

K1233 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 05/03/2013

Conservation Finished: 05/03/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 1 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 10mm (W) 7mm (D) 1.5mm

Weight before: 0.45g

Weight after: 0.43g

Catalogue number: 570

Digital photography:

Taken with a Keyence VHX-1000 3D digital microscope. 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

Flat, triangular silver fragment with niello inlay in two nested V shapes. Fragment has one straight edge and two stepped edges.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

All edges are breaks. The fragment has ~50% soil coverage on the front and ~30% soil coverage on the back. A little plant matter is visible in the soil. Visible metal has heavy tarnish and general surface abrasion. The niello inlay is intact, slightly raised and has a rough texture. A speck of shiny, granular silver can be seen on the back of the object where the tarnish layer has peeled away.

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.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

The condition of the object is the same as pre-conservation except the small amount of soil has been removed. Shiny, granular silver can be seen on break edges.

Key Features:

- Triangular piece of silver with niello inlay in two nested V shapes
- Fragment has one straight edge and two stepped edges

Samples:

1. soil