

## K1158 Condition Report

**Conservation Started:** 09/04/2013

**Conservation Finished:** 09/04/2013

**Conservator:** Cymbeline Storey

**Time Taken:** 1 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** (L) 10mm (W) 8mm (Th. walls) 1mm

**Weight before:** 0.45g

**Weight after:** 0.44g

**Catalogue number:** 590

### **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

Roughly square, flat fragment of a silver gilt channelled strip (thought to possibly be a helmet crest) with gilding and incised interlace decoration (possibly zoomorphic?) on one side.

**Associated Objects:** TBC

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

The object is a fragment. Three of the four edges are old-looking breaks. The fragment is flat and roughly square.

The front is gilded and has moderate tarnish and general surface abrasion. Soil is present in recessed areas. There are several flecks of purple corrosion (likely silver chloride corrosion) on the front and back.

The back is ungilded and has heavy, dark tarnish (possibly post-excavation) and a thin layer of soil on the surface.

**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.

**Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:**

Soil removal revealed a moderately tarnished gilded surface. Tarnish was reduced with a swab of IMS but left in recessed areas to act as lowlights to enhance the interlace design. The gilding is in good condition.

The back has patches of purple corrosion (likely silver chloride corrosion) and heavy, dark tarnish (possibly post-excavation).

**Key Features:**

- Silver gilt crest fragment – roughly square and flat
- One finished edge
- Incised interlace decoration

**Samples:**

None