

## Condition Report K1079, gold and bone fragment, possibly part of a hilt plate

**Conservation Started:** 24 May 2013

**Conservation Finished:** 28 May 2013

**Conservator:** Kathy Hall

**Time Taken:** 3 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** (L) 14mm; (H) 9.5mm

**Weight before:** 4.19g

**Weight after:** 2.58g

**X-ray:** L95, L100, L116

**Catalogue number:** 413

### Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS digital camera under daylight bulbs and Photomicrographs taken using Keyence VHX-1000 3D digital microscope with LED and/or fibre optic lights, 20-200x magnification.

**Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes:** K1079 Soil Block SSH09 1971 1002 Δ173 soil heap 30/7/09

**Description:** Soil clump 1.5cm x 1.5cm x 2.0cm. Small fragment in capsule turned out to be a fragment of quartz pebble.

**Associated Objects:** Tiny fragment of silver wire.

**Pre-Conservation Condition:** Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification. Covered in soil, only thin edge of gold visible. See before photos.

**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, 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:**

Thin layers of iron corrosion on gold surface left in place. Possible fibrous organic remains visible in empty rivet hole. Bone interior stained pale green, with the broken edge having nodules of darker green staining visible.

**Samples:** (stored in box with object)

1. soil
2. tiny fragment of silver wire