

K1351 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 13/06/2013

Conservation Finished: 13/06/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 1 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 12mm (W) 10mm (D) 2mm

Weight before: 1.09g

Weight after: 0.80g

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

Flat, fragment of silver; all edges breaks.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

All edges are old-looking breaks. The front has patches of green corrosion product, moderate tarnish (probably from burial) and general surface abrasion. There are three distinct, old-looking parallel scratches on the front that look deliberate. The back is 95% 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.

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.

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 back of the object can now be seen. It is corroded, pitted and with patchy dark discolouration from burial. There are additional patches of green corrosion product on the back, though not as much as on the front.

Key Features:

- Flat fragment of silver
- Three parallel, old-looking scratches on front look deliberate

Samples:

1. soil – back