

K1141 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 19/07/2013

Conservation Finished: 19/07/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 0.75 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 11.5mm (W) 11.5mm (D) 3mm

Weight before: 0.57g

Weight after: 0.54g

Catalogue number: 380

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 silver gilt that is convex when viewed from the front and has one partial, round fastening hole. Part of a hilt plate? The front is gilded and the back is ungilded. One finished edge.

Associated Objects: K1374? (TBC)

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

The fragment has one finished edge; the remainder are old-looking breaks. The front is gilded and has surface abrasions, some of which look recent. Much of the front is covered with a layer of purplish corrosion product (likely silver chloride) and a thin layer of soil. The back is ungilded and ~70% covered with soil and corrosion (likely silver chloride).

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.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

The condition of the object is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil.

Key Features:

- Convex fragment of silver gilt
- One partial, round, empty fastening hole
- Part of a hilt plate?

Samples:

None