

K1174 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 13/2/13

Conservation Finished: 13/2/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 2 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 11.1mm (D) 8mm (Th.) <0.5mm

Weight before: 0.63g

Weight after: 0.33g

Catalogue number: 650

K1174b (Gold sheet fragment) renumbered to K1958, catalogue number 682.

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

A round setting or the remains of a domed shaped rivet head. The circumference is decorated with a single line of beaded wire. It appears to have been covered by a layer of gold sheet, now cut & torn and incomplete. A partially rolled fragment of gold sheet was found inserted through the opening of the dome: the latter object may not originally have been associated with the setting or dome, and was held in that position by soil when found.

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

The dome appears to have been plain; it bears signs of tearing, it is partial and collapsed within the setting. The beaded wire bears damage caused by deep abrasion and a few nicks possibly caused by pointed object. Some localised discolouration due to oxidation is visible at the back. Here a patch of what appear to be a trace of soldering is visible.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study

Aim: Partial cleaning

Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, thorn in pin vice/holder, IMS on metals, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick.

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 was used to soften the soil to facilitate removal. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of IMS.

Oxidation products were left in situ; corrosion was not active and can be further cleaned or stabilised at a later date.

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:

Two objects, probably unassociated.

Key Features:

One setting or rivet cap, decorated with beaded wire
One fragment of gold sheet

Samples:

1. Soil and white calcareous looking material from the centre