

K1274 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 18/07/2013

Conservation Finished: 18/07/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 0.75 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 6mm (W) 5.5mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: 0.15g

Weight after: 0.11g

Catalogue number: 611

Digital photography:

Taken with a 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

Small, flat fragment of silver gilt fluted strip. The front is gilded with raised lines and the back is ungilded and plain. Two edges are finished and two edges are breaks.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

The fragment is flat. Two edges are finished and two are old-looking breaks. The front is gilded with raised lines. Soil covers about half the surface. Visible surface has light tarnish (probably from burial). The back is almost completely covered with a thick layer of soil. Soil removal will be necessary to describe and assess the condition of the back.

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 front is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil. The surface has patchy light to dark tarnish (probably from burial) and some old-looking abrasions and dents. The back can now be seen. It is ungilded with moderate tarnish (probably from burial) and some old-looking abrasions.

Key Features:

- Small, flat section of silver gilt fluted strip
- Two finished edges and two break edges

Samples:

1. soil