

K1475 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 30/04/2013

Conservation Finished: 30/04/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 1.5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 32mm (W) 7mm (D) 7mm (Th.) 1mm

Weight before: 2.28g

Weight after: 2.26g

Catalogue number: 614

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS digital camera under daylight or bulbs and Keyence VHX-1000 3D digital microscope with LED and/or fibre optic lights, 20-200x magnification. Taken before and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: None

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification

Section of gently curved, undecorated silver gilt strip. The front is convex and gilded and the back is concave and ungilded; the fragment is c-sectioned. One long edge is finished; the remainder are breaks.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

One long edge is finished; the remainder are fresh/recent-looking breaks.

The back is generally clean, with only one small patch of soil. The surface has patchy, dark tarnish (probably from burial) and several specks of bumpy, purple corrosion product (likely silver chloride). The surface has some old-looking scratches and dents.

The front is soil-free with heavy multicolour tarnish (post-excavation?) and there is a patch of iron corrosion on the surface. The surface has general surface abrasion.

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/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.

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 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:

The condition of the object is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil.

Key Features:

- Fragment of gently curved, c-sectioned, undecorated silver gilt strip
- Patch of iron corrosion on front

Samples:

1. soil