

K 1367 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 20/5/13

Conservation Finished: 21/5/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 1.5 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 27 mm (W) 5 mm (T) 2 mm - largest piece
(L) 13mm (W) 5 mm (T) 2mm – medium piece
(L) 4mm (W) 0.9 mm – plain gold fragment

Total weight before: 1.28g

Total weight after: 1.13g

Weight with K126, K804, K857, K874: 7.11g

X-ray: L52, L88, L135, L136

Catalogue number: 106

(K1367b gold fragment renumbered to K1977, catalogue number 682)

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 is composed of a group of three: two fragments decorated with beaded wire filigree and one small plain fragment, apparently unrelated. The surviving filigree decoration suggests the two fragments were decorated with intertwining patterns and gold globules surrounded by beaded wire ringlets. One portion of a surviving outer border is made of thicker beaded wire, flanked by a line of twisted wire. A seam line is visible on many of the wire beads.

Associated Objects: K126, K804, K857, K874

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

Mostly covered in soil. The two filigree fragments are torn on all sides and some of the wire is suspended.

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 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.

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 gold is dulled and darkened by an extensive superficial discolouration that affects mainly the base plate of the two fragments. The plain gold fragment has no particular features, but its slightly flanged sides may indicate it was once part of another object. The rough surface at one end may indicate traces of solder (see photomicrographs).

The back of the largest object features a crescent-shaped dent and a round small hole: neither of them appears to be fresh damage.

Key features:

- Intertwined filigree and globules

Samples:

1. soil from all sides
2. Unidentified material, possibly stone