

K1594 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 04/06/2013

Conservation Finished: 10/06/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Fragment A:

Dimensions: (L) 31mm (W) 18mm (D) 3mm

Weight before: 2.96g

Weight after: 2.96g

Catalogue number: 607

Fragment B:

Dimensions: (L) 15mm (W) 9mm (D) 2mm

Weight before: 0.57g

Weight after: 0.57g

Catalogue number: 607

Fragment C:

Dimensions: (L) 33mm (W) 24mm (D) 2mm

Weight before: 2.47g

Weight after: 2.46g

Catalogue number: 607

Fragment D:

Dimensions: (L) 19mm (W) 12mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: 1.00g

Weight after: 1.00g

Catalogue number: 608

Fragment E:

Dimensions: (L) 12mm (W) 4mm (D) 2mm

Weight before: 0.25g

Weight after: 0.25g

Digital photography:

Taken with a Canon EOS 1100D digital camera under daylight or bulbs and/or a 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

Fragment A: Flat, five-sided silver gilt sheet fragment with one finished edge. Joins with fragment B.

Fragment B: Roughly triangular, flat silver gilt sheet fragment. Joins with fragment A.

Fragment C: Flat, six-sided fragment of silver gilt sheet.

Fragment D: Flat fragment of silver gilt sheet with two finished edges.

Fragment E: Three-sided, curved, slightly convex fragment of silver gilt with one finished edge.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

Fragment A: The fragment has one finished edge; the remainder are breaks (some possibly recent). One of the old-looking break edges is bent upward. The front is gilded and has general surface abrasions (some of which look recent), patchy dark discolouration (probably from burial) and one deep, old-looking cut mark. The back has widespread patchy tarnish (probably from burial) and some purple specks of corrosion (probably silver chloride). The back surface has many fine cracks and some surface delamination. It is stable but should be handled with care. Joins with fragment B.

Fragment B: All edges are breaks (some possibly recent). One of the break edges is curved downward slightly. The front is gilded and has general surface abrasions (some of which look recent) and patchy dark discolouration (probably from burial). The back is ungilded and has patchy dark tarnish (probably from burial).

Fragment C: All edges are breaks (some possibly recent). One edge is bent downward slightly. The front is gilded and has general surface abrasions (some of which look recent) and patchy dark to orange discolouration (probably from burial). The back surface has patchy dark tarnish (probably from burial) and many fine cracks and some surface delamination. It is stable but should be handled with care.

Fragment D: The fragment has nine edges, two of which are finished. There is a dent adjacent to the finished edges similar to that seen on K611b. The front is gilded and has general surface abrasions (some of which look recent) and some old-looking scratches. The back surface has patchy dark tarnish (probably from burial) and surface abrasions, some of which look recent.

Fragment E: This fragment is different from the others, with a slightly convex, curved front surface that is gilded with patchy dark tarnish (probably from burial) and general surface abrasion. The back is slightly concave with heavy tarnish (probably from burial) and a little soil. The break edges might be recent.

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.

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 objects.

7/1/2016 – Susan Hull

The following were joined with 40% w/v Paraloid B72 in Acetone:

1594 A with 1594 B. A further breakage occurred on 1594 A during this process and was re-attached.

1594 D with 1626 A.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

The condition of the fragments is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil.

Key Features:

- Five fragments of silver gilt sheet
- Fragments A & B join
- Fragment D is different from the others – curved and slightly convex

Samples:

None