

K1671 Condition Report

FRAGILE

Conservation Started: 01/07/2013

Conservation Finished: 01/07/2013

Conservator: Cymbeline Storey

Time Taken: 0.75 hour

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 8.5mm (W) 5.5mm (D) 3mm (Th) 1mm

Weight before: 0.20g

Weight after: 0.19g

Catalogue number: 681

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.

X-ray: L100

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: None

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

Gold fragment with beaded filigree decoration on the front; all edges are breaks. The filigree decoration is an interlace formed of a thicker beaded wire flanked on either side by thinner beaded wires.

Associated Objects: TBC

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

The object is a fragment; all edges are old-looking breaks. It is bent and some of the filigree wires have detached from the surface. They appear to be secure but flex slightly while touched. There is a light layer of unremarkable soil on both sides, particularly around the beaded filigree wires. Part of the large beaded wire is missing.

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

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.

A storage box padded with white polyethylene foam was made for housing the object.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

The condition of the object is the same as pre-conservation apart from removal of a small amount of soil. The entire surface can now be seen; it has light to moderate tarnish (probably from burial) and some surface abrasion. **With lifting filigree wires; handle with care.**

One small fragment of thinner beaded wire was found in the soil at the point of the bend. It was retained in sample vial 1.

Key Features:

- Gold fragment with beaded filigree interlace decoration

Samples:

1. fragment of thin beaded wire found in soil at point of bend