K1453 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 31/5/13

Conservation Finished: 31/5/13, 18/8/2015

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 2 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 15.5mm, (W) 13.6mm (D) 1.1mm

Total Weight before: 1.30g Total Weight after: 1.30 g Catalogue number: 390

(K1453b gilded silver sheet renumbered to K2006; K1453c silver sheet renumbered to K2007)

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. This object comprises nine fragments of various silver and silver gilt fragments (see images for details). The largest fragment has no apparent gilding and features a partial rivet hole and a series of very small triangular incisions arranged in two curved rows in the proximity of the hole. Two of the plain silver fragment have a green encrustation, resembling copper corrosion, on the underside. The gilded fragments have deposits of a black material on the surface.

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

There is minimal soil coverage. All the fragments are incomplete and are deemed very fragile.

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

Possible 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.

K. Fuller – 18/8/2015

Three fragments were adhered together with 40% w/v Paraloid B72 in Acetone

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings: see pre-conservation reports.

Samples:

None – insufficient soil.