

K1445 Condition Report

See update at bottom

Conservation Started: 18/2/13

Conservation Finished: 18/2/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 2 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: a) L. 10mm; W. 2mm

b) L. 23mm; W. 10mm; H. 5mm; Th. 1mm; / L. 11mm; H. 5mm; Th. 1mm

c) Joined: L. 27mm; W. 10mm; Th. 1mm

d) ??

e) Largest L. 14mm

f) L. 5mm

g) L. 5mm

h) L. 22mm; H. flange 3mm; Th. 1mm; Wt. 0.34

Weight before: 4.8g

Weight after: 4.8g

Catalogue number: 76

(K1445b silver-gilt hilt-plate renumbered to K1999; K1445c silver fragments renumbered to K2000; K1445d curved fragment renumbered to K2001; K1445e fragments of sheet with gilding renumbered to K2002; K1445f silver-gilt reeded strip renumbered to K2003, catalogue number 613; K1445g die-impressed sheet renumbered to K2004; K1445h cast silver fragments renumbered to K2098)

X-ray: I43

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:

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

Mixed group comprising three larger fragments of silver sheet, one fragment of flanged edging, two fragments of a silver gilt ridged object and several minor silver sheet fragments. The minor fragments are all contained in individual capsules (14 capsules). One long C sectioned silver fragment broke in two during conservation due to its high level of mineralization and one of the capsules therefore contains two fragments.

Associated Objects: The two silver gilt ridged fragments might be part of one of the fluted strips.

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

The three larger fragments of silver sheet are highly discoloured with a black & iridescent tarnish. There are light deposits of soil on the surface. It is to be assumed that the rest of the small fragments are highly mineralised and brittle. Some of them have light deposits of soil on the surface. All are tarnished. All have broken edges.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study

Aim: Partial cleaning

Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, thorn in pin vice/holder, IMS on metals.

The granular soil on the front or 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.

Silver corrosion products were left in situ; corrosion was not active and can be further cleaned or stabilised at a later date.

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:

Two silver fragments from an angle fitting, gilded on one side, have now been renumbered as K2000, L 27mm, W 10mm, T 1mm

Key Features:

- Mixed group of Ag and Ag gilt fragments
- Possible fluted strip fragments
- Possible stamped foil fragment

*UPDATE 15/10/15 – One of the fragments (one of the 3 fragments which were renumbered to K1999) has been joined to the silver 'tray' on the kneeling warrior band with 40% Paraloid B-72 (w/v) in acetone. This fragment has now been renumbered to **K2098** by Chris Fern. Weight of K2098 before joining: 0.82g. Lizzie Miller