

K1720 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 25/01/13

Conservation Finished: 28/01/13

Conservator: Natalie Harding

Time Taken: 2hours 40minutes

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (L) 8mm (W) 7mm (D) 1.5mm (Th) 2mm

Weight before: 0.43g

Weight after: 0.42g

Catalogue number: 688

Digital photography:

Taken with a Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera, under daylight or bulbs and Meiji Techno RZ Stereo microscope with an Infinity 1 camera (with analyses capture software) and fibre optic lights, 7-75x magnification. Taken before, during and after.

Annotation on any of the storage bags or boxes: n/a

Description: Visual and microscopic examination using Meiji stereo microscope 7-75x magnification
Triangular shaped fragment, possibly silver. Three torn edges. Possibly a corner piece as this piece has a pointed corner with straight side. Appears plain, no designs or patterns. Minimal soil covering.

Associated Objects: n/a

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

Seems stable. Soil obscures most of the surface. Black patina covers surface, possibly silver tarnish. Granular looking corrosion product, possibly silver corrosion.

Treatment: Carried out using a Meiji stereo microscope

Purpose: Study / Analysis

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.

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.

Post-Conservation Condition/Findings:

Black patina covers all surfaces. The smooth surface of the corner has many linear scratch marks. On the largest flat side there is an area that sticks out from the piece which appears to have a scored line or groove cut out. Perhaps this may have been part of a design?

Key Features:

- Corner piece which has been torn.
- Black patina / silver tarnish.

Analysis Undertaken: n/a

Samples: insufficient amount of soil removed to obtain a sample

References: n/a