

K1427 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 23.10.2015

Conservation Finished: 23.10.2015

Conservator: Lizzie Miller

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

Dimensions: (L) 31.0mm; (W) 10.0mm; (Th.) 0.7mm

Weight before: 1.40g

Weight after: 1.39g

Catalogue number: 449

Digital photography: Taken with a Canon EOS 1100D digital 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:

Filigree fitting Bag 4

Description: Hilt grip-fitting, misshapen, of gold sheet with filigree decoration. It has one flat, curled end, and one stepped end; there are two nail/rievet holes at each, one of which is torn open. The surface is covered by herringbone-pattern filigree. The beaded wire at the edges is moderately worn, and the herringbone wire is flattened in places also

Associated Objects:

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

The object appears to have been cleaned in the past however there is no documentation for this. A paper K number is adhered to the reverse. The reverse is clean, and the gold surface is visible. The obverse has a light covering of soil, particularly embedded within the decorative recesses. The object is distorted and one end is ripped, with the rivet hole torn. There are light scratches on the reverse. Some of the beading on the obverse has lifted slightly and is not running in parallel. There is an area where the beading has worn down and is smooth and flattened, likely through use/wear. There is a patch of green copper corrosion set within the grooves on the obverse.

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. IMS on cotton wool swabs was used to facilitate removal.

Green copper corrosion products were left in situ; corrosion does not appear to be active.

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

Purpose: Study

Aim: Total cleaning

Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, thorn in pin vice/holder, cotton wool swabs, cocktail stick, IMS.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

Key Features:

- Filigree decoration
- 4 rivet holes (empty)
- Patch of green copper corrosion, likely within the recesses from an adjacent object
- Are of filigree which is worn and smoothed down, possibly a sign of use

Analysis Undertaken:

Samples:

- Soil from front

References: