

K1539 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 24/5/13

Conservation Finished: 28/5/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 2 hr

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 15mm (W) 5mm (Th.) 1mm

Weight before: 0.68g

Weight after: 0.68g

Catalogue number: 681

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.

Semicircular gold fitting with strands of beaded and plain twisted wire arranged in herring-bone pattern. The back is plain.

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

Partly covered in soil. One end is clearly cut (see photomicrographs) while the other is torn. There is damage in the central area which has disrupted the wire and pierced through the backing plate. The back is slightly uneven and has a patch of dark/iridescent discolouration.

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 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: see pre-conservation condition

Key features:

- Semi-circular fitting
- Multiple wires

Samples:

None taken – insufficient soil.