

Part 379 for Cathy's blog
Monday 27th July, 2026

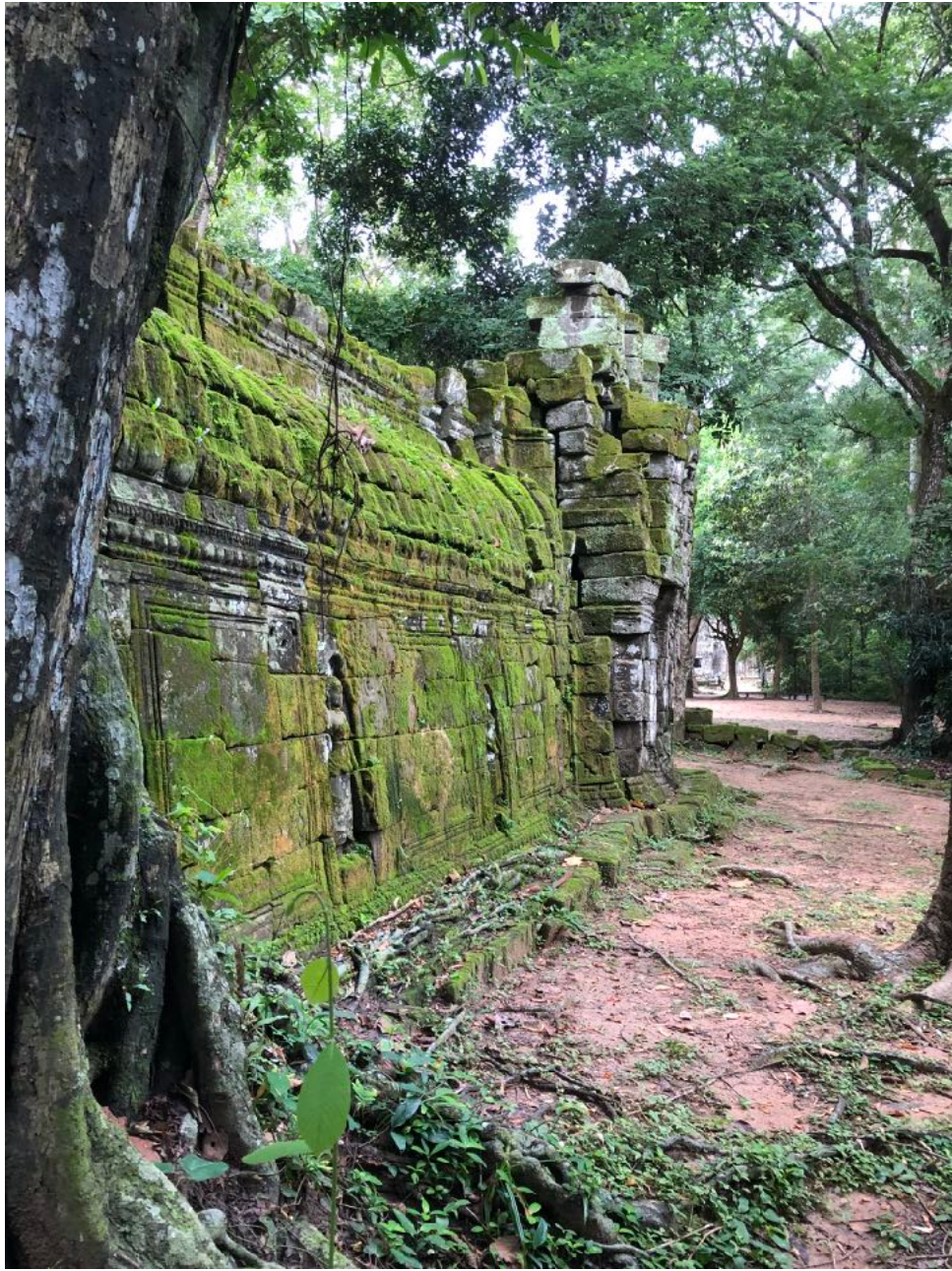
Temple Day : Ta Prohm

Ta Prohm is a big temple with beautiful carvings.

We parked at the eastern entrance (which is still being restored with help from the Indian government).



It is a long walk from this gate to the entrance to the temple.



To the right of the walkway, is a nearly complete small building. The carvings are pretty. The moss covering makes it pretty too.



(The building on the left is just a ruin of laterite blocks.)

Then you see the entrance to the temple. You cannot miss the trees, which are a big part of the charm of Ta Prohm.





The carvings beside these doorways are complicated and beautiful.



And inside, the magnificent trees have been fenced to create photo opportunities. This is a magnificent “Speung” tree ... *Tetrameles nudiflora*. The big ones are about 400 years old.



David and the (first) tree.



These carvings show signs of weathering. Many of the carvings here at Ta Prohm have been repaired.



Pediment with horses and carts.



David and another tree. There were other tourists at this temple, but not many. At busy times, there is a queue for photos in these particular places.



Ta Prohm has a series of walls and courtyards around buildings.



Sometimes, the walkways around the buildings are vaulted tunnels.



The trees have grown over the walkways.



Wooden walkways keep us out of these buildings.



Corners of buildings, window frames and doorways are richly decorated.



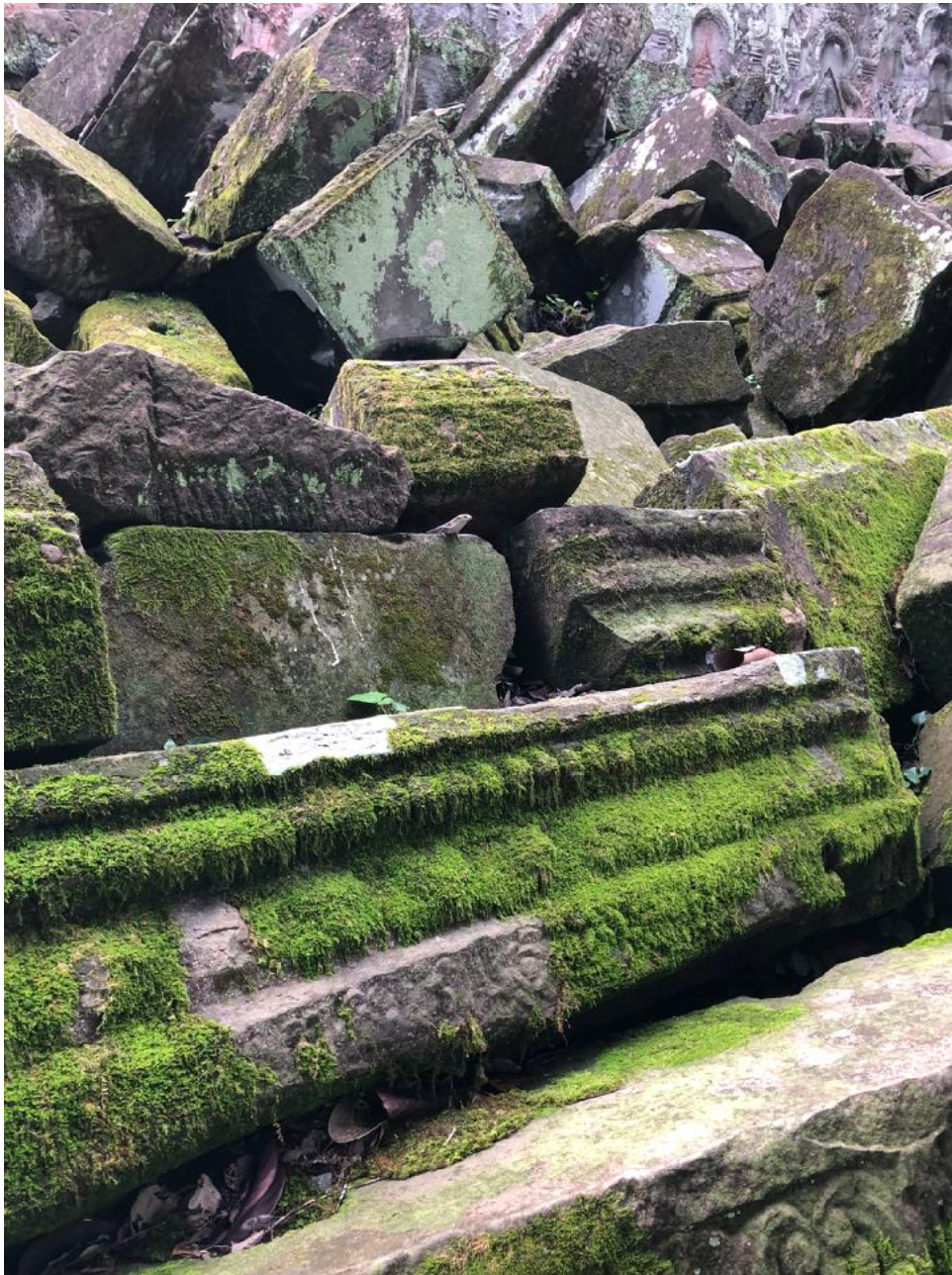
**Other medallions have worn carvings.
Considering the weathering on these carvings, I wonder
if the dinosaur is a fairly modern repair.**



And everywhere, the trees grow where they can. It is a dilemma for restoration. The growing trees damage the buildings. But the trees also help keep blocks in place.



A small building, with lots of carving, at the west of the main temple tower.



Many parts of Ta Prohm have not been rebuilt. The fallen blocks make a good home for a skink.



The main building and central tower lie inside this covered walkway which is partly standing and partly collapsed. This is the south side of the temple.



A vaulted walkway, on the east side.



With an outer covered walkway.



The east side from the outer “courtyard”.

It really is a magnificent temple... there is so much more to show you.



The trees rise high above the buildings.



Religious stories are carved on the pediments (above the doorways).



**False doors can be found on buildings and on walls.
This one has steps which lead to ... no where.**



Inside some buildings, the walls have holes, which helped the stucco (plaster) stay stuck to the walls.

Imagine the walls carefully covered, smoothed and painted.



Imagine the ladies dressed in coloured silk, with magnificent headdresses, parading for special occasions.



Imagine the King and the monks all dressed up and sitting in a temple for a religious service and prayers.

About 20 000 people lived and worked in and around Ta Prohm at the height of the reign of King Jayavarman VII (Ta Prohm was completed in 1186).

