

K1085 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 1/2/13

Conservation Finished: 1/2/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 3 hrs 30 minutes

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 36mm (W) 10mm (H) 8.5mm (Th. edge) 1 mm

Weight before: 3.25g

Weight after: 2.58g

X-ray: L52

Catalogue number: 120

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: SSH09 1971 M11 1001 sf 181 30/7/09

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification. Narrow, gold hilt collar with individual filigree shapes (possibly in the shape of snakes – although heads are not visible). The decoration is divided into fields by vertical dividing features composed of fine double beaded and twisted wire. The outer borders are made of single lines of beaded wire.

Associated Objects: possibly K1231

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

Partial; The fragment, unlike K1231 which is clearly cut at both ends, has torn ends. A large portion of its lower beaded wire border is also missing, with obvious signs of tearing of the metal along the surviving edge there are small holes on the backing plate. Some of the short filigree sections have partially lifted off the backing plate. The object is slightly compressed out of shape. The back appears to have manufacturing imperfection marking the plain gold as well as fine scratches which do not appear to have occurred recently (during excavation). The surface is discoloured with a slight reddish hue, possibly the product of oxidation or transferred from the Fe rich soil.

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 10% in acetone.

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.

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:

Key Features:

- Narrow collar with individual decorative knots/snake shapes
- Torn ends

Samples:

1. soil from the front & back