

K1640 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 18/7/13

Conservation Finished: 19/7/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 1.5hr

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 10 mm (W) 5 mm (T) 1.5 mm

Weight before: 0.25 g

Weight after: 0.21g

Catalogue number: 76

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: L126

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

Fragment of a surface with cast and gilded decoration. This is a fragment of a larger body (TBC), and features a curved decorative feature with channels or grooves at each side. The object features the remains of possibly a square perforation or slot at one end.

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

There is a minimal amount of soil on the surface. Part of the gilding is dulled by a dark form of discolouration. The back is also affected by a black discolouration, but part of the metallic silver surface is visible.

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 and 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.

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:

- Silver gilt, fragment of decorated surface with curved lines and grooves
- Possibly square hole/slot.

Samples:

None – insufficient soil.