

K150 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 20.10.2014

Conservation Finished: 20.10.2014

Conservator: Rachel Altpeter

Time Taken: 2.5hrs

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 23mm (W) 13mm (H) 13.5mm (Th) 1mm

Weight before:

Weight after: 2.56g

X-ray plate: L34

Catalogue number: 70

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS 1100D digital camera under fibre optic lights. Taken before and after.

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

Fragment of a silver alloy cast pommel cap with a relief decoration on the front and back (style II) and the beginning of a geometric decoration on the shoulders.

Associated Objects:

Similar to K825 but not part of the same object.

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

Covered with a thin layer of dark brown sandy soil and fine light coloured soil particularly in the recessed areas. Break edges are historic as they have the same surface appearance as the overall object.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

The granular and fine soil on all surfaces of the object, particularly recessed areas of the decoration and break edges, was mechanically removed using a fine natural thorn tip secured in a pin vice. IMS was used to soften the soil. Loose particles of soil were then removed with a small swab of IMS.

Purpose: Study

Aim: Total cleaning, enabling possible rejoining with associated fragments

Materials: Soft synthetic brush, natural thorn in pin vice, IMS, cotton wool swabs

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

The decoration is very clear but slightly worn on the top of the pommel cap.

There is a small amount of green irregular corrosion visible on the inside as well as patches of a thin layer of closely adhering dark brown corrosion over all of the object. The silver surface is nearly everywhere tarnished to a dark grey.

Key Features:

- Cast silver
- Style II decoration
- Pommel cap

Samples:

1. removed soil retained in sample bag in object box