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Anna Walinska's Travel Diary, 1954 November-1955 March

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Bang Kok
Nov. 30
[[striketthrough]] March 16 [[/striketthrough]]

young man, Sanders, stationed in Korea.

Had luncheon with Mr. Matta in the lovely open dining room of the Oriental facing the river.

Took afternoon tour to see the Grand Palace and the Temple of the Emerald Buddha.

The Grand Palace is regarded by visitors as the architectural & decorative triumph of the East (according to Thailand Tourist information). The Chakri Hall was designed by a British architect in the style of the Italian Renaissance. What brings it into character are the roofs of pure Thai style. The lawns about the building have beautifully shaped trees which were being decorated for the festivities of the Kings arrival.

The Dusit Maha Prasad Hall was built by King Rama I and is considered to be the finest building inside the Grand Palace.

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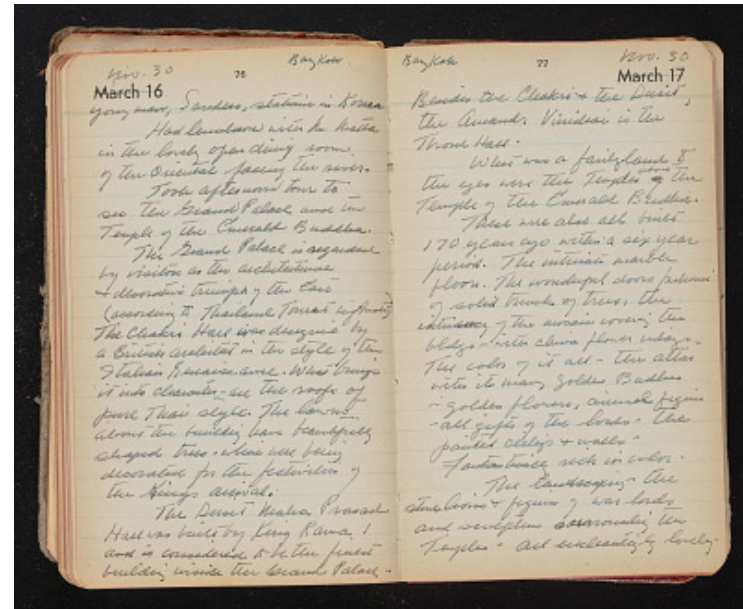
BangKok
Nov. 30
[[striketthrough]] March 17 [[/striketthrough]]

Besides the Chakri & the Dusit, the Amand Vinidrai is the Throne Hall.

What was a fairyland to the eyes were the Temples about
[[striketthrough]] of [[/striketthrough]] the Temple of the Emerald Buddha.

These were also all built 170 years ago within a six year period. The intricate marble floors. The wonderful doors fashioned of solid trunks of trees, the intricacy of the mosaic covering the bldgs - with china flower inlays. The color of it all - the altar with its many Golden Buddhas - golden flowers, animal figures - all gifts of the lords. The painted ceilings & walls. Fantastically rich in color.

The landscaping - the stone lions & figures of war lords and sculptures surrounding the Temples - all enchantingly lovely.



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