

K1485 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 10/05/2013

Conservation Finished: 10/05/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 1 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 9mm (W) 3.5mm (D) 2mm (Th.) 1mm

Weight before: 0.18g

Weight after: 0.17g

Catalogue number: 681

Digital photography:

Taken with a 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

Small, flat, rectangular fragment of gold with seven twisted filigree wires in a dense herringbone configuration running lengthwise across the front. The back is plain with two soldered seams. The long edges are finished and the short edges are breaks.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

The object is a fragment with two long, finished edges and two short, old-looking break edges.

The front has moderate surface discolouration (probably from burial) and a small amount of soil, mainly between the twisted wires. The wires are flattened at one of the short edges. At the other short edge one of the wires is bent and points upward.

The back is plain gold with moderate surface discolouration (probably from burial) and several distinct, recent-looking scratches.

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.

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 the removal of a small amount of soil from the front.

Key Features:

- Small, flat, rectangular section of gold with dense twisted filigree (7 wires in herringbone pattern) on front
- Two soldered seams on back

Samples:

None