

## K1250 Condition Report

**Conservation Started:** 9/5/2013, 9/7/2015

**Conservation Finished:** 10/5/2013, 9/7/2015

**Conservator:** Deborah Magnoler, Kayleigh Fuller

**Time Taken:** 3 hours, 0.75 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** (L) 23 mm (W) 20 mm (T) 1.3mm

**Weight before:** 2.43g

**Weight after:** 1.57g

**Catalogue number:** 360

(K1250b gold foil renumbered to K1963 catalogue number 695)

### Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS digital camera under daylight bulbs and Photomicrographs taken using Keyence VHX-1000 3D digital microscope with LED and/or fibre optic lights, 20-200x magnification.

**Description:** Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification

End of an unusual, filigree decorated hilt plate. The decoration is very similar to that on K820, and it is assumed that, although a perfect physical match is impossible because of the damaged condition of both objects, the two fragments are associated. The object is crossed by a cruciform pattern formed of three linear strands thick twisted wire, flanked by plain thick strips that give the motif thickness and depth. The border is quite worn down and virtually smooth, but there is evidence that it might have once contained twisted wire. Unlike K820, this object does not feature obvious laying down marks. The back is plain.

A gold backing foil was found in the soil and has been renumbered as K1963, weighing 0.01g.

**Associated Objects:** K320

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

Mostly covered in soil, incomplete, with a completely torn side, and a broken and lifted border. The object is bent and has a deep, short cut on the central portion of twisted wire. At the points of bending, the surface displays a fine craquelure showing the metal's grain. The gold is discoloured by dark patches, possibly caused by surface enrichment/oxidation; this phenomenon is particularly severe in the areas between main body and border.

**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, water on garnets, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick.

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 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. 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.

**9/7/2015- K. Fuller**

Re-boxed with K320

**Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:**

This object is associated with K320. An unassociated backing foil stamped with a standard pattern was found trapped within the soil on the object. This is now kept in the same box as K1250.

**Key Features:**

- End of unusual, filigree decorated hilt plate
- Associated with K320

**Samples:**

1. soil from all sides