

K124 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) 17.5mm (W) 6mm (Th) 1mm

Weight before: 0.50g

Weight after: 0.43g

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 the front, smooth on the reverse. Possibly cast.
Three straight edges, the fourth edge is torn and with half a remaining rivet/pin hole.

Associated Objects: Possibly K123 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 structurally stable; soil covering approximately 75% of surface. Black silver tarnish covers surfaces that can be seen. Torn on one edge with the remains of half a rivet/pin hole; at this end the strip is slightly curved.

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.

No corrosion products were found.

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 and at one end there are two rivet/pin holes next to each other. The rivet/pin holes are approximately 1mm in diameter. At this end it appears the piece has been cut.

The other end of the strip is torn and slightly bent upwards with half a rivet/pin hole remaining.

Gilding remains in patches on the front, a larger amount of gilding remains on the reverse.

On the reverse there are four incised lines with small triangular sections at the very edge of the piece. Unsure whether these are intentional or evidence of when the piece was removed from its mount position.

Black silver tarnish covers all surfaces.

The torn end is slightly 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.
- Three pin/rivet holes, one only half remains.
- Four incised lines with small triangular sections on the reverse.

Analysis Undertaken: n/a

Samples:

1. Soil – all over

References: n/a