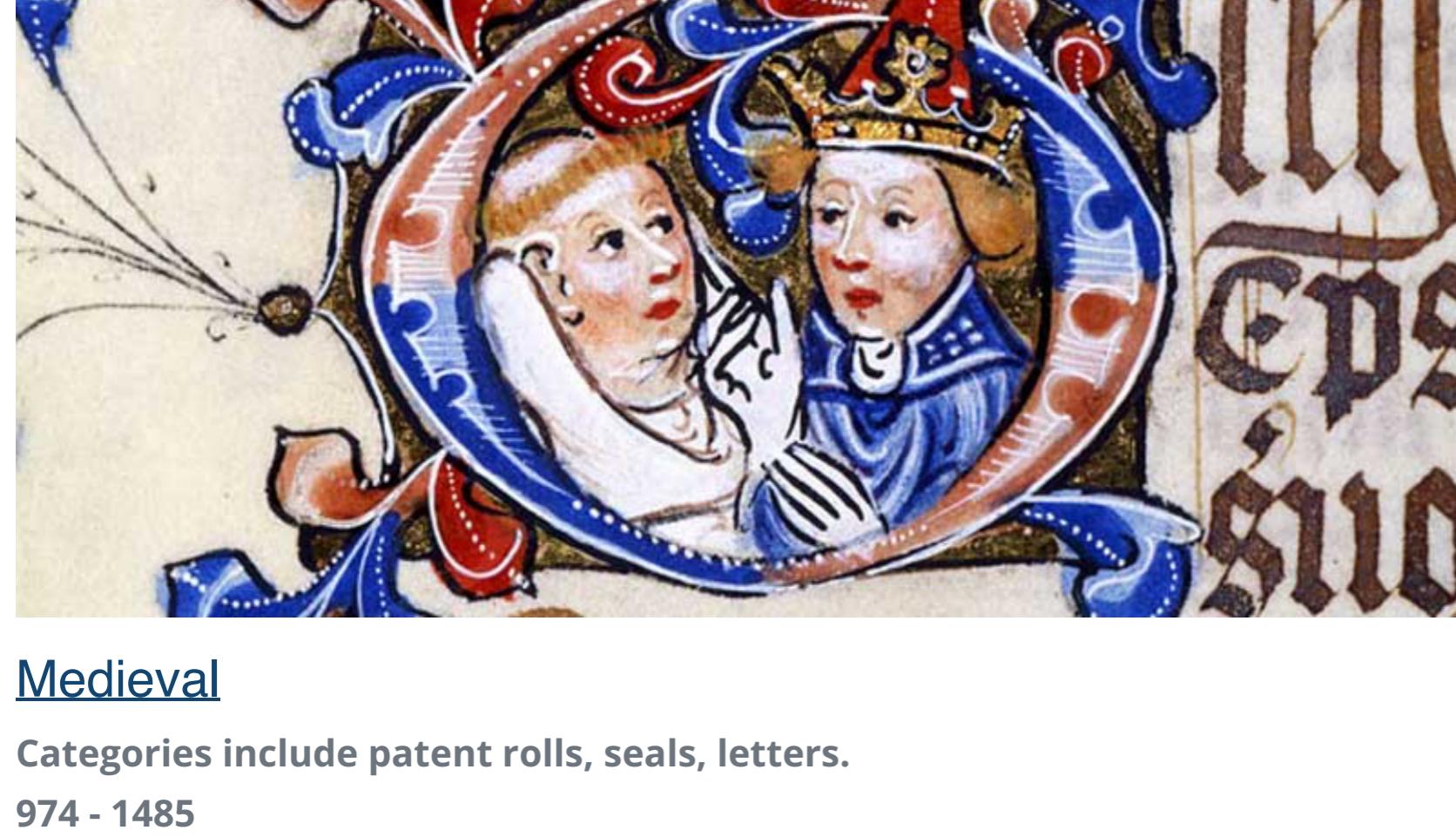


Explore the digitised collection through time

We hold 24,218,562 items in our archive, consisting of written documents like letters and diaries, as well as objects like weapons, textiles and maps.

These 24,218,562 items document periods of UK history like wars, revolutions, landmark rulings and life stories of iconic figures like Shakespeare, Queen Victoria and Gandhi.

8,998,554 of these items are digitised, which means they are available to view online and download.



Medieval

Categories include patent rolls, seals, letters.

974 - 1485

48,662 digitised records available

Collection highlights include:

- Great Domesday
- Magna Carta
- Caxton's printed indulgence



Early Modern

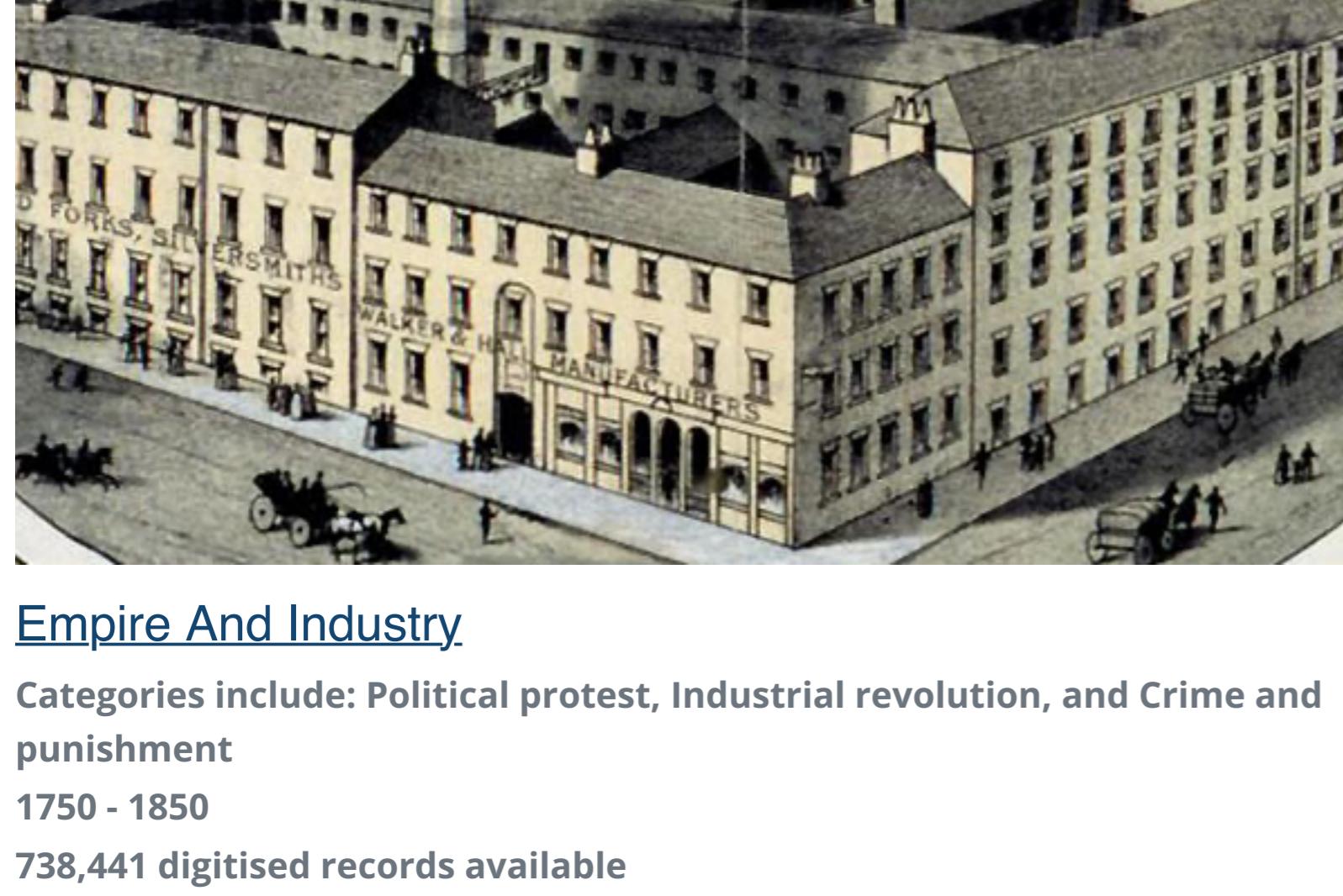
Categories include: newspapers, wills, diaries.

1485 - 1750

419,831 digitised records available

Collection highlights:

- Uncover the Gunpowder Plot
- See how the newspapers of the time reported the Great Fire of London
- Delve into Nell Gwynn's papers
- Proofread Henry VIII's will.



Empire And Industry

Categories include: Political protest, Industrial revolution, and Crime and punishment

1750 - 1850

738,441 digitised records available

Collection highlights:

- Early railway transport
- the Great Exhibition 1851
- Battle of Waterloo



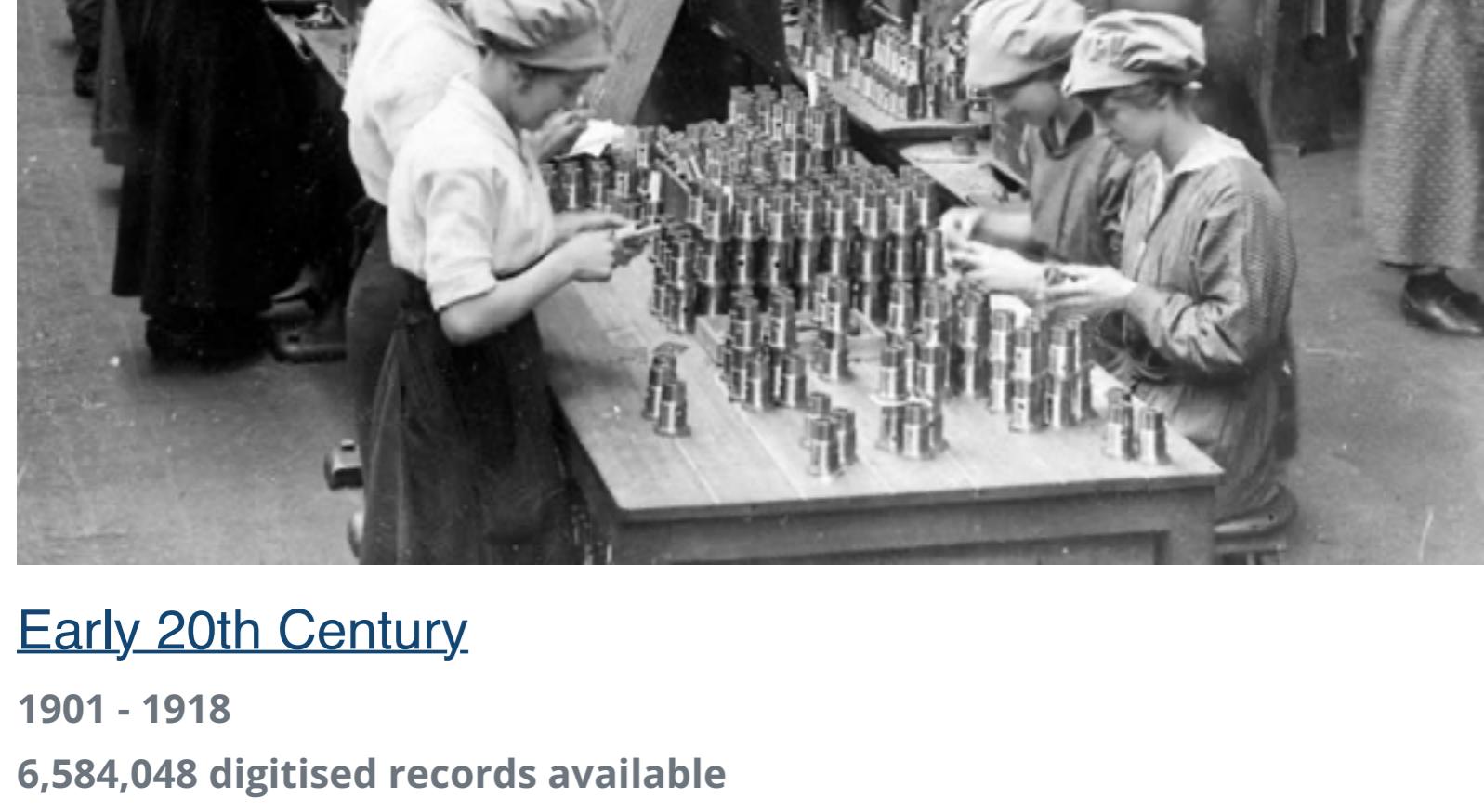
Victorians

1850 - 1901

572,807 digitised records available

Collection highlights:

- Peruse Jack the Ripper's handwriting up close
- See photographs of British prisoner
- View the refused naturalisation certificate of Karl Marx.



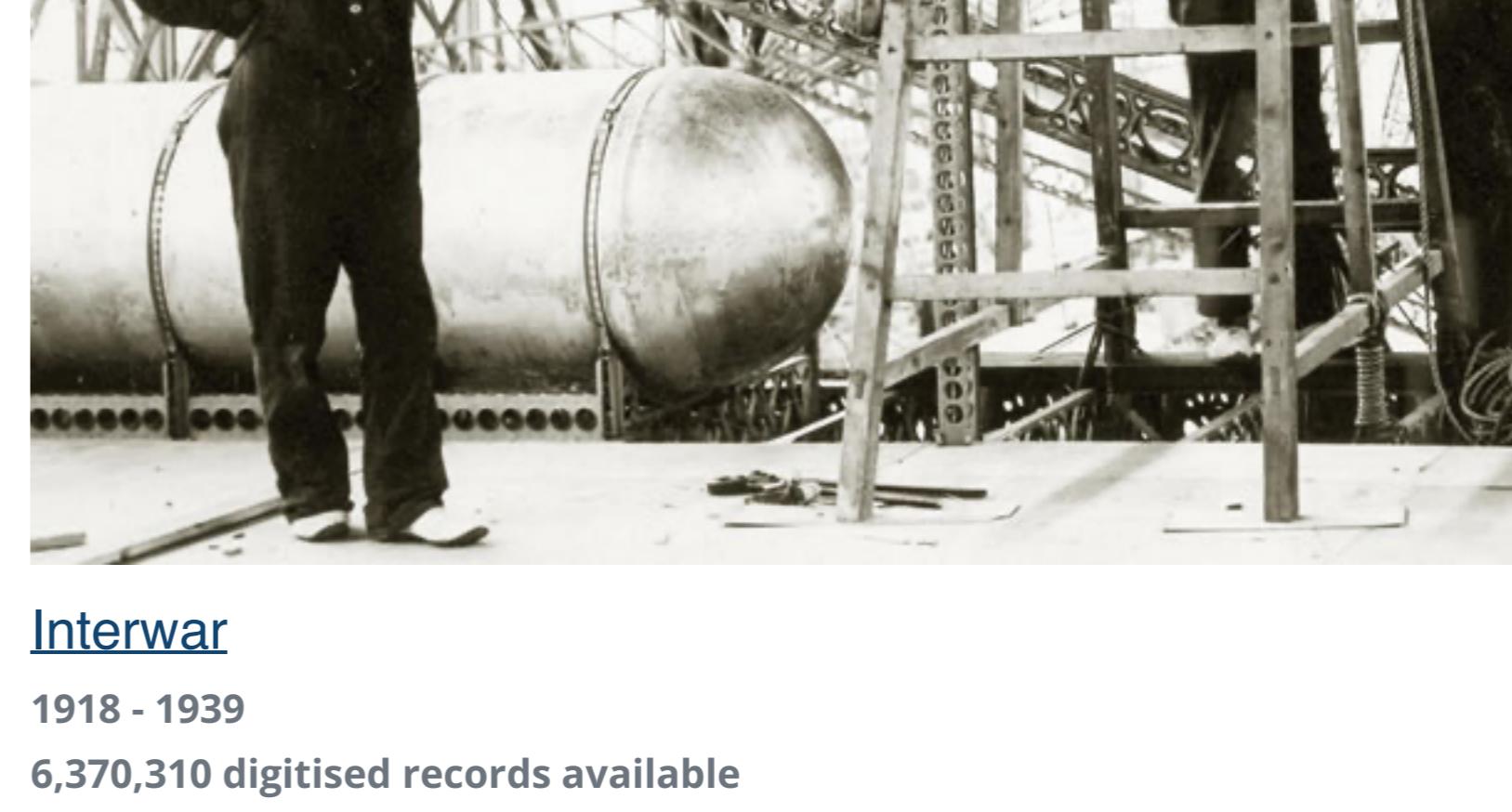
Early 20th Century

1901 - 1918

6,584,048 digitised records available

Collection highlights:

- Browse Siegfried Sassoon's papers
- See an early photograph of the Epsom Derby
- Read the correspondence of the Wright Brothers.



Interwar

1918 - 1939

6,370,310 digitised records available

Collection highlights:

- Study Hitler's will
- Check the original recipe for Empire Christmas pudding
- Read the abdication file of Edward VIII
- See a photograph of the first official Home Office cat.



Second World War

Categories include Photographs, Letters and Maps.

1939 - 1945

527,747 digitised records available

Collection highlights include:

- Battle of Britain map
- Letters of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin
- Record file of George Orwell's alias, Eric Blair



Postwar

Categories include Total war, Education, Empire

1945 - 2020

554,188 digitised records available

Collection highlights include:

- Cold War reports
- Windrush papers
- How the Moon landings were documented by the UK Government