

**CAT No. 359- Hilt Plate
K399 + K881
Condition Report**

Conservation Started: 02.07.15

Conservation Finished: 10.07.15

Conservator: Lizzie Miller

Time Taken: 12 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions:

K399 – 46.7mm (L) x 16.3mm (W) x 0.5mm (T)

K881 – 28.7mm (L) x 12.3mm (W) x 1.1mm (T)

Weight before:

K399 - 3.66g

K881 - 2.73g

Weight after:

6.38g (combined)

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS digital camera under daylight bulbs and Photomicrographs taken using Keyence VHX-1000 3D digital microscope with LED and/or fibre optic lights, 20-200x magnification.

Associated objects: TBC

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification. Two fragments of a gold sword hilt plate; it features a beaded wire ring with a central rivet or pin hole and an elaborate filigree decoration around an oval central slot; this decoration includes plain wire arranged in a herring-bone pattern and twisted wire as well as coils of beaded wire; on observing the back, it can be noted how different sheets of metal overlap and solder together.

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

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study and analysis

Aim: Study and analysis/ Re-assembly

Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, thorn in pin vice/holder, 50:50 water/IMS on metals, water on garnets, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick, Paraloid B72, Reemay Polyester netting 30gsm

The two fragments were joined together using 40% Paraloid B-72 w/v in acetone applied with a paintbrush. Polyester webbing was used on the reverse to provide the thin break edges with additional strength. This was adhered with 10% and 40% w/v Paraloid B-72 in acetone applied with a paintbrush.

The join is still fairly fragile as there were limited points of contact between the two fragments – HANDLE WITH CARE.

The objects were housed in the same storage box, padded with white Plastazote foam.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings: see pre-conservation reports.

Key features: see pre-conservation reports.

Before conservation:



After conservation:

