

K1077 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 17/07/2013

Conservation Finished: 18/07/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 1 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 10.5mm (W) 6mm (D) 2mm

Weight before: 1.89g

Weight after: 0.45g

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS 1100D digital camera under daylight or bulbs and a Keyence VHX1000 3D digital microscope. 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

Flat, fairly thick fragment of undecorated silver with one finished edge and three break edges.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

The object is a soil block containing one visible fragment of silver. The form of the object is unclear at this stage, but visible surface has dark tarnish (probably from burial). The soil is slightly more orange and clay-like than that usually seen in the hoard, but it is otherwise unremarkable.

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:

Excavation of the soil block revealed one object inside: a flat fragment of undecorated silver with one finished edge and three old-looking break edges. The front has widespread dark tarnish (probably from burial) and general surface abrasion. The back has a rough texture and a few patches of inactive green corrosion product.

Key Features:

- Flat fragment of undecorated silver
- Fairly thick
- One finished edge

Samples:

1. soil