

K1717 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 18/7/13

Conservation Finished: 18/7/13

Conservator: Deborah Magnoler

Time Taken: 1.5hr

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions K1717a: (L) 11mm (W) 7mm (Th) 1mm

K1717b: (L) <5.5mm (Th) 0.25mm

K1717c: (L) <3.5mm

Weight before: 0.37g

Weight after: 0.37g

(K1717b three silver sheet fragments renumbered to K2067; K1717c four copper-alloy pieces renumbered to K2068, catalogue number 691)

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.

This object is formed of several fragments comprising: a larger flat silver fragment with traces of gilding. Two fragments of thin silver (possibly gilt) foil (now renumbered as K2067, Wt. 0.06g), four fragments of what appears green, highly corroded copper (now K2068, Wt. 0.03g)

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

Lightly covered in silt. Highly fragmentary and corroded. The largest silver piece has retained some of its metallic silver colour, while the two foil fragments are darkened by discolouration.

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:

- One silver fragment with traces of gilt
- Two Ag/Ag gilt foil fragments
- Four CuA ? Fragments, corroded.

Samples:

None – insufficient soil.