

K1660 Condition Report

FRAGILE

Conservation Started: 14/06/2013

Conservation Finished: 14/06/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 0.75 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Fragment A:

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

Weight before: 0.14g

Weight after: 0.14g

Catalogue number: 190

Fragment B not measured/weighed due to size.

(K1660b copper-alloy fragment renumbered to K2054, catalogue number 691)

Digital photography:

Taken with 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: Roughly rectangular, gently curved fragment of copper alloy, gilded and with ribbed decoration on the front. The back is ungilded. The ribbed decoration on the front is formed of two rows of raised ribs separated by a raised ridge.

Fragment B (now renumbered as K2054, Wt. <0.01): Small piece of corroded copper alloy, possibly a nail head.

Associated Objects: K1607, K1618, K1659, K1696 and possibly others (TBC)

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

The copper alloy is very corroded. The gilding has some holes in it and patches of green corrosion product. There is a little soil on both sides. There is what appears to be a fragment of gilding embedded in the corroded copper alloy on the back.

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, cotton wool swabs

Fragment A: 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.

Fragment B was not treated.

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:

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

Fragment B did not undergo any conservation treatment, so there are only 'before' conservation photos of this object.

Key Features:

- Gently curved fragment of gilded copper alloy
- Ribbed decoration on front
- Small piece of corroded copper alloy

Samples:

None