

## K1349 Condition Report

**Conservation Started:** 29/05/2013

**Conservation Finished:** 29/05/2013

**Conservator:** Cymbeline Storey

**Time Taken:** 1.5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

### **Fragment A:**

**Dimensions:** (L) 12mm (W) 6mm (D) 1mm

**Weight before:** 0.40g

**Weight after:** 0.23g

### **Fragment B:**

**Dimensions:** (L) 7mm (W) 5mm (D) 1mm

**Weight before:** 0.20g

**Weight after:** 0.20g

**RENUMBERED TO K1974, Catalogue number: 614**

### **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

Two fragments of undecorated silver gilt sheet.

Fragment A: Flat, four-sided fragment of silver gilt sheet. The front is gilded and the back is ungilded. Two edges are finished and two are breaks. One of the finished edges is slightly bevelled.

**Associated Objects:** TBC

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

Fragment A: The fragment appears to be flat, though with one slightly bevelled edge. The front is gilded, abraded, soil-free, and has patchy dark tarnish (likely from burial). ~60% of the front is covered with a thin film of brown corrosion product (likely silver chloride). The back is ungilded, 95% covered with unremarkable soil, and tarnished (probably from burial). Both of the break edges look old.

Fragment B, now renumbered as K1974, weighing 0.20g: The fragment is convex when viewed from the front. The front is gilded and has moderate tarnish and general surface abrasion as well as several distinct, old-looking dents. The back is ungilded and heavily tarnished (probably from burial) to a consistent dark grey colour. There is a thin film of soil on the surface.

**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.

Corrosion products were left in situ; corrosion was not active and can be further cleaned 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.

**Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:**

Fragment A: The condition of the front is the same as pre-conservation. Soil removal revealed back, which has widespread dark tarnish (probably from burial) ~50% of the surface is covered with a thin film of brown corrosion product (possibly silver chloride).

Fragment B, now K1974 and separated from K1348: The condition of the object is the same as pre-conservation apart from the removal of a small amount of soil.

**Key Features:**

- Two fragments of undecorated silver gilt

**Samples:**

1. soil