

K1086 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 26/4/2013

Conservation Finished: 26/4/2013

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 2 hour 30 minutes

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 29mm (W) 5mm (T) 1mm

Weight before: 1.15g

Weight after: 1.03g

Catalogue number: 614

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.

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification
Fragment of silver gilt C-sectioned edging .

Associated Objects: other silver gilt C-sectioned edging fragments

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

Partly covered by a thick deposit of soil. One end is fractured, but still precariously attached and bent upward. This area is at high risk of breakage and might have to be consolidated to allow safe handling. The outer, gilded surface displays a dark/ iridescent form of discolouration. The inner side, which has no gilding, is darkened by oxidation/surface enrichment. There are two linear scratches on the outer surfaces, that appear to have been produced by a fine, sharp object. They run parallel with the length of the object and one of them covers the object from end to end. The inside has small dots of what appears to be hard, grey silver corrosion.

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 15% in acetone , Japanese tissue paper.

The granular soil on all sides was mechanically removed or reduced where possible using a fine thorn tip secured in a pin vice and a small pure bristle brush. IMS was used to soften the soil to facilitate removal. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of IMS.

The fractured area of the object (see AT images) required consolidation; Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) 15% w/v in acetone was applied to a small strip of Japanese tissue paper. This

was left to dry slightly, applied as a bridge across the fracture and then wet with a small amount of acetone to reactivate the adhesive. The adhesive and acetone were applied with a fine natural bristle brush.

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.

Key Features:

- Ag gilt C-sectioned edging fragment