

K17 Condition Report

Conservation Started: 08/01/2013

Conservation Finished: 08/01/2013

Conservator: Natalie Harding

Time Taken: 5 hours

Including digital photography, report, conservation and packing.

Dimensions: (W) distorted 18mm; (H) 19mm; (Th) 1mm; (Th) sheet <0.5mm

Dimensions with K1052: (L) 28mm; (H) 19mm; (Th. edge) 1mm; (Th. sheet) <0.5mm

Weight before: 5.51grams

Weight after: 4.07grams

Weight with K1052: 7.77g

X-ray: L36, L52

Catalogue number: 93

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: K17;  196 ; 31/07/09

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

Folded gold sheet panel with interlaced beading filigree. Three rows of filigree beading, one larger in the center. Two rows of herringbone boarder edging. One row of larger beading edging

Gold, half fragment of a sheet-metal hilt-collar fitting with filigree decoration; torn at both edges, and folded in half. The surviving panel (probably one of two originally) has triple-strand interlace that is probably non-zoomorphic [but can't be sure as mud obscures, and x-ray is superimposed], with bands of herringbone filigree above and below, and beaded edging. (C. Fern notes). Repoussed 'cells' in between the filigree decoration. X-ray: L36

Associated Objects: K1052

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

Gold panel folded, bent and distorted. End edges of the panel appear to be torn and the torn edges have been folded over, in on themselves. One wire of the beaded edging is protruding from the object and is emerging from the soil. It appears this wire is 'peeling' off from the panel edge, but it still remains attached. It appears that two wires from the filigree decoration in the centre fold of the panel have peeled off the piece and are sticking out from the object and protruding from the soil.

Soil covers exterior surfaces, obscuring detail and type of decoration. Soil fills the entire cavity of the fold.

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, back and interior of the fold 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.

No corrosion products found.

The paper K number was adhered to the inside 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:

Damage to three of the repoussed cells where the cells have been punctured and there are small holes in the bottom of the cells.

The beaded wires that have peeled away from the panel are still securely attached to the panel.

At the points where the beading has peeled away from the panel, the indentation of the beading can be seen in the underlying gold sheet.

Also where the beading edges have been pulled away from the panel and where the beading has been damaged and lost, horizontal score marks can be identified. This may be where the gold sheet was scored prior to soldering the beading decoration to create a 'key' or grip for the metal join.

Two incised line marks parallel to one another found on the interior surface, at the larger opening of the folded side. Perhaps manufacture marks?

Key Features:

- Horizontal score marks beneath the beading decoration.
- Three strand beading filigree with larger beading in the centre, two smaller beadings on the outer.
- Repousse decoration on the external surfaces in between the filigree to create depth. This repousse can be seen on the internal surface.
- Two parallel incised line marks on interior surface.

Analysis Undertaken:

n/a

Samples:

1. Soil exterior
2. Soil interior
3. Organic material, possibly plant origin, roots? found on the interior. **DISPOSED**

References:

n/a