

K1595 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 20/02/13

Conservation Finished: 20/02/13

Conservator: Natalie Harding

Time Taken: 2hours 30 minutes

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Catalogue number: 657

After C. fern renumbering, this group was renumbered as follows:

K1595 E is now K1595

K1595 A is now K2044, catalogue number 658

K1595 D I is now K2045, catalogue number 673

K1595 B & C are now K2046, catalogue number 675

Dimensions:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| A. (L) 3.5mm (Head W) 2mm Weight before: 0.03grams | No change to weights after |
| B. (L) 3mm (Head W) 2mm Weight before: 0.04grams | " |
| C. (L) 7mm (Head W) 2mm Weight before: 0.09grams | " |
| D. (L) 11mm (Head W) 2mm Weight before: 0.14grams | " |
| E. (L) 13mm (Head W) 2mm Weight before: 0.38grams | " |

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.

X-ray: L45

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: n/a

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification
Rivets in five individual gelatine capsules. Small to large = A – E.

- A.** Gold rivet with faceted shaft, wide at the top narrower at the base. Distorted circular, flattened head.
- B.** Possible silver alloy rivet with broken off shaft – only 1.5mm length of the shaft remains. Circular domed rivet head.
- C.** Silver alloy rivet with faceted shaft ending in a point. Bent about half way down the shaft, unsure if this is intentional or if this is damage. Circular domed head.
- D.** Silver alloy rivet with circular domed head. Slightly faceted rivet shaft.
- E.** Silver alloy or gold (possibly low carat gold) rivet. Square shaft with faceted sides. Flattened head.

Associated Objects: K1595 A, B, C, D, E.

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

- A. Underside of rivet head covered in soil. Silver black tarnish on surface. The underside of the rivet head appears to have been compressed.
- B. Covered in soil, nodular silver corrosion and possibly gilding on the top of the rivet head.
- C. Surface covered in black silver tarnish. Possibly gilding on the top of the rivet head.
- D. Shaft bent at a right angle approximately 3mm down. Appears to be gilded on the rivet head. The centre of the gilding has worn away in a circular pattern. Silver corrosion nodules and black silver tarnish on surfaces.
- E. Soil mostly on underside of rivet head, surfaces mostly covered in black silver tarnish.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study / Analysis

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.

The soil covering the rivets was mechanically removed or reduced where possible using a fine thorn tip secured in a pin vice and a small pure bristle brush. IMS:Water, 50:50 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.

As these pieces are so small, the paper K number was not adhered to the individual rivets.

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:

Pieces A through to E required limited intervention. Excess soil was removed where possible.

All pieces have a covering of black silver tarnish. Rivets B and D are covered in the nodular silver corrosion product.

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
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| C. (L) 7mm (Head W) 2mm | Weight before: 0.09grams | “ |
| D. (L) 11mm (Head W) 2mm | Weight before: 0.14grams | “ |

E. (L) 13mm (Head W) 2mm **Weight before:** 0.38grams “

Key Features:

- Rivets with faceted shafts.
- Rounded rivet heads.
- Flattened rivet heads which appear to have been hammered.

Analysis Undertaken: n/a

Samples:

Not enough soil to obtain a significant sample size.

References: n/a