

K105 Condition Report

Conservation Started: May 28, 2013

Conservation Finished: May 29, 2013

Conservator: Aimee Sims

Time Taken: 8 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 50 mm (H) 16.5 mm (Th) 1 mm

Weight before: 7.83g

Weight after: 4.17g

Weight with K739: 8.61g

X-ray: L35, L57

Catalogue number: 100

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS digital camera under daylight or bulbs and 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: K105, 24/7/09, 22, PN1971, SSH'09, XRAY L57, AA3Z, CE5A

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification. Curved gold filigree strip. No information pertaining to its detail can be seen at this time.

Associated Objects: K739 and loose pieces of filigree found floating in the encasing soil, loose pieces of foil found floating in the encasing soil. Both samples were stored in gelatin capsules and housed with the object.

Pre-Conservation Condition: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification. Completely encrusted with soil, design and stability can not be commented upon at this time.

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, water on garnets, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick, Paraloid B72

The granular soil on the front and 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:

On the backside, floating pieces of filigree were collected from the soil located at the middle lower edge. The fragments were cleaned and stored in a gelatin capsule. From the front side many fragments of gold gilt (?) foil were found floating in the soil, along the entire length of the object. They were removed, cleaned and stored in a gelatin capsule.

The front side of the object, is gold filigree there is a single beaded wire along the top and bottom edge, just below is a line of double twisted wires. In the centre are two parallel sets of interlacing triple beaded wire decoration. The strip does not lie flat and is bent in both a horizontal and vertical direction. Both ends of the strip are torn, giving the impression that the strip came from a larger object.

The backside is gold with no decoration, and is slightly tarnished. Overall the piece is in stable condition and no consolidation was needed. It should be noted that the foil fragments are extremely brittle and should be handled with care.

Samples:

1. soil from the front
2. soil from the back