

K1181 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 08/02/12

Conservation Finished: 23/05/12

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 2.5hrs + 1 hr on 23/5/13

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 18.7 mm (W) 6.5 mm (T) 0.5 mm

Weight before: 1.08g

Weight after: N/A

Catalogue number: 437

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: 1971 SSH09 1001 N9 sf 329 4/8/9

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

A gold, plain object of unknown use, an oblong shape and rounded edges. Both ends curve slightly backwards: this may be an intentional construction feature rather than deformation. One pin short, slanted ended pin is attached to the back. An attachment for a second pin, not present, may be hidden under the soil.

Associated Objects: unknown

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

Mostly clean: the top surface is entirely exposed, although small deposits of soil are present. Two heavier deposits of soil at the back, on pin attachment. Besides the slight curvature at each end, the object features a curving depression in the centre, which may have been provoked by pressure. The front features a number of fine scratches, some of which may have been caused during use, or as a consequence of polishing. The back has suffered the most damage, with deep dents, long linear scratches, and deeper, wider abrasions. The object appears overall stable, with no superficial tarnish.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Display / Analysis

This object was not cleaned

No further work was deemed necessary for the object to be displayed in Lichfield. The soil can be excavated at a later date as the requested for the research programme

The paper K number was adhered to the interior surface with HMG brand 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 (polyethylene fabric) was used as a cushion for the object and to help lift it out of the foam.

Conservation was continued on 24/5/2013, when the back of the object was cleaned. The only thing to add to the previous reports is a mark at the back where a second pin was probably attached. The detachment of the potential second pin has left a patch of rough gold, with possible traces of solder.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings: see pre-conservation condition. This object was not cleaned

Key Features: flat edges pin at the back

Analysis Undertaken:

XRF was not carried out, as the unclean surface may interfere with the results.

Samples: none taken