K1100 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 28/05/2013 Conservation Finished: 29/05/2013 Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 1.75 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 8.5mm (W) 11mm (Th.) 1mm

Weight before: 1.51g Weight after: 0.42g

Catalogue number: 608, 691

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS 1100D digital camera under daylight or bulbs and a Keyence VHX-1000 3D digital microscope with LED and/or fibre optic lights (20-200x magnification). Taken before and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: SSH09, 1971,, 1024 (triangle), unstrat from soil heap, 18/8/09

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

Roughly rectangular fragment of silver gilt fluted strip with two finished edges and two break edges.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

The object is a fragment almost completely encased in soil that contains some plant matter and a few small orange deposits. ~40% of the back of the object is visible. It is ungilded and has heavy discolouration, probably from burial. It is not clear at this stage if the fragment is decorated. Soil removal is necessary to fully describe and assess the condition of the object.

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 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:

Soil removal has revealed the entire surface. The object is a fairly thick fragment of broad fluted strip (i.e., with a series of raised lines running lengthwise down the front of the object). The long edges are old-looking breaks and the short edges are finished.

The front has patchy moderate tarnish (probably from burial) and multiple abrasions. One corner is bent upward slightly. The back is covered with a thin layer of bumpy, purple corrosion products (likely silver chloride) and has several distinct, recent-looking scratches.

Key Features:

• Fragment of broad silver gilt fluted strip

Samples:

1. soil