

K139 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 16/4/2013

Conservation Finished: 17/4/2013

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 4 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 30 mm (W) 11 mm (T) 1 mm

Weight before: 3.18g

Weight after: 3g

Catalogue number: 590

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
Possible fragment of a silver gilt crest with one complete rivet hole. What would presumably have been the inner side of the crest still displays a light grey silver colour. The underside, is darkened by oxidation . A series of diagonal marks, likely from manufacture/polishing are visible on this side. There are remains of a thickly gilded outer wall at one edge which suggests this object may be associated with the rest of the crest fragments. As visible from one of the broken ends under magnification, the cross section of the object appears to be stratified (see photomicrographs).

Associated Objects: possibly part of a crest with K616, K 31, K 47, K 49, K 192, K 519, K 535, K 541, K 616, K 629, K 868, K 950, K 1012, K 1158, K 1257, K 1261, K 1376, K 1652, K 1761

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

Lightly covered in soil on both sides, the central rivet hole appears to be filled with soil. Incomplete and broken on all sides. Severely bent at one end. The surface, affected by the bending, is covered in superficial craquelure .One corner is bent and superficially fractured, but does not appear unstable. The object has no loose parts and appears to be stable.

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, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick,

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 was used to soften the soil to facilitate removal. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of IMS.

Oxidation 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:

Key Features:

- Possibly part of second crest
- Fragment of silver gilt object
- One surviving rivet hole
- Stratified structure (see photomicrographs)