

## K1579 Condition Report

**Conservation Started:** 16/01/2013

**Conservation Finished:** 16/01/2013

**Conservator:** Cymbeline Storey

**Time Taken:** 2 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

**Dimensions:** (L) 13mm (W) 10mm (Th) 1mm

**Weight before:** 1.06gg

**Weight after:** 1.04g

**Catalogue number:** 484

### **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:** None

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

Gold fitting in the shape of a duck's bill with beaded filigree decoration. There are two beaded filigree wires (one thick, one thin) around the perimeter. In the centre there is an interlace design formed of a thick beaded filigree wire flanked on either side with a thinner beaded filigree wire. There is also one round fastening hole.

**Associated Objects:** TBC

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

The fastening hole is round and empty apart from soil. There is a raised lip of metal surrounding the hole on the back of the object, suggesting that it was punched from the front.

There is soil in recessed areas of the front and ~60% of the back of the object. It has no remarkable features or inclusions.

There is moderate, patchy tarnish on both sides.

**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 filigree is in good condition and secure. The flat gold base around the filigree is fractured and has an uneven appearance. It is moderately tarnished to a grey colour.

Some of the high points of the thick beaded wire border are worn down.

The object is structurally sound. The metal has minor abrasions.

**Key Features:**

- Small, duck bill-shaped fitting with beaded filigree interlace design on front
- One empty, round fastening hole

**Samples:**

1. soil