

K1030 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 20/12/12

Conservation Finished: 28/12/12

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 10 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 28.8 mm (W) 22.4 mm (H) 20 mm (T) 1.4mm

Weight before: 11.70g

Weight after: 8.17g

X-ray plate: L34

Catalogue number: 3

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: BA SSH09 010 1001 6/8/09 sf 392

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

A gold pommel with interlace filigree decoration on both sides and the shoulders. The double holed river fittings at each end are decorated with horizontal strands of plain wire arranged in a herring-bone pattern. No rivets present. All borders are decorated with double lines of beaded wire (a larger and smaller one). There is no present trace of a possible inner lining.

Associated Objects:

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

Partially covered in soil. The pommel was folded unto itself. The apex is torn. Even though the pommel has lost much of its original shape, there does not appear to have been considerable loss of any of its parts. The inside is partially filled with soil. The pommel's walls are thick and seem to have had a degree of plasticity, suggested by the way the object has withstood the damage.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study

Aim: Partial cleaning

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

The granular soil on the front, back and underside was mechanically removed or reduced where possible using a fine thorn tip secured in a pin vice and a small pure bristle brush. IMS 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.

Addition 17.02.2015 (by Rachel Altpeter):

The inside was fully cleaned using IMS on a cotton wool swab and a natural thorn. Remaining soil around the edges of the filigree was further reduced using the same method.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

Some of the beaded wire on both sides and the borders is worn in a way that indicated a soft gold. Some of the strands of the finer wire, flanking the larger wire to form the pattern, have almost entirely lost definition. There is a dent on the intact shoulder. A portion of large beaded wire is missing from one side

Key Features:

- Filigree decoration arranged in wide knots
- Horizontal herring-bone wire strands on rivet fittings
- Thick pommel walls with notable plasticity
- Well worn in parts
- No rivets present.

Samples:

1. soil from the outside
2. soil from the inside

Further sample added on 17.02.2015: soil removed from inside