

## K1387 Condition Report

**Conservation Started:** 24/01/13

**Conservation Finished:** 24/01/13

**Conservator:** Natalie Harding

**Time Taken:** 2hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** L. 12.5mm; W. 7.5mm; Th. 1mm

**Weight before:** 0.55grams

**Weight after:** 0.55grams

### 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:** n/a

**Description:** Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification  
Four-sided fragment, possibly silver. Torn on all sides, one side jiggered. Possibly zoomorphic interlaced design on front, plain on reverse. Possibly engraved or cast. Zoomorphic paws or feet in places. The design has linear engravings also. Gilded in areas, black patina covers all surfaces.

### Associated Objects:

Possibly: K149, K536, K994 and K1583.

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

Torn on all four sides. Minimal soil on front, more on reverse. The design is flattened in one area near the shorter lower border edge. Green copper alloy corrosion product on reverse. Black patina covers all surfaces, probably silver tarnish.

**Treatment:** Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

**Purpose:** Study / Analysis

**Aim:** Partial 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 or water was used to soften the soil to facilitate removal. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of IMS.

Some corrosion products were removed as much as was safe to reveal more of the design. Other 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:**

Possible iron corrosion on reverse, orange/red product well adhered to the reverse.

Patina / black silver tarnish is darker in the lower area of the shorter side on the front.

Possible tool marks can be seen in the lower recesses of the interlaced design, perhaps suggesting that this piece was engraved? Or chased?

Gilding mostly visible on the curved border edge.

**Key Features:**

- Interlaced zoomorphic design.
- Gilding.

**Analysis Undertaken:** n/a

**Samples:**

Not enough soil was recovered to obtain a sample.

**References:** n/a