

**K1237 Condition Report**

**Jagged, protruding parts; handle with care**

**Conservation Started:** 22/03/2013

**Conservation Finished:** 22/03/2013

**Conservator:** Cymbeline Storey

**Time Taken:** 3.5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** (L) 29mm (W) 17mm (D) 12mm

**Weight before:** 1.91g

**Weight after:** 1.45g

**Catalogue number:** 301

**X-ray:** L63

**Digital photography:**

Taken with a Canon EOS digital camera under daylight or bulbs and 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

Partial gold hilt plate with bevelled edge and one beaded filigree wire.

**Associated Objects:** TBC

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

The object is a partial gold hilt plate, bent, torn and mangled. It has one beaded filigree loop, presumably around a now-missing boss. Scratches and general surface abrasion can be seen on all sides. There are patches of light orangeish discolouration. A thick layer of soil covers ~50% of the object. The object appears to have a bevelled edge.

**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, 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:**

There are substantial dents and scratches, most of which look old but some of which might be new, on all sides.

The hilt plate has a bevelled edge and is severely bent, torn and mangled. Some of the break edges are very thin and flex when touched. The object is very fragile with many jagged, protruding parts that might catch gloves or packaging; **handle with care**.

**Key Features:**

- Partial gold hilt plate
- Single loop of beaded filigree wire
- Severely bent, torn and mangled

**Samples:**

1. soil