

K1123 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 02/05/2013

Conservation Finished: 08/05/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 2 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Fragment A:

Dimensions: (L) 9mm (W) 9mm (D) 3mm

Weight before: 0.32g

Weight after: 0.23g

Fragment B:

Dimensions: (L) 7mm (W) 4mm (D) 2mm

Weight before: 0.10g

Weight after: 0.09g

X-ray: L90

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: SSH09, BA1971, 447 (in a triangle), M6, 11/8/09

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

Two gold fragments with filigree decoration.

Fragment A: Gold sheet fragment with beaded filigree decoration on the front; the reverse is plain. The filigree appears to be an interlace formed of thick beaded wires flanked on either side with thinner beaded wires.

Fragment B: Gold sheet fragment with beaded filigree and granule decoration on the front; the reverse is plain. There is one gold granule and one thick beaded wire flanked on either side by thinner beaded wires.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

Fragment A: The fragment is bent so that it is slightly convex when viewed from the front. ~60% of both sides are covered with soil that contains no remarkable features or inclusions. It appears that all edges are breaks. There is substantial wear to the filigree, with many of the high points worn/scraped down.

Fragment B: Tiny fragment of gold with beaded filigree and one granule on the front. ~90% of the front and 60% of the back are covered with soil. All of the edges are jagged 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.

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.

05/08/2015 K1123 boxed with K650 and K1255

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

Both fragments possibly part of a hilt collar (?)

Fragment A: Soil removal revealed a bright, shiny surface with beaded filigree interlace. Sections of two of the thicker beaded wires are missing. There is substantial wear to the filigree and some wires protrude off the edges. There is a small, stable crack on the centre of the object. The back has patchy discolouration and general abrasion.

Fragment B: The front has patchy discolouration, and there is some wear to the high points of the thicker beaded wire. The back has patchy dark discolouration and several scratches, a few of which look recent.

Key Features:

- Two gold fragments, both with beaded filigree decoration
- Fragment B has a single gold granule

Samples:

1. soil from fragment K1123a