K1449 a-b Condition Report

Conservation Started: 12-2-2013 Conservation Finished: 12-2-2013 Conservator: Suzanne van Leeuwen

Time Taken: 3.5 hours, including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: Combined: (L) 18mm; (W) 11mm; (Th.) 1mm

Weight before: a: 2.26 grams; b: 0.75 grams Weight after: a: 2.25 grams; b: 0.74 grams

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:

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Description: Gilded silver-alloy pommel cap, two fragments which can be joined. Both fragments have non zoomorphic interlacing. Cast? (Description SvL)

Associated Objects:

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

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.

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 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: Both fragments are heavily encrusted with green (copper) corrosion and purple/white (silver-chloride) corrosion. The remains of gilding were more visible after cleaning; the silver without gilding has blackened.

The inside of the larger fragment a, was not cleaned for future reference.

Key Features: Gilded, silver-alloy, cast

Analysis Undertaken: X-ray: L44

Samples: One sample was taken, marked:

• K1449-b

References:

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