

K1558 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 10/05/2013

Conservation Finished: 10/05/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 1.5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 20mm (W) 5.5mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: 0.65g

Weight after: 0.63g

Catalogue number: 435

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS digital camera under daylight or bulbs and Keyence VHX-1000 3D digital microscope with LED and/or fibre optic lights, 20-200x magnification. Taken before and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: None

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

Small, flat, rectangular gold panel with two round fastening holes near the short ends and beaded filigree, twisted filigree and rosette (i.e., granules surrounded by a beaded wire) decoration on the front.

The decorative scheme is as follows (outer edge to centre):

One thicker beaded wire

Two twisted wires

One thinner beaded wire

And in the centre: one fastening hole surrounded by beaded wire; eight rosettes; one fastening hole surrounded by beaded wire

Associated Objects: TBC

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

The panel is slightly bent but generally flat.

Unremarkable soil covers ~30% of the front, which is moderately to heavily tarnished (probably from burial). There is wear to some of the filigree and especially the granules in the centre. One of the twisted wires is broken and bent out of place. It is secure and does not flex when touched.

The back is plain gold and features patchy discolouration (probably from burial). There is a raised lip of metal around each of the round, empty fastening holes, suggesting that they were punched through from the front.

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/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.

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:

The condition of the object is the same as pre-conservation except for the removal of the small amount of soil in the front. Both fastening holes can now be seen. The surface discolouration was lessened slightly with swabs of IMS.

Key Features:

- Small, flat, rectangular fitting/panel with two round fastening holes
- Beaded filigree, twisted filigree and rosettes on the front
- Plain back

Samples:

None