

K1143 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 10/05/11

Conservation Finished: 11/05/11

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 3 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 41mm (W) 25mm (D) 10mm

Weight before: 3.04g

Weight after: 1.55g

Catalogue number: 330

(K1143ii silver foils renumbered to K1956; K1143iii reeded strip renumbered to K1957, catalogue number 613)

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: SSH 09 BA1971 K5 \triangle 486 1001 13/8/09

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification
A torn and twisted fragment of thin gold sheet or foil, featuring one rivet or pin hole. A surviving portion of one of the edge is folded to form a C shape which may have allowed the sheet to fasten onto another surface.

Associated Objects: none noted

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

Partially covered by a thick, compact layer of granular soil; torn and fragile because of its thinness, the areas of lifted metal have frayed edges which may catch.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Analysis

Aim: Partial Total cleaning

Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, cotton swab, cocktail stick, thorn in pin vice/holder, 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. 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:

A fragment of what appears as a silver gilt possibly ridged piece of metal is held in situ by soil within one of the folds of the gold sheet. A granular, shiny dark grey material was also found in the same area, resembling an un-worked silver alloy specimen: sampled.

XRF analysis of the object will be carried out at the Cardiff laboratories

Samples:

1. Soil from exterior
2. Soil and possibly fragments collected when first recorded (originally in clear capsule container)
3. Soil and fragments from the inner side