K1505 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 16/7/13
Conservation Finished: 16/7/13
Conservator: Deborah Magnoler
Time Taken: 2.5 hr
Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: a) L. 17mm; W. 16.5mm; Th. <0.5mm; Diam. hole 2mm
b) L. 22mm; W. 19mm; Th. <0.5mm; Diam. hole 1.5mm
c) L. 24mm; W. 10mm; Th. <0.5mm
d) L. 21mm; W. 5mm; Th. <0.5mm
e–h) L. <6mm; Th. <0.5mm
Weight before: 2.55g
Weight after: 2 g

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.
K1055 is a group of object comprising: Three large fragments of thin silver gilt sheet, one of which is very fragile and kept in a glass vial. The largest of the three features a central fastening hole.
One piece of square, flat silver gilt sheet that appears different from the rest, with one fastening hole.
One capsule containing very small, corroded fragments, shed by the largest sheet.
Two capsules with small, plain silver gilt fragments.

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

Virtually clean, with some soil deposits in the crevices and folds, with the exception of the flat square fragment, all others are severely folded and very fragile. There may be hairline cracks developing along the folds. All fragments are affected by a black form of discolouration and a voluminous grey, waxy type of corrosion product, especially around the edges.

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.

Possible corrosion products were left in situ; corrosion was not active and can be further cleaned or stabilised at a later date.

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.

Key feature:

- Four large fragments of silver gilt sheet, two with fastening holes
- 3 capsules with small silver gilt fragments

Samples:
None – insufficient soil.