

## K1057 Condition Report

**Conservation Started:** 11/07/2013

**Conservation Finished:** 12/07/2013

**Conservator:** Cymbeline Storey

**Time Taken:** 2.5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** (L) 16mm (W) 8mm (H) 4mm (Th. sheet) 1mm

**Weight before:** 3.10g

**Weight after:** 0.72g

**Catalogue number:** 403, 600

(K1057ii silver fragment renumbered to K1945)

### **Digital photography:**

Taken with 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

Fragment of undecorated silver with a 90-degree corner; possibly part of a hilt plate. All edges are breaks.

**Associated Objects:** TBC

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

The object is a soil block containing a few small stones, flecks of white mould and a little plant matter. A piece of silver can be seen in the soil. It is unclear at this stage what the silver object is and what its condition is; excavation of the soil block will be necessary.

**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.

**Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:**

Excavation of the soil revealed a piece of silver as described in the 'Description' section above. All of the edges are old-looking breaks. There are a series of deep, old cuts on the side of the object; see photographs. The front has widespread old-looking scratches, a patch of inactive green corrosion product and moderate tarnish (probably from burial). The back has moderate tarnish (probably from burial) and numerous old-looking scratches and series of fine, parallel dents.

A few additional tiny fragments of silver gilt pressblech foils were found in the soil. They are thought to be unrelated to the object and were retained in sample vial 2.

The soil had a little plant matter and a few stones but was otherwise unremarkable.

**Key Features:**

- Fragment of silver; might be part of a hilt plate
- Distinct, old cuts on the side
- Patch of green corrosion on front

**Samples:**

1. soil
2. fragments of pressblech foil found in the soil

**\*UPDATE 10/09/15: Now boxed with K167, K200, K253, K422, K609, K864, K901, K935, K941, K1268 (Lizzie Miller)**