

K1350 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 30/05/2013

Conservation Finished: 03/06/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 1.5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Catalogue number: 608, 600

Fragment A:

Dimensions: (L) 11mm (W) 7mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: 0.19g

Weight after: 0.19g

Fragment B:

Dimensions: (L) 9mm (W) 5mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: 0.09g

Weight after: 0.07g

Fragment C:

Dimensions: (L) 9mm (W) 5mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: 0.17g

Weight after: 0.14g

X-ray: L94, L116

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

Three undecorated silver gilt sheet fragments.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

Fragment A: Bent so that slightly concave when viewed from the front. The front is gilded with general abrasion and patchy dark discolouration. There is a small patch of soil on the front. The back is ungilded with moderate tarnish (probably from burial). All edges are old-looking breaks.

Fragment B: Six-sided, flat fragment of undecorated silver gilt sheet. The front is gilded and has surface abrasions and a little soil. There are patches of dark discolouration. The back is ungilded and ~60% covered with soil containing a little plant matter. All edges are old-looking breaks.

Fragment C: Four-sided, flat fragment of undecorated silver gilt sheet. The front has general surface abrasion and a few old-looking scratches. There is patchy multicolour tarnish (probably from burial) and a little soil. One edge is finished and curved downward slightly. The other three edges are old-looking breaks. The back is ungilded and ~90% covered with unremarkable soil.

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 or stabilised 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. 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.

19/02/2016 –Susan Hull

Joined Fragment B with K1329 with 35% w/v Paraloid B72 in Acetone.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

Fragment A: The condition is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil.

Fragment B: The patchy, brown to orange discoloration remains on the front. The back can now be seen; it is heavily tarnished (probably from burial).

Fragment C: The condition of the front is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil. The back can now be seen; it has patchy dark tarnish (probably from burial).

Key Features:

- Three plain/undecorated fragments of silver gilt sheet
- Fragment C has one edge that curves downward slightly

Samples:

1. soil from K1350b and K1350c

