

## K1137 Condition Report

**Conservation Started: 9.5.11**

**Conservation Finished: 10.5.11**

**Conservator: Deborah Cane**

**Time Taken: 3 hrs**

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** (L) 60 mm (W) 10 mm (D) 2mm lip to hilt, depth of sheet gold less mm

**Weight before:** 3.82g

**Weight after:** 2.89g

**Catalogue number:** 293

### **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 and after.

### **Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes:**

**BA1871 SSH09**

**Q9 1001 495- in a triangle**

**13/8/09**

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

A bent section of a hilt plate, the edges can be seen and have some shape to them. There is a partial view of a piece of filigree wire where the pin fitting may have been. Apart from this decoration the surfaces appear plain gold. Observations made while partially covered with soil.

### **Associated Objects:**

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

The surfaces appear worked and scratched, with some lines appearing parallel and consistently repeated as in worked or drawn. One end is bent back on itself, almost at 45 degrees. The length is misshapen and almost buckled due to the miss-shaping. This has also caused pinching at the edges, here the gold slightly bulges out, and these areas also appear to have tiny tears in the gold.

Rootlets are visible in the soil and a black material is visible on the soil surface.

**Treatment:** Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

**Purpose:** Analysis – Cardiff 2011

**Aim:** Total cleaning

**Materials:** Soft natural/synthetic brushes, cotton swab, cocktail stick, thorn in pin vice/holder, water on garnets, water/IMS on metals,

The granular soil on the exterior/interior surface 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 interior surface with Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) from the tube, applied with a fine paint brush.

A new storage box padded with white polyethylene foam was constructed to house the object.

**Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:**

Either end of the hilt plate has filigree decoration, only part of the decoration remains, some of the wire is flattened and scratched. There appears to be what looks like gold solder blobs within the filigree semi circle, TBC. There also appears to be a deliberate marking out V like mark, see images.

The underside shows some discolouration. In the central area there is what looks like a dark scuff and some deeper scratch marks, all were under the soil.

The upper surface shows some parallel working marks as well as other wear scratches. See image.

The areas of building gold at the pinch point do have tiny tears, take care when handling, materials may snag.

XRF analysis of the object will be performed in Cardiff, awaiting results

**Samples:**

1. Soil from exterior
2. Black deposit from the soil – underside by 45 degree bend

**References:** if applicable