K1204 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 4-2-2013
Conservation Finished: 5-2-2013
Conservator: Suzanne van Leeuwen
Time Taken: 7 hours, including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: L. incl rivet 22 mm; L. rivet 6.5 mm; W. 10 mm; H. not incl. rivet 16 mm;
Diam. Rivet 4x4 mm (Notes Chris Fern)
Weight before: 4.19 grams
Weight after: 3.65 grams
X-ray plate: L42, L95, L104, L116, L125, L139
Catalogue number: 75

Digital photography: Taken with a Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera, under daylight (after) and bulbs (before). Taken before and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes:

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Description:
[fully clean] Silver-?lead alloy fragment, possibly part of a pommel cap, perhaps from a ?seax. It may have been a pair with K290, with which it shares its prominent ridged back and inset panel decoration; whilst its round-backed form and single large rivet is reminiscent also of K1448 and K1623. Only a small part of the inset relief-cast decoration survives in this case, on both sides, but enough to show it comprised gilded double strand interlace, though not enough to show whether it was zoomorphic in character [review once cleaned]. Ribbed decoration decorated the channels between the ridges. The rivet, which has a square section, is not obviously broken, but is shorter than other examples (cf. K1448). The interior appears to have been hollow [review once cleaned] - Notes Chris Fern -

Associated Objects:

- **? K290**
- **? K903**
- **? K1448**
- **? K1623**

Pre-Conservation Condition: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji BM 46941 stereo microscope 2-10x magnification

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji BM 46941 stereo microscope 2-10x magnification.
The granular soil on the front and back was mechanically removed or reduced where possible using a fine thorn tip secured in a pin vice and a small pure bristle brush. A mixture of 50% IMS and 50% water

was used to soften the soil to facilitate removal. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of the IMS/water mixture. A swab of IMS was used to neutralise the surface.

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

The paper K number was adhered to the back with a mixture of 30% HMG brand Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) and 70% acetone, applied with a cocktail stick.

A storage box padded with white polyethylene foam was made for housing the object.

Purpose: Study/Analysis
Aim: Total cleaning
Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, thorn in pin vice/holder, 50:50 water/IMS on metals, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick, IMS, 30:70 Paraloid B72/acetone

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings: Interior is indeed hollow, in eyes conservator the interlacing is not zoomorphic in nature. Cast silver (silver has blackened), dots of white material spread on surface (lead corrosion?), remnants of gilding, some copper corrosion on outside surface, copper corrosion and white material inside the large rivet

Key Features:.Cast silver

Analysis Undertaken:

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Samples: Two samples were taken, marked:

- K1204 – inside
- K1204 – outside

References:

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