

K1084 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 27/09/11

Conservation Finished: 28/09/11

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 6 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (H) 22 mm (W) 9 mm (Th) 2.3 mm

Weight before: 2.45g

Weight after: 2.45g

Catalogue number: 512

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: K84 sf 128 30/07/09

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification

Gold and cloisonné garnet fixture in the shape of an eagle, featuring head, wing and tail; the back end features a flange c. 2mm wide. The fixture features 21 cells including the one containing an eye; the eye is a small sphere of a dark, hard material, possibly glass. The underside features the remains of a pin just behind the head. This pin is bent and has a tapered end which may be the result of careless removal by a sharp object occurring in the past.

Associated Objects: K16 eagle fixture of the same shape but facing the opposite direction

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

The object was partially obscured by deposits of soil. Part of the underside is exposed and the gold base can be seen here; there are some old scratches, joint marks and evidence of a deep central dent.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Display/ Analysis / Study

Aim: Total cleaning

Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, cotton swab, cocktail stick, thorn in pin vice/holder, water on garnets, water/IMS on metals, Paraloid B72 10% in acetone

The granular soil on the exterior/interior surface 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.

One sunken, unstable garnet and two exposed foils required consolidation; Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) 10% w/v in acetone was applied.

The paper K number was adhered to the interior surface with HMG brand Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) from the tube, applied with a fine paint brush.

A new storage box padded with white polyethylene foam was constructed to house 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:

Two garnets sunk deep within their cells; one of these was unstable and had to be consolidated

Samples:

1. soil from surface