K 1454 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 13/6/13 Conservation Finished: 13/6/13 Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 1 hr

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 5/6.5mm, (W) 3mm, (Th) 2mm

Weight before: 0.12g Weight after: 0.12g Catalogue number: 190

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. Three fragments of highly corroded copper alloy with gilded decoration. The fragments appear to possibly have been part of a border, decorated with a narrow twisted pattern. The gilding appears to be pierced into regular slots, but it is difficult to establish whether this is an intentional decorative feature of the result of damage/wear.

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

Minimal soil deposits, but highly corroded and brittle. One of the three fragments (K14554a) is broken in two and the gilding had become separated).

Treatment: None applied. The very fragile condition of the object, the precarious state of the gilding and the minimal presence of soil informed the decision not to apply any treatments.

Purpose: Study

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.

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

Samples:

None – insufficient soil.