

K1145 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 5/9/12

Conservation Finished: 26/9/12

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 9 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 40.9 mm (W) 7.7 mm (D) 8.1 mm

Weight before: 11.43g

Weight after: 10.71g

Catalogue number: 564

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, during and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes:

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

Gold and garnets cloisonné fragment of a U shaped edging strip. This object displays the same cloisonné pattern as three other U shaped strips. The straight strip is partial, with one highly damaged, broken end and an intact end. Because of the damage suffered, some of the construction details such as the remains of soldering at the cells attachments and the composite construction of the U shape (an L + an I component) are visible. There are no visible fastening features, such as rivets, plates or flanges.

Associated Objects: K356, 357, 665.

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

Almost totally covered by soil before conservation. One end of this strip portion is highly disrupted; at this end the original U shape is pinched and flattened, the cells are almost totally obliterated revealing the inner base and the garnets are no longer in situ. Some of the surviving garnets in this area are trapped into broken cells and may become unstable. Part of the wider bands of gold flanking the lengths of the spine are detached and suspended. The other end is intact, and shows signs of burnishing on the gold (linear striations). The outer walls have small superficial scratches and nicks, but none of the damage appears to have occurred recently (during or post excavation). Many of the garnets have sunk within their cells; a number of them are cracked (see images folder K1145 AT for details).

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Display / Study

Aim: Total cleaning / Stabilisation

Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, thorn in pin vice/holder, IMS on metals, 50:50 water/IMS on metals, water on garnets, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick, Paraloid B72

The granular soil on all sides 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.

One of the loose garnets at the broken end required consolidation; Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) 10% w/v in acetone was applied with a glass micropipette.

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:

See pre-conservation conditions

Key Features: U-shaped edging strip, part of a group of four. The inner side might contain organic material.

Analysis Undertaken:

XRF analysis of the object was performed. See document 'K1145 XRF Report'.

Samples:

1. soil from the surface
2. very small garnet fragment (found in soil, central area **SAMPLE EMPTY**)
3. soil, from open end side. **ADDED TO SAMPLE 1**