K1584 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 27/6/13 Conservation Finished: 4/7/13 Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 1.5hr

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 7.5 mm (W) 7 mm (H) boss 3mm

Weight before: 0.42 g Weight after: 0.40g

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.

X-ray: L95, L100

Associated objects: K1569 has similar fibrous material

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

A silver gilt domed object with the remains of a decorated edge attached to it – possibly of beaded wire. It is possibly a boss or nail head but this object looks quite different form all such objects encountered so far. There are remains of a yet unidentified fibrous, white material around the outside edge and inside the dome. This object also comprises a small metal fragment, apparently unrelated.

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

Some soil and fine silt are present on the surface. The gilded side has suffered some abrasion and dark discolouration, but the gilding is till visible. The underside is affected by silver corrosion. There is a small irregularity in the centre of the inside, possibly the remains of a nail shaft attachment.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study

Aim: reduction of grainy soil.

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

Some of granular soil on the front was reduced where possible using a fine thorn tip secured in a pin vice . No other treatment was applied in order not to damage the fibres and hinder analytical potential.

Possible corrosion products were left in situ; corrosion was not active and can be further cleaned or stabilised at a later date.

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 reports.

Key feature:

- Dome-shaped object with remains of decorated surround
- White unidentified fibres on the inside and outside.

Samples:

1. small silver fragment – possibly not associated.