

K 1309 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 31/5/13

Conservation Finished: 31/5/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 1.5 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: a) L. 10mm; W. 7mm; Th. 0.25mm; Wt. 0.8g

b) L. 10.5mm; W. 6mm; Th. 0.5mm; Wt. 0.19g

c) L. 4.5mm; W. 4mm; Th. 0.25mm; Wt. 0.01g

Total Weight before: 0.29g

Total Weight after: 0.28g

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.

This object comprises three fragments of silver gilt sheet. The two larger fragments are curved at one edge and the curvature appears intentional.

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

The three fragments are virtually clean with small, sporadic deposits of soil. The gilded side is much affected by a multi-coloured form of discolouration, varying from black to orange brown and iridescent black. The smallest fragment is fractured. All fragments have been affected by a form of grey encrustation, possibly silver corrosion.

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, 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 was used to soften the soil to facilitate removal. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of IMS.

Possible corrosion products were left in situ; corrosion was not active and can be further cleaned or stabilised at a later date.

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: see pre-conservation reports.

Samples:

None – insufficient soil.