

K149 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 24/1/'13

Conservation Finished: 24/1/'13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 2 hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) including rivet 26 mm (L) rivet 16.5mm (W) 6mm (Diam) shank 3mm

Weight before: 2.22g

Weight after: 2.01g

Catalogue number: 77

Digital photography:

Taken with a Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera, under daylight or bulbs and Meiji Techno RZ Stereo microscope with an Infinity 1 camera (with analyses capture software) and fibre optic lights, 7-75x magnification. Taken before, during and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: 27/7/09 (unstrat)

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification. Formed by a pin shaft and a partial curved head or terminal. This object has been described as the possible bar of a buckle loop. Silver with gilt detail and cast or shallow incised interlace decoration. There are visible remains of gilding on the decoration and shaft. There are remains of recesses on each of the head's sides, suggesting this was a setting for something inserted into it. There are traces of highly corroded copper inside the head. Bunches of a white, non-identified, fibrous material are attached to the shaft and mixed with the soil. Some of these fibres have been sampled in a glass tube.

Associated Objects:

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

Fragment, with a partial end or terminal. The pin tip is also broken. The silver is black with oxidation and the gilding is worn. The deposits of highly corroded copper may eventually disintegrate. There are traces of copper corrosion on the shaft and head too.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study

Aim: Partial cleaning

Materials: Soft natural/synthetic brushes, thorn in pin vice/holder, IMS on metals, scalpel blade.

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 scalpel blade. IMS 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:

see pre-conservation condition

Key Features:

- Possible buckle loop bar
- Silver with interlace incised or cast decoration
- Gilded

Analysis Undertaken:

XRF analysis of the object was performed. See document 'XXXX XRF Report'.

Samples:

1. Soil from all sides- mixed with plant material, unknown fibres & copper corrosion
2. Unknown fibres from shaft
3. corroded copper alloy fragment from inner side.

References: