

K1053 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 28/06/2013

Conservation Finished: 28/06/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Weight of all clumps before conservation: 33.74g

Fragment A:

Dimensions: (L) 9.5mm (W) 6.5mm (Th.) 0.5mm

Weight before: not weighed

Weight after: 0.21g

Fragment B:

Dimensions: (L) 5.5mm (W) 5mm (Th.) <0.5mm

Weight before: not weighed

Weight after: 0.03g

K1053b renumbered to K1944.

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS digital camera and/or a Keyence VHX-1000 3D digital microscope with LED and/or fibre optic lights (20-200x magnification). Taken before and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: None

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

Two fragments:

Fragment A: Flat, square fragment of undecorated silver.

Fragment B: (now re-accessioned as K1944) Small fragment of silver gilt pressed foil.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

There are many large clumps of soil and two vials of soil. Only two identifiable objects can be seen:

Fragment A: Plain, flat, undecorated silver fragment with soil and a thin layer of purple corrosion product (likely silver chloride) on the surface.

Fragment B: Small fragment of silver gilt pressblech foil. The back is covered with a thick layer of soil. The front has some light abrasions.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study

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 on the front/back 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.

Corrosion products were left in situ; corrosion was not active and can be further cleaned or stabilised at a later date.

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:

The condition of the objects is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil.

Key Features:

- One plain fragment of silver sheet
- One small fragment of silver gilt pressblech foil

Samples:

1. soil
2. unknown black inclusions in soil