

**CAT No. 567 and 568 – Niello Mounts**  
**K310 (CAT 567), K620, K638, K1021 (CAT 568)**  
**Condition Report**

**Conservation Started:** 08.05.2015

**Conservation Finished:** 08.05.2015

**Conservator:** Lizzie Miller

**Time Taken:** 3.5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:**

K310 -L. 48mm; W. 28mm; Th. edge 1mm

K620, K638, K1021- L. largest 20mm; Th. edge 1mm

**Weight before:** n/a

**Weight after:**

K310 – 13.66g

K620 – 2.04g

K638 – 0.63g

K1021 – 0.66g

**Digital photography:**

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

**Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes:**

Individual storage boxes combined. Small find numbers transferred onto paper number strip.

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

A group of 4 niello fragments, consisting of 1 almost complete silver lentoid or 'eye-shaped' object (K310) and 3 fragments of a second similar-shaped object (K620, K638 & K1021). All fragments exhibit geometric/linear niello inlay on the front.

**Associated Objects:** The group consists of the fragments K310, K620, K638 and K1021. They have been grouped together due to their similarity in form and decoration. It is possible that the three fragments (K620, K638 & K1021) belong to the same object, which is similar in shape to K310.

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

Detailed condition and description see reports for individual fragments.

K310 is almost complete however there is loss of 25% of the niello border and further loss around the central outer edge. This piece has 3 perforated holes. The other three fragments are broken and the largest of which (K620) is perforated (no nail remains).

**Treatment:** Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

**Purpose:** Display/ Analysis / Study

**Aim:** Stabilisation and association

**Materials:** Soft natural/synthetic brushes, cotton swab, cocktail stick, thorn in pin vice/holder, IMS Paraloid B-72 w/v in acetone, acetone, Japanese Tissue.

The larger piece (K310) was further cleaned to remove soil from within the perforated holes. It was cleaned using IMS on cotton wool swabs and a natural thorn in a pin vice.

K620 fragment is distorted and has a weak point (strengthened with 35% W/V Paraloid B-72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) & Japanese tissue 05/12/12).

It was not possible to join any of the fragments but they have been repackaged into one box in order to group them together.

**Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:**

n/a

**Key Features:**

- Niello inlay in geometric pattern
- Likely a pair of 'eye-shaped'/lentoid objects

**Samples:**

A small fragment stored in a plastic vial from K310 was transferred to new box.

**Images:**



Obverse



Reverse