

K123 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 07/03/13

Conservation Finished: 07/03/13

Conservator: Natalie Harding

Time Taken: 1hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 27.5mm (W) 6mm (Th) 1mm

Weight before: 0.67g

Weight after: 0.64g

Catalogue number: 611

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: PN 1971, SSH 09, 7 (in triangle), 24/7/09, K122/123/124

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification
Gilt silver strip with horizontal ridged pattern on front, smooth on reverse. Possibly cast. Two straight lengths, with the two ends torn. Pin or rivet hole in the centre of the piece.

Associated Objects: Possibly K124 and 122 as these are stored in the same box.

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

Appears to be structurally stable. Soil covering approximately 20% of the piece. One bright silver nick in the long edge of the piece.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study / Analysis

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 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. 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.

Green copper alloy corrosion products on the reverse 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 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. 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:

The ridged decoration is horizontal and runs along the top and lower edges of the straight lengths. The centre of the strip is smooth without a ridge; one pin or rivet hole in the centre, another pin or rivet hole remains at one torn edge. The rivet/pin holes are approximately 1mm in diameter

The strip is covered in silver tarnish with gold gilding showing through in areas.

On the reverse near the centre rivet/pin hole there is a patch of green copper alloy corrosion product. This has been left in-situ. Here on the reverse at the centre rivet/pin hole there is a hairline crack in the metal; this is only seen on the reverse, not on the front.

The torn ends are friable and susceptible to little pieces flaking off – therefore try to handle by the straight edges only.

Key Features:

- Silver gilt.
- Ridged front side, flat reverse.
- Two pin/rivet holes.

Analysis Undertaken: n/a

Samples:

1. Soil – all over

References: n/a