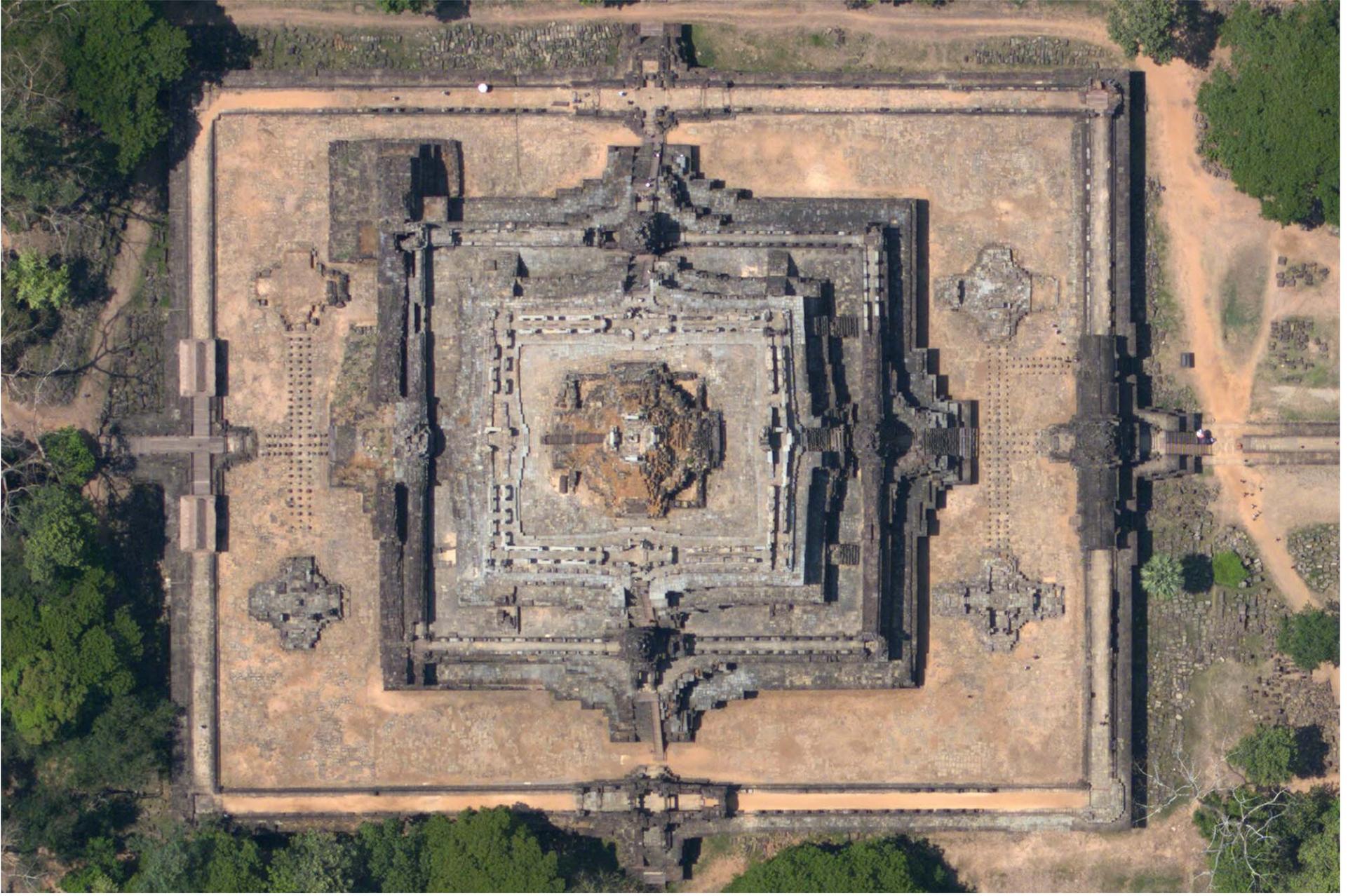




Phnom Bakheng Conservation Project Update

June 2013



Major recent activities

At the Northeast corner

- Bedrock repair and waterproofing at level E, East elevation
- Completed reassembly of stone shrine E12
- Dismantled stone shrine D12
- Reassembly of stone shrine D11
- Bedrock repair and wall reassembly at level C
- Wall reassembly at level B

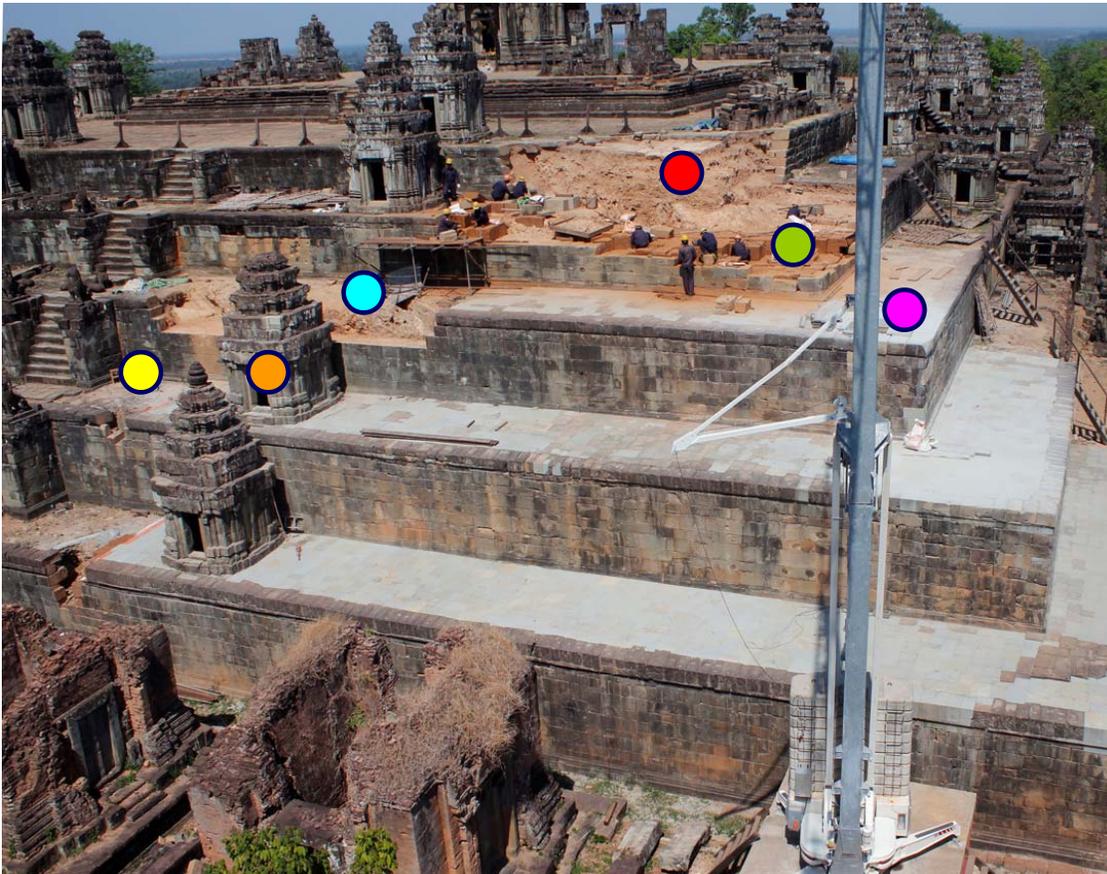
At the Southeast corner

- Wall reassembly at level F
- Dismantled wall dismantling at level E

Other site activities

- Collected scattered stones in the wooded part of the hill for wall reassembly
- Completed installation of new Buddha's footprint structure

At the Northeast corner



- Level E – terrace repair and waterproofing between E12 and stairs.
- Reassembly of E12 stone shrine completed.
- Level D – D12 stone shrine dismantle accomplished.
- Stone shrine D11 reassembly underway.
- Level C – Bedrock repair and wall reassembly.
- Level B – Wall
- reassembly ongoing.

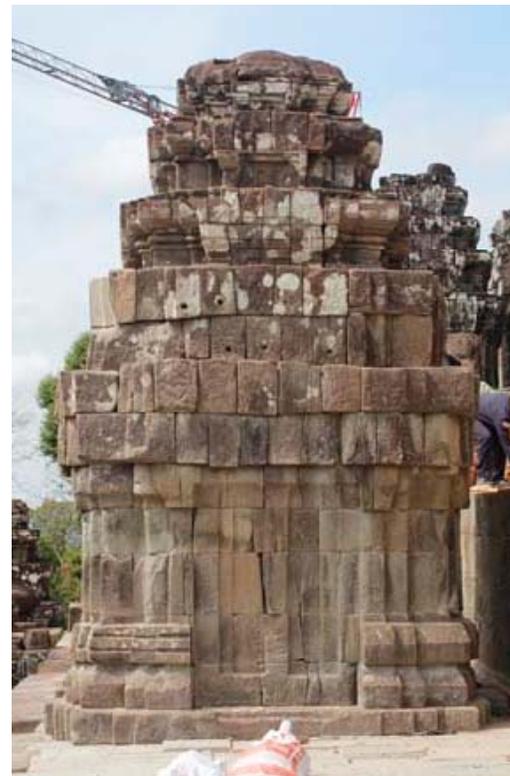
Level E – Stone shrine E12



Structural conditions of the shrine required immediate repair. Decayed bedrock, which had lost its original structural properties, was removed from underneath the shrine.. Bedrock repairs and structural stabilization measures were carried out at the terrace level to improve general conditions

Level E – Stone shrine E12

Once repaired, bedrock and new sandstone blocks formed a compact foundation for the stone shrine. Their surface was leveled and given a 1% slope to facilitate water runoff. Waterproofing measures included the insertion of stainless steel tubes and lead sheets to increase the ability of the structure to shed water effectively. Reassembly of the shrine was completed in April 2013 as planned.



Level D – Stone shrine D12



The dismantling of D12 was completed in April 2013. A few layers of the wall have been dismantled to remove decayed bedrock from the elevation. The repair of the bedrock underneath the shrine, including the insertion of new sandstone blocks, is underway. This repair is scheduled to be completed in September 2013.

Level D – Stone shrine D11



Reassembling of shrine D11 is continuing. Several original blocks have been lost over the centuries. The shrine reassembly is scheduled to be completed in 2013.

Level C



To stabilize the terrace foundation, 107 new laterite blocks and 4 new sandstone blocks have been inserted since December 2012. Nine rock bolts were installed to secure the laterite blocks in the bedrock. The repair is scheduled to be completed in summer 2013. Beginning in March 2013 the team commenced reassembly of the wall, which will be completed by July 2013.

Level B



Terrace B is not made of bedrock but of compacted soil. After thorough study, it was determined that the terrace is structurally stable, allowing wall reassembly activities to resume in May 2013. Sandstone blocks are now inserted in the wall foundations and laterite blocks are installed behind the wall, terrace foundations, and in areas where there are voids in the compacted soil

At the Southeast corner



Reassembly of the South wall and the Southeast corner is underway.

Buddha's footprint



In December 2012, the original structure was removed and a new structure was built and installed in April.. At the request of APSARA National Authority, WMF undertook the design and execution of this element of site considered important to the Cambodian visitors to the site.

Buddha's footprint



In April, the cement patch, an earlier intervention, probably executed to level the surface around the footprint, was removed. The compacted laterite around the footprint was leveled and given a modest slope to facilitate water run-off. WMF is working with APSARA to install a railing around the footprint and to create a new signboard describing the artifact and its significance.



WMF 's project at Phnom Bakheng is conducted in full partnership with APSARA National Authority. WMF is grateful to the US Department of State Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation and the US Embassy in Phnom Penh for lead support for this conservation program. Additional current funders include the Robert W. Wilson Challenge to Conserve Our Heritage and the Ralph E. Ogden Foundation.

