

**CAT No. 72 - Pommel
K240, K1447, K1615
Condition Report**

Conservation Started: 24.09.2014

Conservation Finished: 24.09.2014

Conservator: Rachel Altpeter

Time Taken: 3 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 48.5mm (H) 21mm (W) 14.5mm

Weight before: 17.12g

Weight after:

Digital photography:

Taken with a Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera, under fibre optic lights. Taken before and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: n/a

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification

Undecorated silver-alloy round-back pommel cap in fragments. On the one remaining shoulder there are two empty fastening holes.

Associated Objects: The object consists of fragments K240, K1447 which join and K1615 which is from the same object but without a direct join.

Pre-Conservation Condition: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification

Detailed description and condition see individual fragments.

The four fragments form most of the pommel cap, one corner including the second shoulder and fastening holes are missing. The object is undecorated with a smooth polished surface on the outside and traces of a voluminous green corrosion on the inside, particularly in the top of the cap (a fragment of this material is kept separately as K1447c). The overall surface is irregularly tarnished. The metal is quite thick (between 0.7 and 2mm) and stable.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study

Aim: Re-adhere and re-group fragments back together again.

Materials: natural thorn, IMS, cotton wool swabs, Paraloid B72 (ethyl-methacrylate copolymer) 35% w/v in acetone, white Plastazote (polyethylene foam)

The fragments were cleaned a little further, mainly in the break edges and fragment K1615 using IMS swabs and a natural thorn. The paper label on K1615 with its accession number was renewed (using Paraloid 20% in acetone to adhere it to the surface) as it had become close to illegible. The fragments were rejoined (apart from K1615) using Paraloid 72 35% w/v in acetone directly in between the joins.

The rejoined fragments were repacked in a crystal box, with a support of Plastazote together with the associated K1615 and the samples taken from the fragments.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

The object is stable as the fragments key in together well. None of the tarnish and corrosion has been removed.

Key Features:

- Cast silver
- Round-back pommel cap

Samples: 2 soil samples from fragments K1447 and K240 repacked into new box together with corrosion flake K1447c