

## K1386 Condition Report

**Conservation Started:** 24/08/2015

**Conservation Finished:** 24/08/2015

**Conservator:** Kayleigh Fuller

**Time Taken:** 1 hour, including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** Panel- (L) 30mm (W) 9mm (D) 1mm, Pin – (L) 5mm (D) 1mm, Soil/ fragment (L) 6mm (W) 3mm (D) 2mm

**Weight before:** Panel -1.00g, Pin- 0.04g, Fragment/ metal and soil- 0.02g

**Weight after:** 0.98g

**Catalogue number:** 442

**Digital photography:** Taken with a Canon 1100 D camera, under daylight and with a Keyence VH-Z20R Digital Microscope, under artificial light. Taken before and after.

**Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes:** n/a

### **Description:**

Gold (low purity), rectangular sheet-metal fitting with filigree decoration, probably from a hilt-grip. It is torn, misshapen and incomplete; it may be completed by fragment K1685 but no join could be proved because of the degree of damage. Pair with K1380/K1687. It has two rivet holes at the corners of the complete end, and one remaining at the other. One small nail was found associated, of the same metal alloy. It has a small flat head and a faceted shank that tapers to a point. The mount's surviving curvature and convex form suggests the moulded grip of a sword. The filigree is fine. The decoration combines beaded, twisted and plain wires, with bands of scrollwork and herringbone pattern, framed with beaded wire. The filigree is worn flat in places from moderate to heavy wear. The reverse is plain.  
Notes Chris Fern -

**Associated Objects:** K1685

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**Pre-Conservation Condition:** Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji BM 47941 stereo microscope 2-10x magnification.

Object is lightly caked in soil on the surface and in between fine filigree. Area in middle seems fragile. Edges are torn and fragile. Soil is fairly caked onto the surface and concrete.

**Treatment:** Carried out using a Meiji BM 46941 stereo microscope 2-10x magnification.

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. A mixture of 50% IMS and 50% water was used to soften the soil to facilitate removal. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of the IMS/water mixture. A swab of IMS was used to neutralise the surface.

The paper K number was adhered to the back with a mixture of 30% HMG brand Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) and 70% acetone, applied with a cocktail stick.

A storage box padded with white polyethylene foam was made for housing the object

**Purpose:** Study / Analysis

**Aim:** Total cleaning

**Materials:** Soft natural/synthetic brushes, thorn in pin vice/holder, 50:50 water/IMS on metals, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick, IMS, 30:70 Paraloid B72/acetone

**Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:**

The main fragment of a filigree panel is very fragile as it is held together currently by a twisted balled filigree wire only. Item appears to have been ripped and has very torn edges. There are obvious cut/scratch marks which have been discovered under the layer of dirt and smaller scratches from surface treatments which are all original. Smaller fragments cannot be detached from soil as too thin and fragile. Darker in appearance. Surface has discolouration and tarnish.

**Key Features:**

- Sheet metal with filigree
- Fitting with rivet pin + holes
- Low purity gold

**Analysis Undertaken:**

**Samples:** One sample taken, marked:

**Sample 1 : Soil from all sides**

**References:**

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