

K1687 Condition Report

***Now joined to K1380 (25.01.2016)**

Conservation Started: 22.01.2016

Conservation Finished: 22.01.2016

Conservator: Lizzie Miller

Time Taken: 3 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 16mm (W) 9mm (Th) sheet <0.5mm wire <1mm

Total dimensions after being joined to K1380: L. 226.mm; W. 10.2mm; D. 7.8mm; Th. 0.6mm

Weight of K1687 after cleaning: 0.75g

Weight of K1687 + K1380 after joining: 1.48g

Catalogue number: 441

Associated objects: Joined to K1380.

Set: pair with mount 442, probably a suite with 439 and 440 (Ref. Chris Fern)

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.

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

ONE HALF OF A MOUNT IN GOLD OF RECTANGULAR FORM WITH FILIGREE DECORATION. Possibly a guard-tip fitting. Made of sheet metal, with a fixing-hole in each corner.

Filigree: the rectangular form was originally divided into four panels by a cross formed from triple-strand pattern (with a central beaded wire, flanked by two-ply twisted wires); the panels are filled mainly by C-scrolls of fine beaded wire, and the same wire type forms collars to the fixing-holes; herringbone banding (of two-ply twisted wires) frames the mount's inner, long edges, with beaded wire outermost.

Reverse: plain. *Wear/marks:* heavy wear at the middle.

W. **8/16mm**; H. 10mm; Th. edge 0.5mm; Wt. 1.46g; X-ray: L80, L90

A short, narrow gold strip with a double herring-bone pattern on the border of each long side. The object is divided in two fields by a central line of filigree wire, flanked by twisted plain wire. Each of the horizontal fields is decorated with fine filigree scrolls next to each other. The strip has one surviving pin in a hole at one end. There is evidence of another, torn, empty hole. The pin is short and pointy, with a low domed head and appears to be silver gilt.

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

Partly covered and filled with soil. The gold surface is dulled by patches of dark enrichment/oxidation. The strip is folded onto itself. See post-conservation report for more detail.

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, cocktail stick.

The granular soil on all sides was mechanically removed or reduced where possible using a fine thorn tip secured in a pin vice and a small pure bristle brush. IMS 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 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.

Joined to K1380 with 35% Paraloid B-72 (w/v) in acetone applied with a fine paintbrush. Polyester webbing attached with 20% Paraloid B-72 (w/v) in acetone to the reverse of the join as backing support. New weight: 1.48g.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

One of the short ends finishes in a straight line of filigree, so it appears complete even though the backing plate here appears neatly torn. The other end is torn. On the torn end there are two rivet holes, one of them is complete and still includes a round headed, pointed nail, the other is torn open and empty. One of the nails is still in situ.

Key Features:

- Small strip with filigrees scrolls and herring-bone wire
- Two rivet holes
- One small nail still in situ

Samples:

1. soil from all sides.