

K1369 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 21/03/2013

Conservation Finished: 22/03/2013

Conservator: Ciarán Lavelle

Time Taken: 2.5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L.) 26mm; (H). 3mm; (Th. edge) 2mm

Weight before: 1.46g

Weight after: 1.42g

Weight with K1032: 7.45g

X-ray: L44, L82

Catalogue number: 156

Digital photography:

Taken with a Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera, under daylight or bulbs and Meiji Techno RZ Stereo microscope with an Infinity 1 camera (with analyses capture software) and fibre optic lights, 7-75x magnification. Taken before, during and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: K1369, X-RAY: L44

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification

A fragment of 2 gold beaded filigree wires side by side with a thin beaded wire between.

Associated Objects: K1032

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

The object is a short fragment of 2 gold filigree wires which are connected side by side with a twisted beaded design across the length and a small thin beaded wire attached to the back. One side of the object appears flattened. Both ends of the object appear to be break edges. The object is covered in a light/moderate layer of loose and compact soil. The filigree is slightly curved, which may be either its originally intended shape, or damage suffered during/after it was disassembled.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Display / Study / Analysis

Aim: Total cleaning / Stabilisation

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 object is a short fragment of 2 gold filigree wires which are connected side by side with a twisted beaded design across the length and a small thin beaded wire attached to the back. The bottoms of the wires are flattened with a groove in the centre of the two wires; this flattening may be a separate thin gold sheet on the base. There is a potential patch of gold on the flattened back, beside the number. There is one wire is shorter than the other, with break edges on one side and a defined and angular flattened end on one side. The break edge is jagged with loose filigree on the two wires and especially the small filigree wire on the top, which has become detached at that end. The flattened back on the longer wire is broken up where this wire extends further than the smaller wire. There is flattening visible on the sides also, with some flattening on the top, especially on the top thin filigree wire on the top. The filigree is slightly curved, which may be either its originally intended shape, or damage suffered during/after it was disassembled. The object appears to be gold with tarnish/corrosion products visible on the surface; the gold is yellow/orange/red in appearance. The surface appears to be covered in nicks, scratches and general wear and tear of the surface. There is some ingrained dirt in the twisted beaded filigree that is difficult to remove.

Key Features:

- A length of beaded gold filigree wire.
- Flattening of the metal visible damage on two areas on opposite sides.
- Tarnish, corrosion products, nicks, scratches and general physical damage visible.

Samples:

Not enough for a viable sample.

References: