

K1626 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) 27mm (W) 18mm (D) 2mm

Weight before: 1.56g

Weight after: 1.56g

Catalogue number: 608

Fragment B:

Dimensions: (L) 15mm (W) 13mm (D) 4.5mm

Weight before: 0.72g

Weight after: 0.72g

Fragment C:

Dimensions: (L) 13.5mm (W) 10mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: 0.23g

Weight after: 0.23g

Fragment D:

Dimensions: (L) 17.5mm (W) 13mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: 0.39g

Weight after: 0.39g

Fragment E:

Dimensions: (L) 18mm (W) 9mm (D) 2mm

Weight before: 0.30g

Weight after: 0.30g

Fragment F:

Dimensions: (L) 4mm (W) 2.5mm (D) 1mm

Weight before: not weighed due to size

Weight after: not weighed due to size

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 fragment of silver gilt sheet with one round, empty fastening hole. One finished edge. The front is gilded and the back is ungilded.

Fragment B: Fragment of silver gilt sheet with one round fastening hole containing a pin with a flat head and hammered shaft. There is a washer ring between the head of the pin and the body of the fragment. The front is gilded and the back is ungilded.

Fragment C: Flat fragment of silver gilt sheet; one edge possibly finished. The front is gilded and the back is ungilded.

Fragment D: Flat fragment of silver gilt sheet; all edges breaks. The front is gilded and the back is ungilded.

Fragment E: Fragment of convex silver gilt; all edges breaks. The front is gilded and the back is ungilded.

Fragment F: Tiny triangular fragment of silver gilt sheet; all edges breaks. The front is gilded and the back is ungilded.

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 break edge is bent downward slightly. 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. There is one round, empty fastening hole. The back has patchy tarnish (probably from burial) and surface abrasion. There is a little soil. There is a lip of metal around the fastening hole, suggesting that it was punched through from the front.

Fragment B: All but one of the edges are old-looking breaks. The fragment is bent. The front is gilded and has widespread surface abrasions, some distinct, old-looking scratches, patchy dark discolouration (probably from burial) and some green corrosion product. The back is ungilded and has dark tarnish (probably from burial) and a few specks of purple corrosion product (likely silver chloride). There is a pin in the fastening hole with an irregular, flat head and a hammered, broken shaft (ungilded). There is a silver washer between the pin and the body of the fragment.

Fragment C: One edge is possibly finished; the rest are breaks (possibly recent). The front is gilded and has general surface abrasion and patchy multicolour tarnish (possibly post-excavation). There is one round, empty fastening hole through the body of the fragment. The back surface has widespread dark tarnish (probably from burial) and a little soil. There is a lip of metal around the fastening hole, suggesting that it was punched through from the front. Both sides have specks of purple corrosion product (likely silver chloride).

Fragment D: All edges are breaks (possibly recent). The front is gilded and has general surface abrasions (some of which look recent) and patchy dark to multicolour tarnish (probably from burial). An area of gilding is missing, revealing a light grey silver surface. The back surface has widespread dark tarnish (probably from burial) and surface abrasions as well as a small patch of unremarkable soil.

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.

Fragment F: Tiny triangular fragment. The front is gilded (some gilding missing). The back is ungilded with moderate tarnish (probably from burial).

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:

Joined 1626 A with 1594 D.

Joined 1626 D with 1626 E.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

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

Fragment F was not treated so there are only pre-conservation photographs.

Key Features:

- Six fragments of silver gilt sheet
- Three fragments have a round fastening hole (one with pin in situ, two empty)

Samples:

None