

K1073 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 7/01/2013

Conservation Finished:

Conservator: Pieta Greaves

Time Taken: 5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) distorted and incomplete 31 mm (W) distorted 23mm (H) 16mm

Weight before: 15.12g

Weight after: 9.25g

X-ray plate: L34

Catalogue number: 35

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 round-back form, of sheet-metal construction, with filigree ornament except for a plain apex; heavily misshapen, both sides are bowed out and both ends are missing their rivet sheaths (from removal); no rivets remain. Both faces have different triple-strand interlace designs, both based on the classic Style II motif of two, addorsed, back-biting creatures. The shoulders have simple non-zoomorphic interlace executed in reverse symmetry. There is wear to the filigree at the edges.

X-ray: L34

Associated Objects:

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

Pommel cap had soil obscuring decorative surfaces and surface details. Interior of the cap is filled with soils from the burial environment. One loose fragment of wire from the object is retained in the box under the pommel cap.

Pommel cap distorted with damage and tearing at one end. Some of the filigree decoration can be seen.

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.

The granular soil across the complete object 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:

Light, small scratches to the surface inside the pommel cap.

Key Features:

- Gold pommel cap with differing filigree design front and back.

Analysis Undertaken:

none

Samples:

- 1- soils interior
- 2- soils exterior