

K1535 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 07/02/13

Conservation Finished: 08/02/13

Conservator: Natalie Harding

Time Taken: 1hour 15minutes

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: Outer circumference: (L) 10mm (W) 10mm, Inner circumference: (L) 3mm x (W) 3mm.

Weight before: 0.23grams

Weight after: 0.21grams

Catalogue number: 661

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: 'washer'

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification
Sheet gold 'washer', compressed and distorted with partial beaded wire edging. Approximate 75% light soil coverage.

Associated Objects: n/a

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

Damaged, compressed but maintains its shape and seems stable. Soil covering approximate 75%. Appears like iron corrosion staining in areas. Approximately half of the beaded wire edging is missing.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study / Analysis

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.

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:

Soil was removed as much as possible, but was left in places where it has become engrained into the iron corrosion product / staining. Iron corrosion staining in areas. The pierced hole has torn the gold in areas and these areas are weak and may be bent and could possibly break off if handled incorrectly. Try to avoid handling the centre of the piece where the hole is.

Key Features:

- Gold sheet washer.
- Pierced hole in centre.
- Beaded wire edging.

Analysis Undertaken: n/a

Samples: Not enough soil available to obtain a large enough sample.

References: n/a