Part 407 for Cathy's blog

Friday 6th to Sunday 8th, November. 2026

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Temple Day : Palilay and Phimeanakas

It is time to revisit the new excavations at Phimeanakas, which means a quick stop at Palilay too.

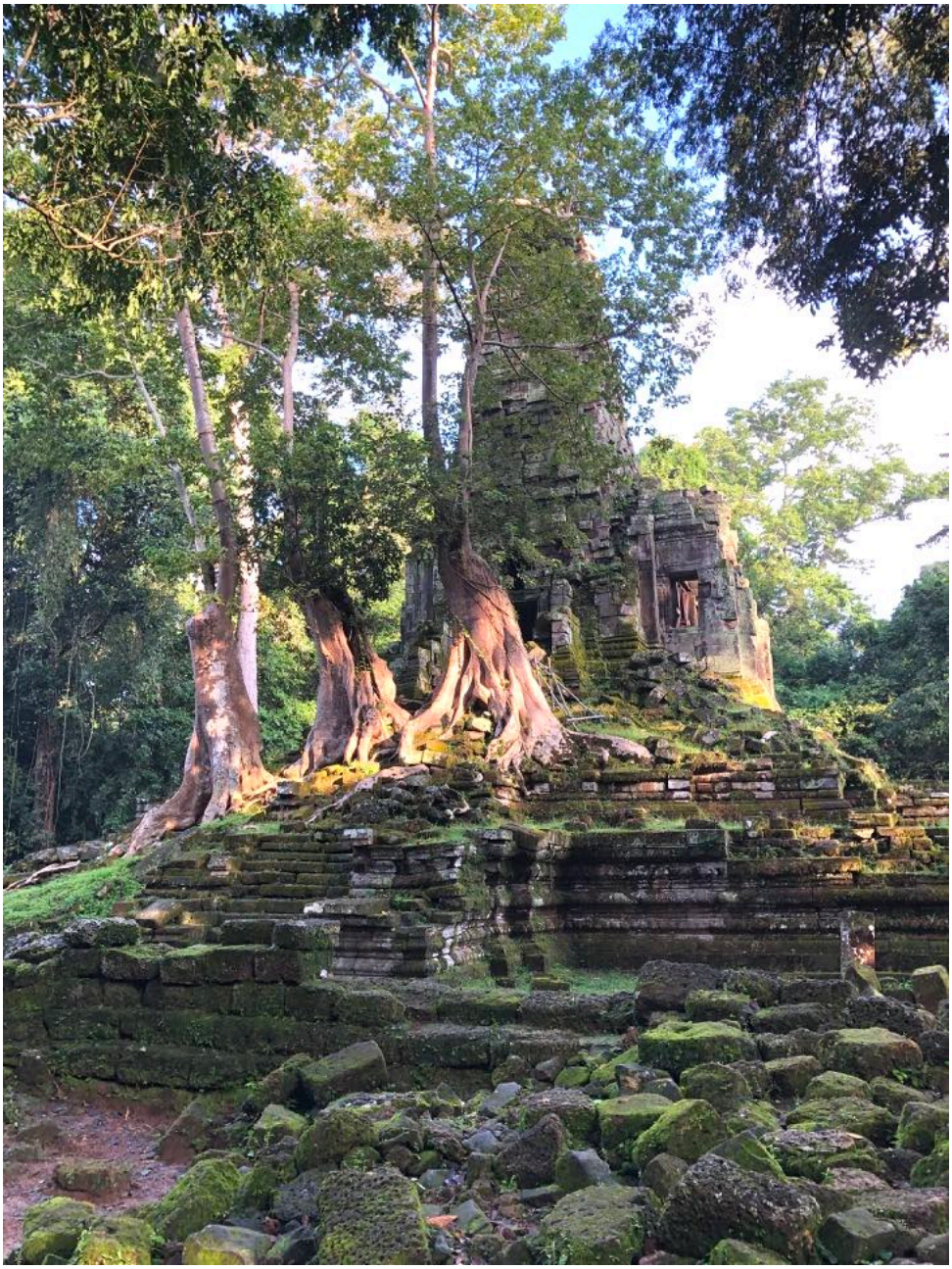


The trees look terrible after they are cut back so heavily.





East gopura at Palilay.



The tower of Palilay, partly shaded.



This dog walked with us to the new basin (near Phimeanakas, and into the Royal Pallace grounds (through the wall behind the basin). In there, there are other dogs, who took exception to his visit and they quickly (and noisily) sent him back to Palilay (where he belongs).

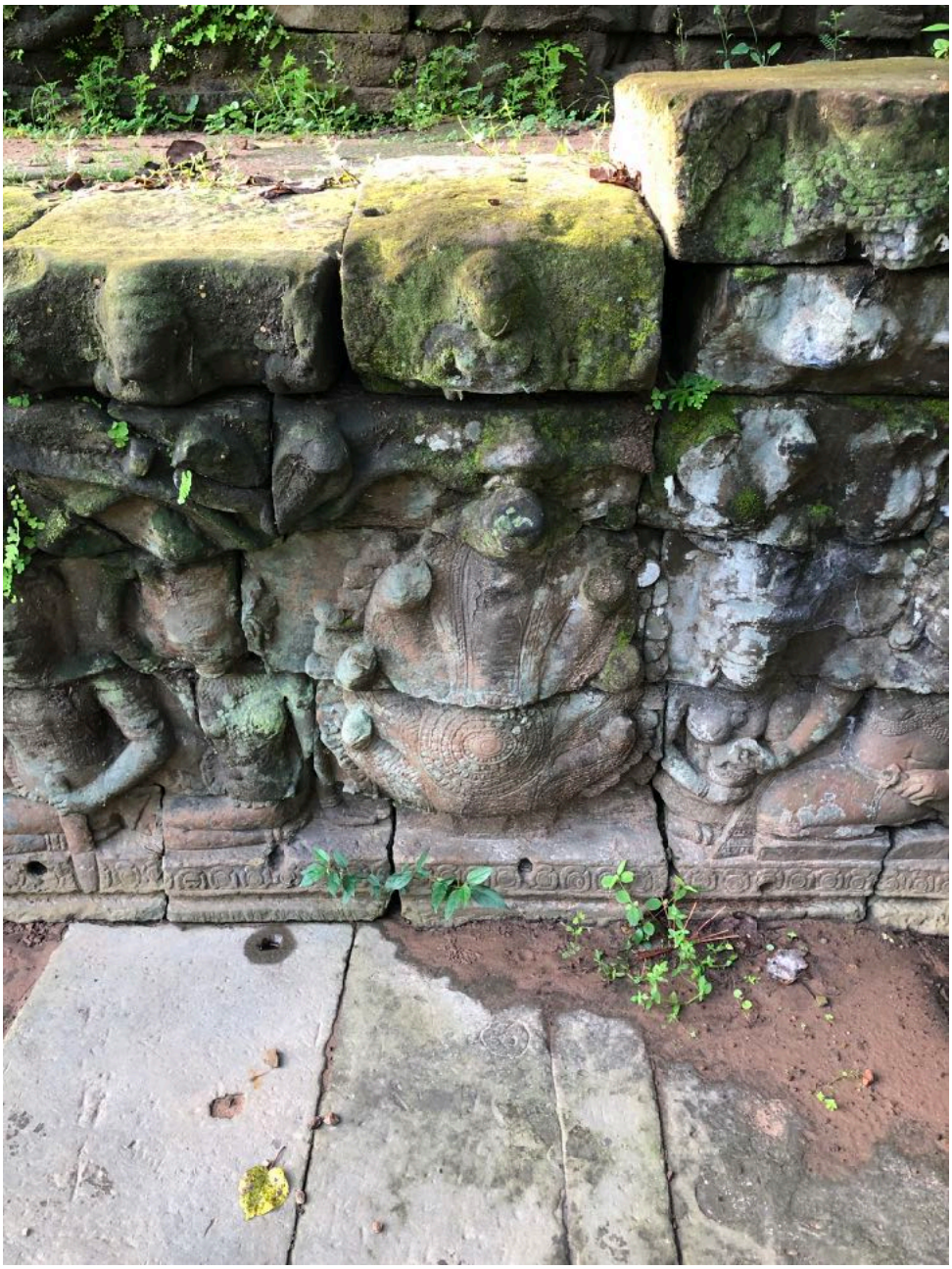
This basin is now full.



I am not sure what the plastic is protecting : the carvings are still exposed.



One of the entrances into the grounds of the ancient Royal Palace : Phimeanakas.



Carvings around the walls of the Royal Bathing Pool, inside the Phimeanakas grounds.



The pool is in the shade. The trees and wall are in the sun.



Garudas and Naga are amongst the carvings.



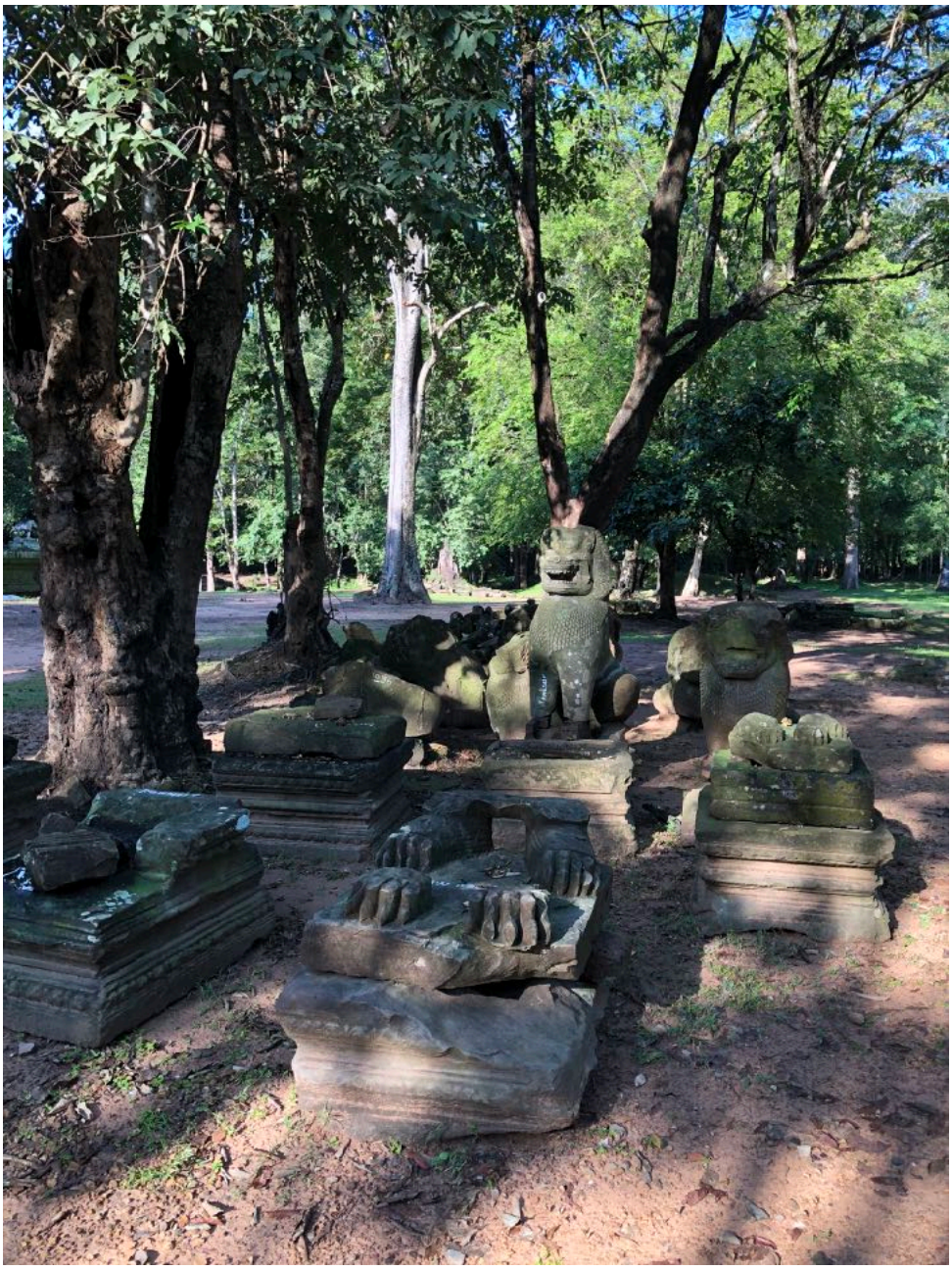
Sitting on the edge of the pool was this tortoise. He didn't seem to mind us at all.



Not a very big one.



This is the Phimeanakas Temple in the Royal Palace grounds. It is under restoration (supported by China).



The lions from the temple, waiting to be (restored and) placed back at the temple.



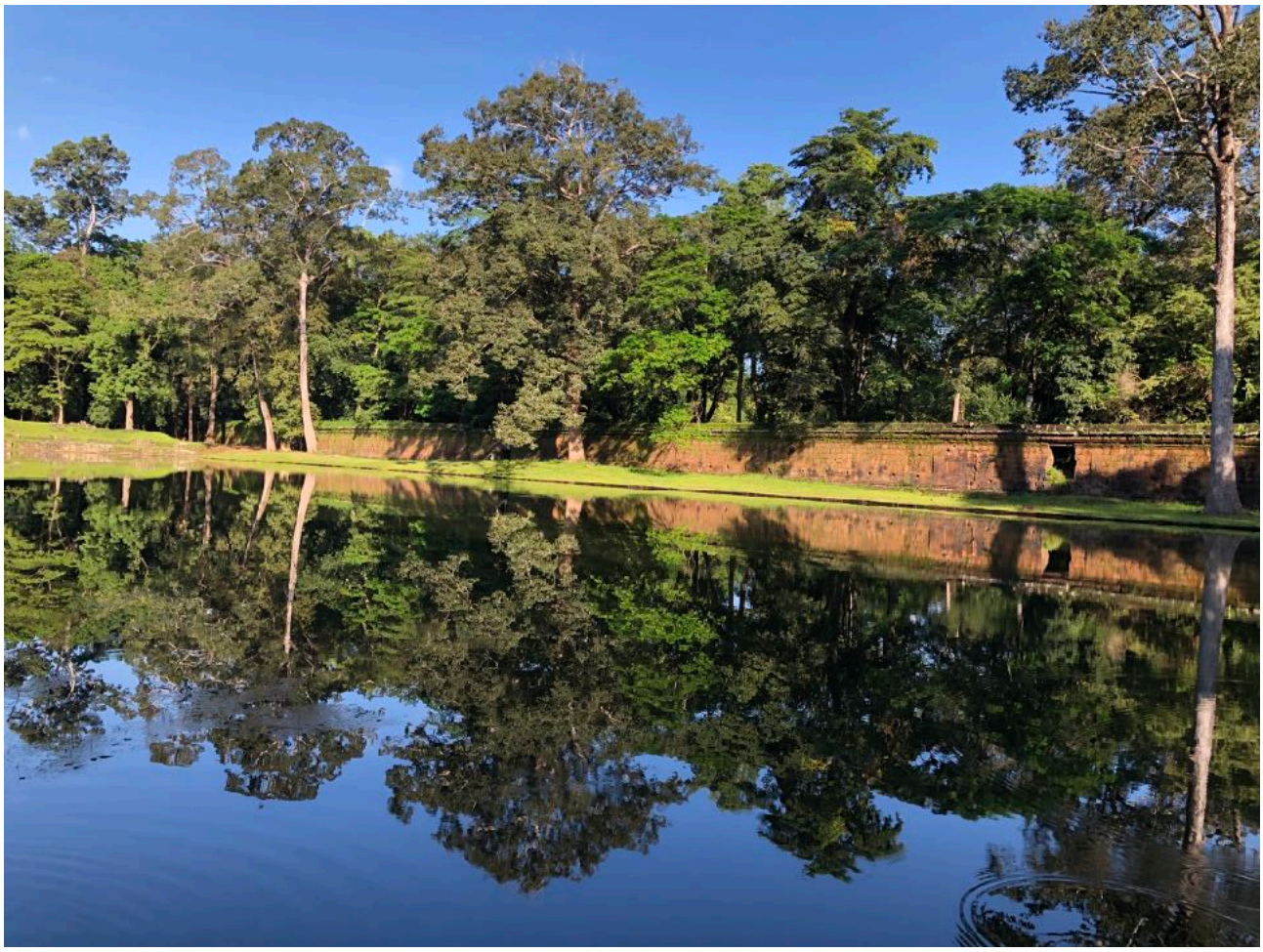
Look at the fur on these feet!



Another lion.



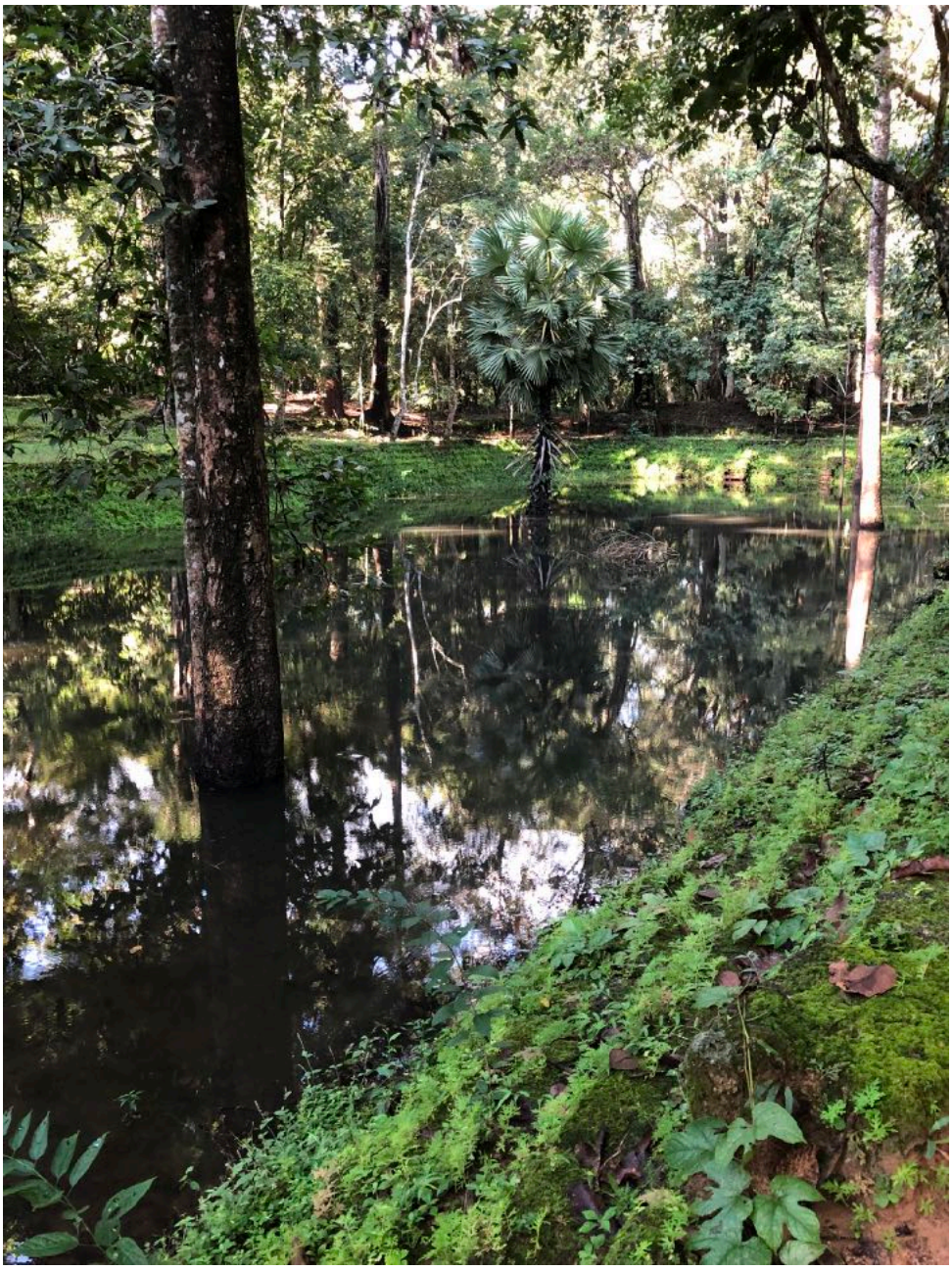
The smaller front pool.



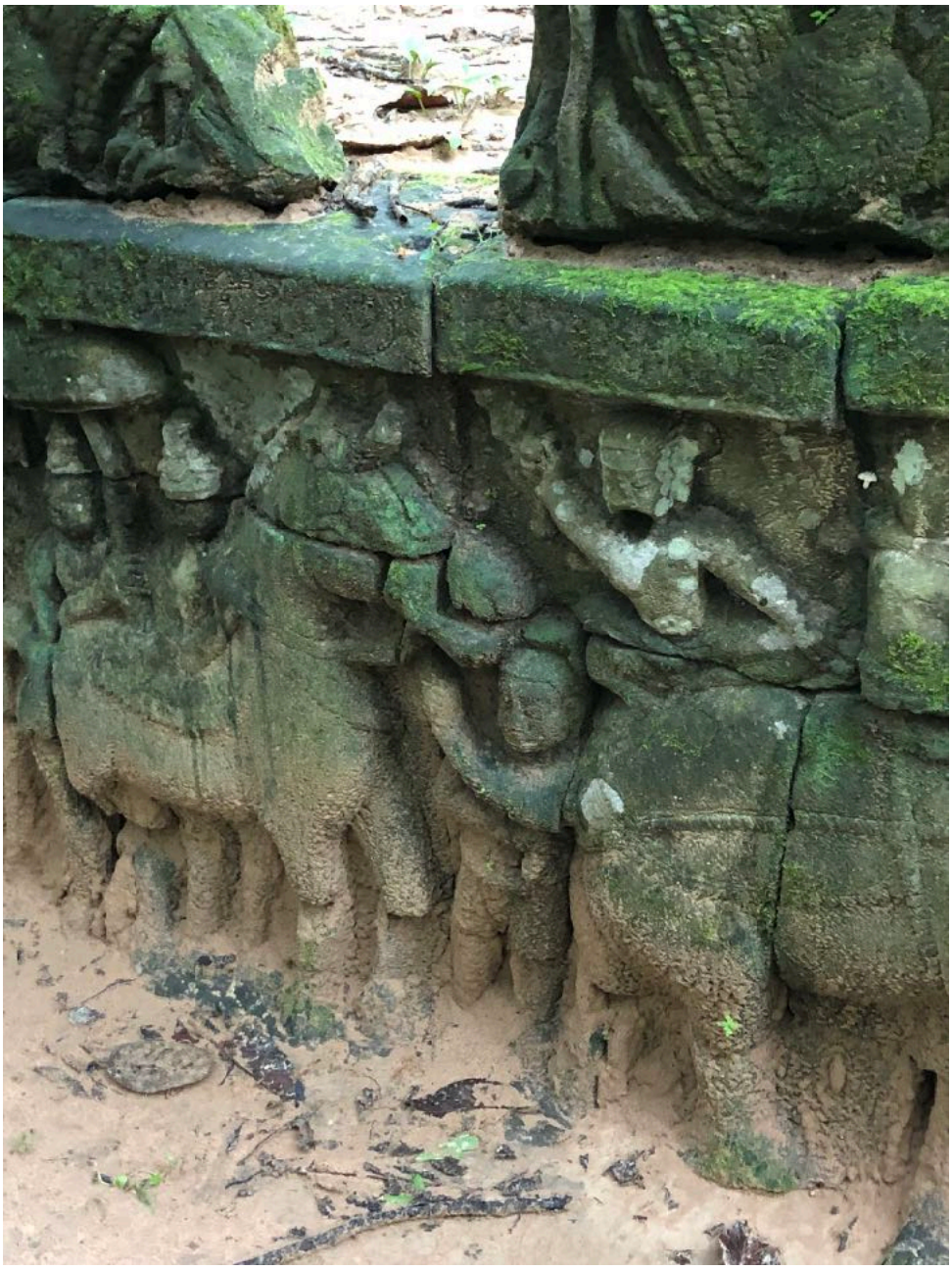
The larger back pool.



A photo with David, to give you an idea of the size.



The back (west) half of the grounds have not been cleared or excavated. There are more pools.



There are more carvings.

We have been busy lately.

On Wednesday, we went for the special ribs at Lost City Pizza.

On Thursday, we went to Idol Coffee for our weekly chat.

Today, we went to the River Gallery for a photo exhibition by John MacDermott. He has black and white photos of Angkor Wat (and other temples). We could recognise them all. (Free drinks and a few nibbles, and we bought the book.)

We met students from the language school, past teachers from the language school, the Australian lady who runs Spean Chivit and some active bloggers from Australia. We met some new people too, Americans, who like to walk around the grounds and through the forests of the temples.

We walked home (at 10:30! This is late for us).

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th November, 2026.

Our usual walk to Angkor. Our usual weekend activities.

David has begun uploading our nature pictures into a data base that records the species and when and where they were seen. It is called iNaturalist. It classifies the living things for us (sometimes with the help from specialists who must monitor the photos).

We are up to 180 species, some of which have not been recorded in Cambodia before.