

K 1461 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 21/6/13

Conservation Finished: 21/6/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 0.5 hr

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 10.5mm, (W) 3mm, (Th) 2mm.

Weight: 0.21g

Catalogue number: 190

(K1461b-j silver sheet fragments renumbered to K2014)

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.

Group of small fragments comprising: Silver sheet, a highly corroded fragment of copper alloy with gilded decoration (approximately 2 mm long); a piece of plant material, not strictly associated with the metal fragments; several fragments of a black material – possibly corroded silver ; three pieces of a brown/red material, possibly Fe; small fragments of an unidentified material. All the fragments are sorted by type and enclosed within gel capsules.

The six small fragments of silver sheet have now been renumbered as K2014, Wt 0.04g

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

There is some soil visible on the larger fragments; all appear to be highly fragmentary corroded and brittle,

Treatment: none possible: the copper alloy gilt is very fragile and the gilt is at risk of coming off; most of the fragments are in the form of debris, and an attempt to clean them would have put them at risk of loss.

Purpose: Study

Aim: sorting and recording.

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.