

K1004 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 4/01/2013

Conservation Finished: 4/01/2013

Conservator: Pieta Greaves

Time Taken: 4 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) distorted 43.5mm (W) distorted 10mm (H) 19mm (Th. edge) 1.5mm

Weight before: 17.12g

Weight after: 15.36g

X-ray plate: L30

Catalogue number: 30

Digital photography:

Taken with a Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera, under daylight or bulbs and Meiji Techno RZ Stereo microscope with an Infinity 1 camera (with analyses capture software) and fibre optic lights, 7-75x magnification. Taken before, during and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes:

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

Gold pommel cap of sheet-metal with filigree ornament, except for a plain apex; misshapen, one side bowed in, torn in places (from removal?). Double pin/rivet sheaths at both ends covered in herringbone filigree. Both faces have different interlace designs,? probably non-zoomorphic. The shoulder panels have simple motifs also which are mirror reversed.

Associated Objects: None known at present

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

Soils obscures details of filigree design across all surface except the plain apex. Some wear to the filigree at the edges, evidence of recent damage with flat/scratched areas on the raised filigree. Object bowed on one side (historical damage) possible from the removal of the pommel for the weapon. Interior filled with soils from the burial environment.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study / Analysis

Aim: Total cleaning

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

The granular soil all surfaces was mechanically removed or reduced where possible using a fine thorn tip secured in a pin vice and a small pure bristle brush. IMS or water was used to soften the soil to facilitate removal. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of IMS.

The paper K number was adhered to the back with HMG brand Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) from the tube, applied with a cocktail stick.

A storage box padded with white polyethylene foam was made for housing the object. A strip of Tyvek (spun bound polyethylene fibres) was used as a cushion for the object and to help lift it out of the foam.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

Object has 2 small holes/tears on the non-bowed side, likely damage from removal. Moderate wear to the filigree.

Key Features:

- Gold pommel cap
- Intricate filigree design to both front and back of the pommel

Analysis Undertaken:

None undertaken

Samples:

Soils from the exterior and interior of the object were collected into vials and retained with the object

- 1 soil exterior
2. soil interior