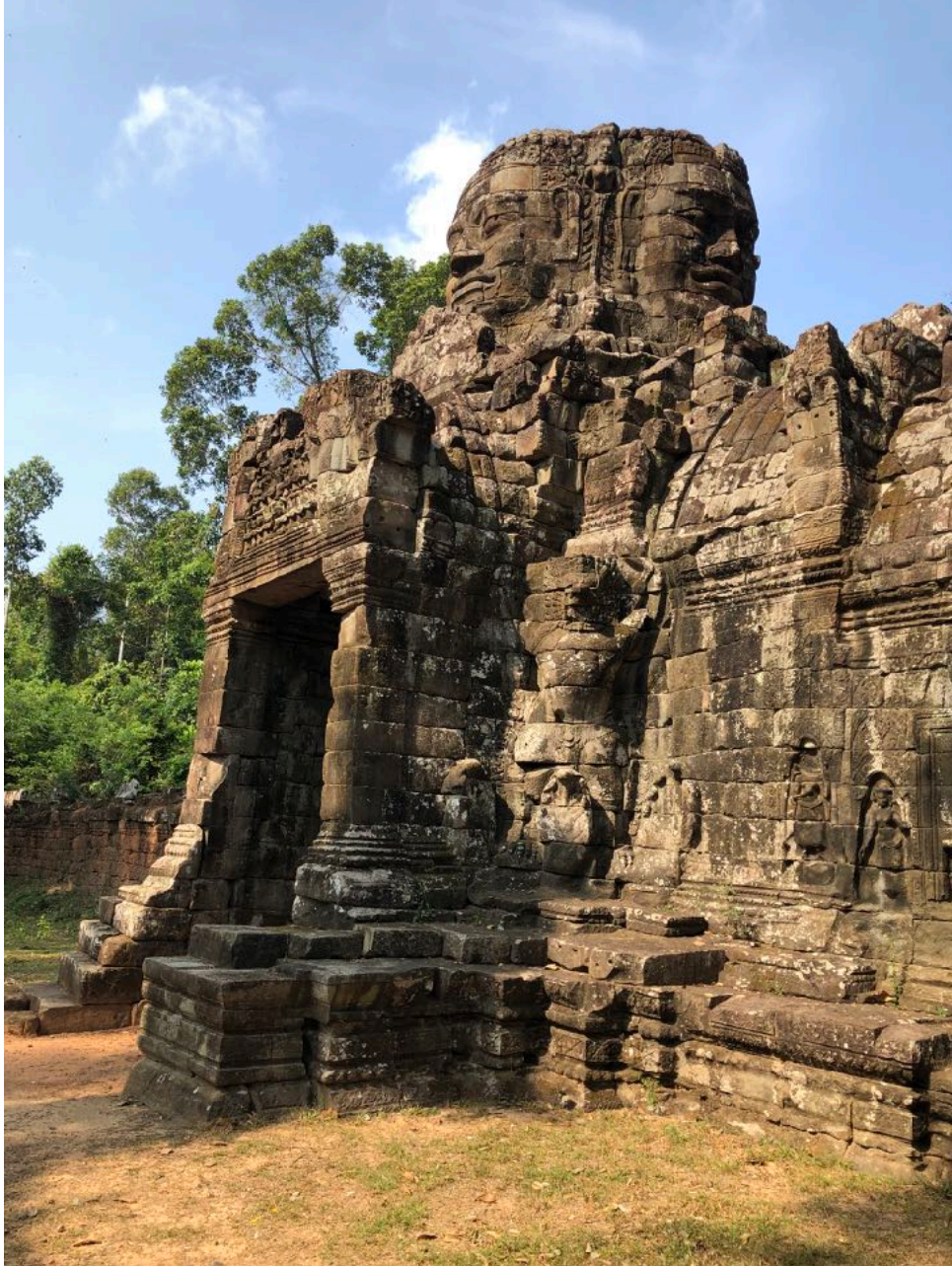




We walked back past the almost dry moat.



Near the western entrance.



The western gopura of Banteay K'Dei.

Then it was time to ride home.

Wednesday 29th April, 2026.

Temple Day : Palilay and Phimeanakas

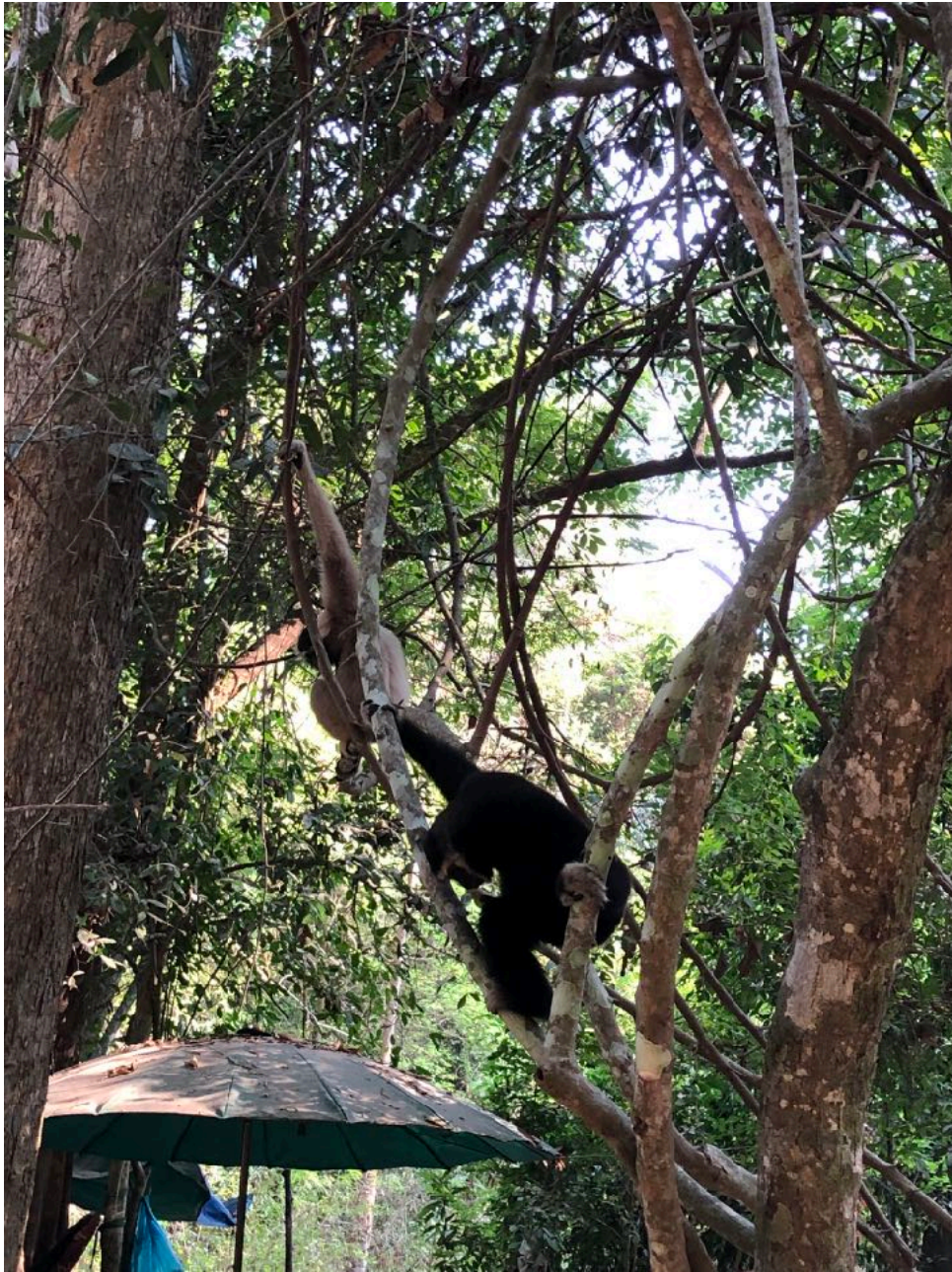
We wanted to see how the excavations around the Phimeanakas Temple were going, so we rode back to Palilay and parked the bike in the shade (a convenient walk back into the grounds of Phimeanakas)

We stopped by a little food and drinks place, because the gibbons were there. The local dogs were barking and the male gibbon “weed” on them!

We suspect they are fed at this place.



Female gibbon.



Male gibbon, so close to the drinks stall.



Eastern gopura, Palilay. Just beautiful.



Some excavation work at the second entrance in the north wall, this leads you into the Phimeanakas grounds.



This is work on another bathing pool. The trench in the background has the beautiful carvings of the crab and crocodile. This area looks like steps down into the bathing pool (this front part was all buried last time we were here).



The workers at work.



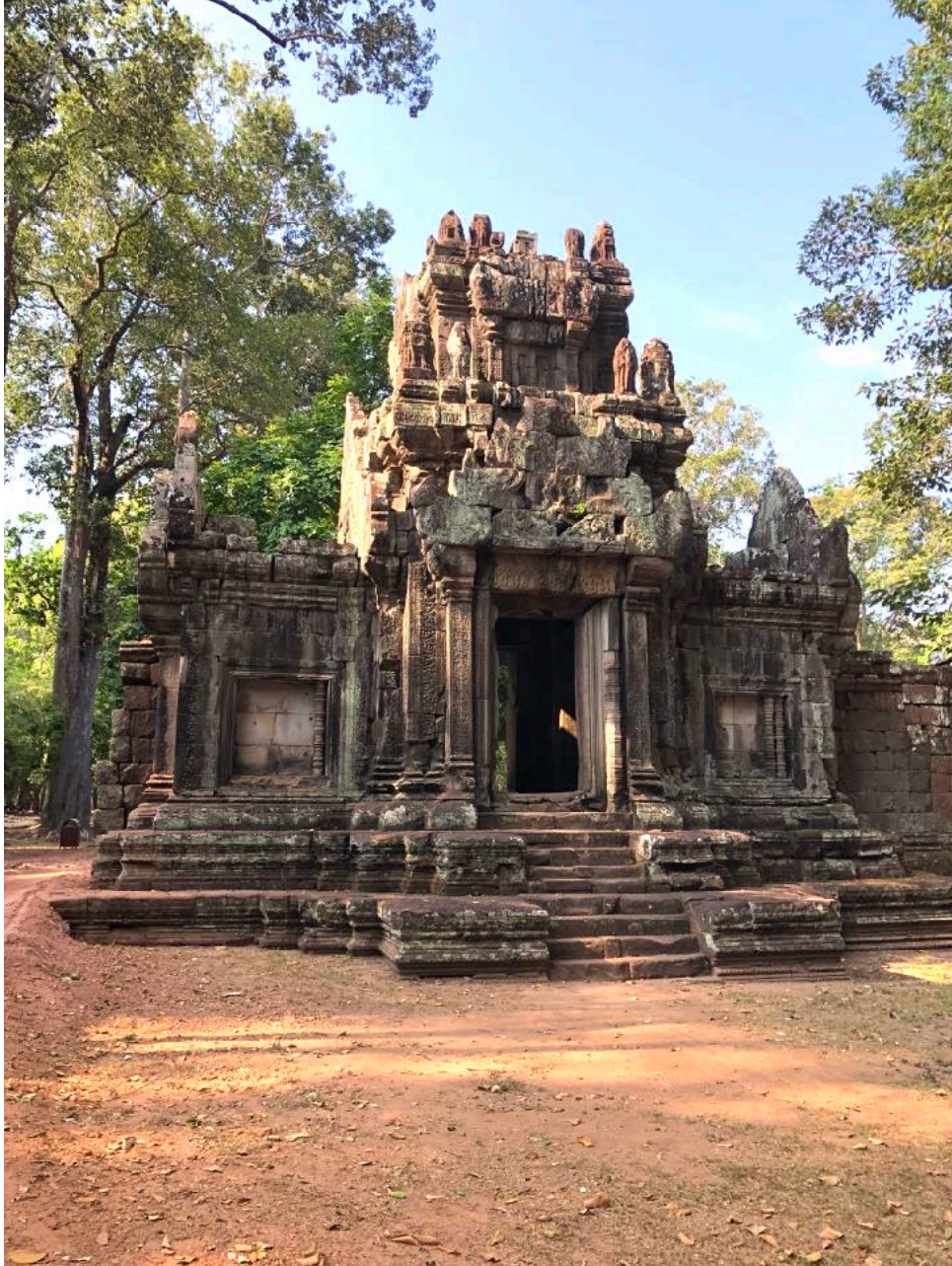
The workers' parking lot and a trench.



Not all of the work is done by hand.

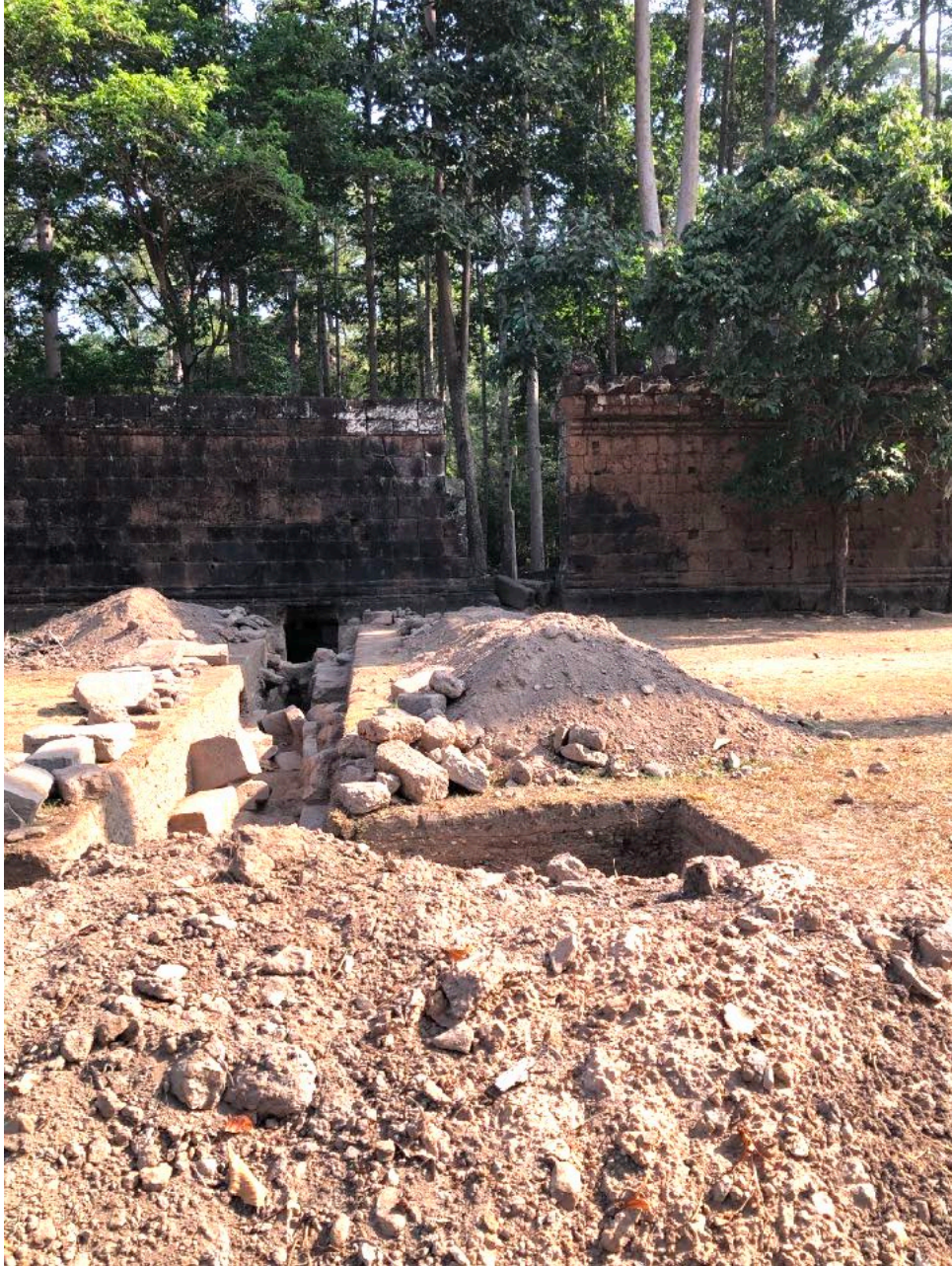


Trench and the outer wall of Phimeanakas.



The first gopura (in the north wall of Phimeanakas). The laterite wall has been dismantled here to allow vehicles to enter.

Phimeanakas (the Royal Palace and Temple) lies behind the Elephant Terrace.



Trench work inside the wall.



The larger of the pools inside the wall (with a cormorant). We saw tortoises in this water, but they were too fast !!! to photograph.



This is the second entrance in the north wall. The carvings are beautiful, but there are no stories carved into these ornate structures.

We went through one of the open spaces in the wall and walked back to our bike.

Thursday 30th April, 2026.

Temple Day : North Gate to Prasat Chrung NW

The north wall is quite shaded. Knowing that, and with the temperature falling a bit, we were ready to see if the butterflies etc are out and about.



We came across this procession of monks. The little boys were at the front and the older men towards the back. Here they are in front of the Elephant Terrace.



The writing on the road is for the many marathons / etc that are run through Angkor Thom.



Our first giant snail for the year.



Pretty caterpillar.



Metallic blue insect.



Plenty of dew on the plants.



Big tree.

Little moth with big eyes.





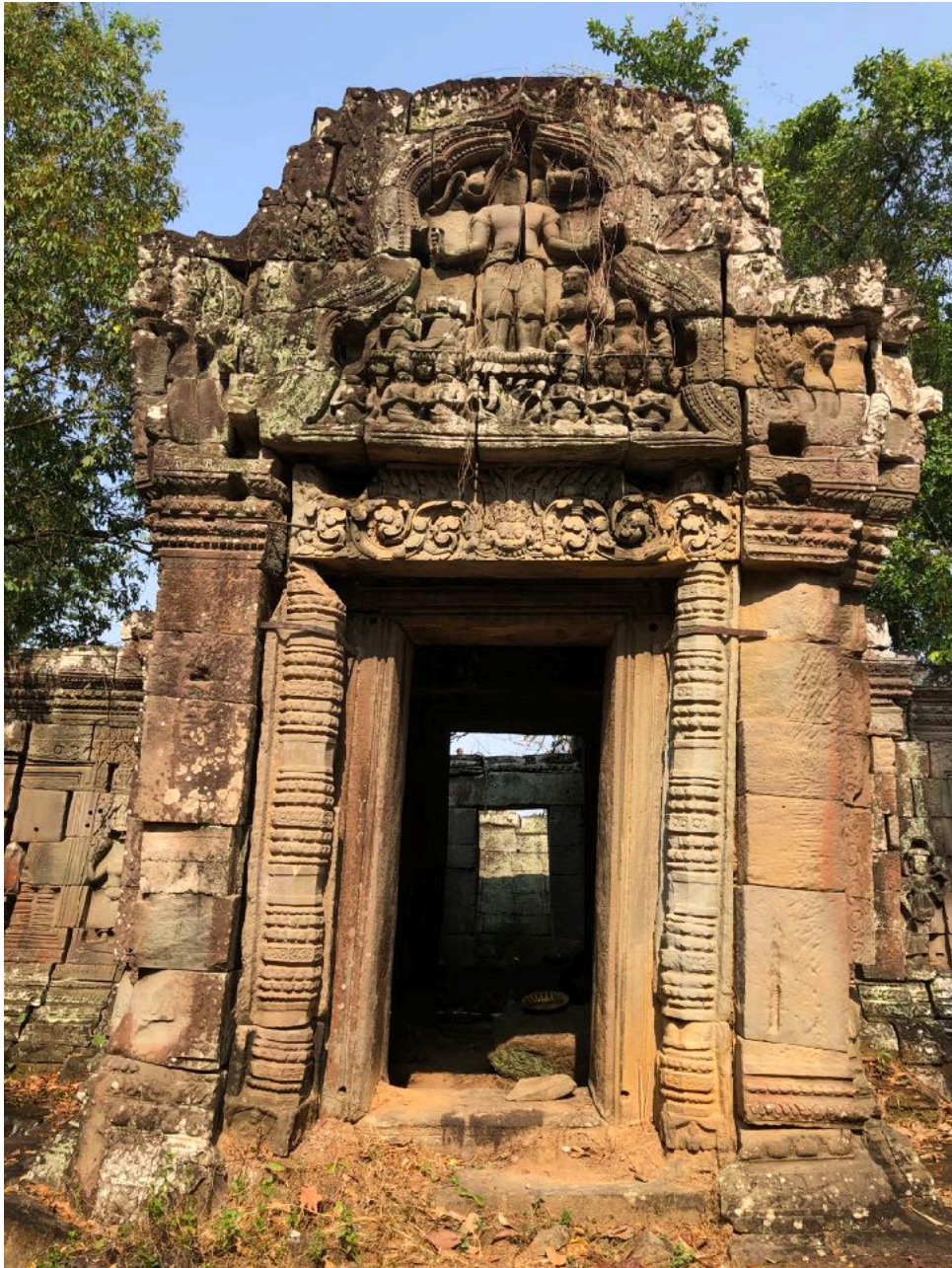
Khmer plums? They can't be very tasty... they haven't been bitten.



Warty leaf... insects or disease?



Twisted vines.



Eastern entrance to Prasat Chrung NW.



Dragonfly in the sun.



Collection of seeds.



Unexpected Lily in the leaf litter.



The North Gate.

This is the end of April, typically the hottest month. We had our Easter celebration and Khmer New Year : welcoming the year of the Horse.

Let's hope this year that the conflict can be settled, here in Cambodia and in the world.