K 1469 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 21/5/13 Conservation Finished: 22/5/13 Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 1 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: L. 11mm; W. 4mm; Th. sheet <0.5mm

Weight before: 0.21g Weight after: 0.17g Catalogue number: 681

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. Fragment of gold sheet with remains of semi-circular strand of beaded wire attached to it. This could possibly be a fragment of hilt plate with part of a stone or boss setting on it.

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

The object t is broken on all sides an the edges appear frayed and torn. The is one short cut and an area of deep abrasion which may have been caused during excavation.

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

The paper K number was adhered to the back with HMG brand Paraloid B72 (ethyl methacrylate copolymer) from the tube, applied with a cocktail stick.

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: An observation of the break edges and the abraded area suggest that the metal underneath the surface might not be as yellow as the on the surface. This could be a sign of surface enrichment and may need to be investigated further.

Key features:

- Remains of beaded wire
- Possible surface enrichment

Samples:

None taken –insufficient soil.