

K1117 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 25/06/2013

Conservation Finished: 26/06/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 0.75 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 12mm (W) 7mm (D) 2mm (Th.) <0.5mm

Weight before: 0.21g

Weight after: 0.19g

Catalogue number: 600

Digital photography:

Taken with 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: None

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

Fragment of undecorated silver gilt sheet; bent so that it appears convex when viewed from the front. The front is gilded and the back is ungilded. All but one of the edges are old breaks; one break edge looks recent.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

The front is gilded with light tarnish (possibly post-excavation) and general light surface abrasions. The back is ungilded. About half of the back surface is obscured by unremarkable soil, and a film of purplish corrosion (likely silver chloride) can be seen. All edges are old-looking breaks.

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 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:

The condition of the front is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil. Much of the corrosion on the back surface was removed with a cotton wool/IMS swab, but some remains on the surface.

Key Features:

- Plain/undecorated fragment of silver gilt sheet, bent

Samples:

None