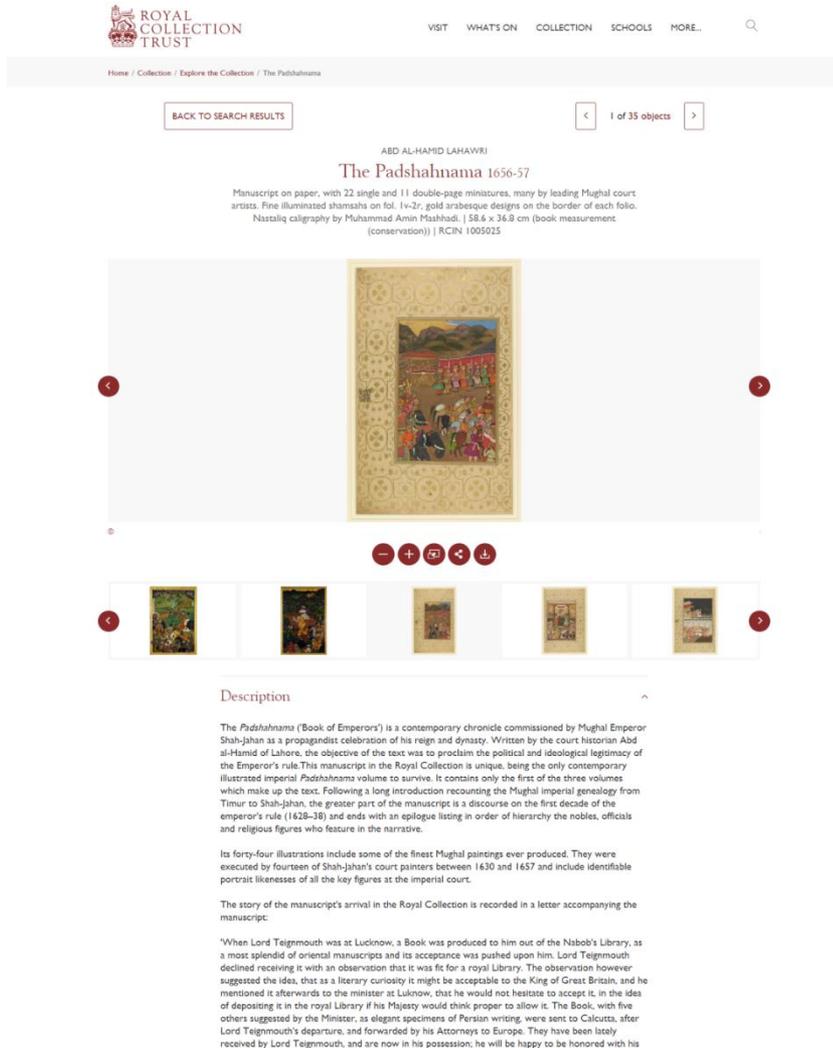


‘Could it help us to....?’

Royal Collection Trust and IIF

Andrew Davis,
Collection Online Content Manager



The screenshot shows the Royal Collection Trust website interface. At the top left is the Royal Collection Trust logo. The navigation menu includes 'VISIT', 'WHAT'S ON', 'COLLECTION', 'SCHOOLS', and 'MORE.'. Below the navigation is a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / Collection / Explore the Collection / The Padshahnama'. A 'BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS' button is on the left, and a pagination indicator shows '1 of 35 objects'. The main content area features the title 'ABD AL-HAMID LAHAWRI The Padshahnama 1656-57' and a detailed description of the manuscript. Below the text is a large image viewer displaying a page from the manuscript, with navigation arrows and a zoom control. A thumbnail gallery at the bottom shows five small images of manuscript pages. A 'Description' section follows, containing three paragraphs of text.

ROYAL
COLLECTION
TRUST

VISIT WHAT'S ON COLLECTION SCHOOLS MORE.

Home / Collection / Explore the Collection / The Padshahnama

BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS

1 of 35 objects

ABD AL-HAMID LAHAWRI
The Padshahnama 1656-57

Manuscript on paper, with 22 single and 11 double-page miniatures, many by leading Mughal court artists. Fine illuminated shamsas on fol. 1v-2r, gold arabesque designs on the border of each folio. Nastaliq calligraphy by Muhammad Amin Mashhadi. | 58.6 x 36.9 cm (book measurement (conservation)) | RCIN 1005025

Description

The *Padshahnama* ('Book of Emperors') is a contemporary chronicle commissioned by Mughal Emperor Shah-Jahan as a propagandist celebration of his reign and dynasty. Written by the court historian Abd al-Hamid of Lahore, the objective of the text was to proclaim the political and ideological legitimacy of the Emperor's rule. This manuscript in the Royal Collection is unique, being the only contemporary illustrated imperial *Padshahnama* volume to survive. It contains only the first of the three volumes which make up the text. Following a long introduction recounting the Mughal imperial genealogy from Timur to Shah-Jahan, the greater part of the manuscript is a discourse on the first decade of the emperor's rule (1628-38) and ends with an epilogue listing in order of hierarchy the nobles, officials and religious figures who feature in the narrative.

Its forty-four illustrations include some of the finest Mughal paintings ever produced. They were executed by fourteen of Shah-Jahan's court painters between 1630 and 1657 and include identifiable portrait likenesses of all the key figures at the imperial court.

The story of the manuscript's arrival in the Royal Collection is recorded in a letter accompanying the manuscript:

"When Lord Teignmouth was at Lucknow, a book was produced to him out of the Nabob's Library, as a most splendid oriental manuscript and its acceptance was pushed upon him. Lord Teignmouth declined receiving it with an observation that it was fit for a royal Library. The observation however suggested the idea, that as a literary curiosity it might be acceptable to the King of Great Britain, and he mentioned it afterwards to the minister at Lucknow, that he would not hesitate to accept it, in the idea of depositing it in the royal Library if his Majesty would think proper to allow it. The Book, with five others suggested by the Minister, as elegant specimens of Persian writing, were sent to Calcutta, after Lord Teignmouth's departure, and forwarded by his Attorneys to Europe. They have been lately received by Lord Teignmouth, and are now in his possession; he will be happy to be honored with his

- Text drawn from CMS
- Images served up from DAM

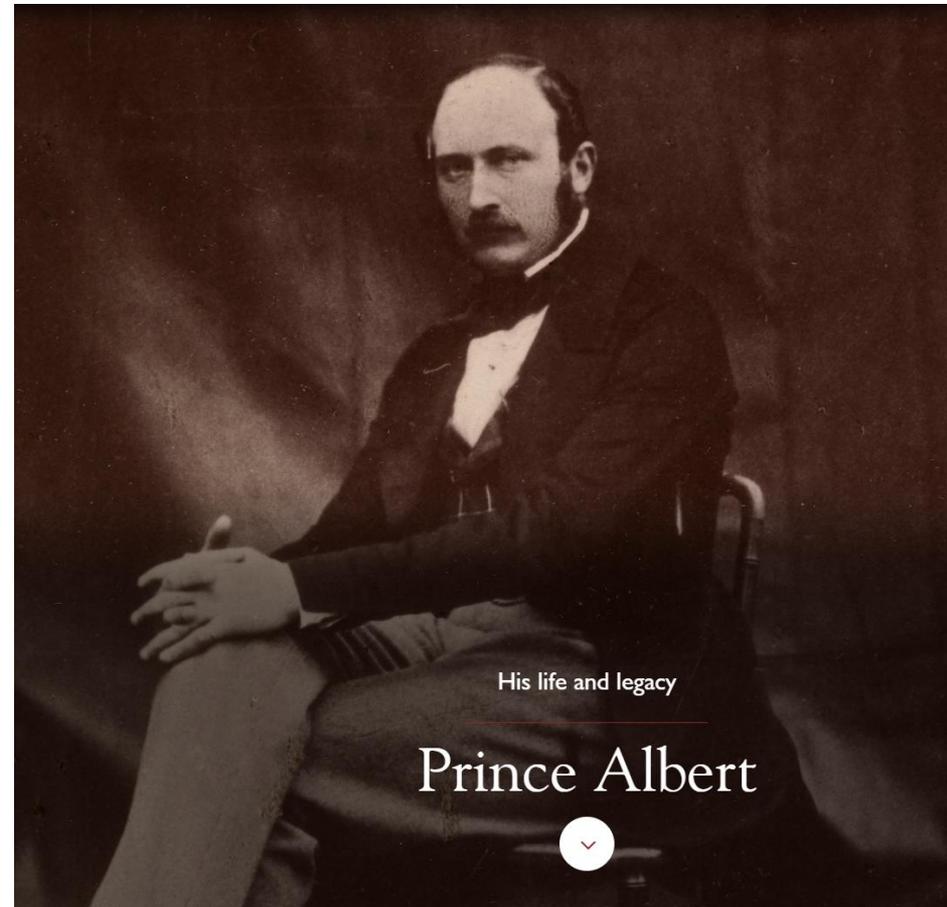
Challenges

- Limited number of images
- Limited size of images

Prince Albert: His life and legacy

- A celebration of the contribution of Prince Albert to mark the 200th anniversary of his birth
- Large amounts of archival material, volumes of photographs
- Need to present large numbers of images against individual records
- Critically a theme was Albert's adoption of new technology to make art collections available

<https://albert.rct.uk>



Raphael Collection portfolio 6 c.1876

RCIN 970565



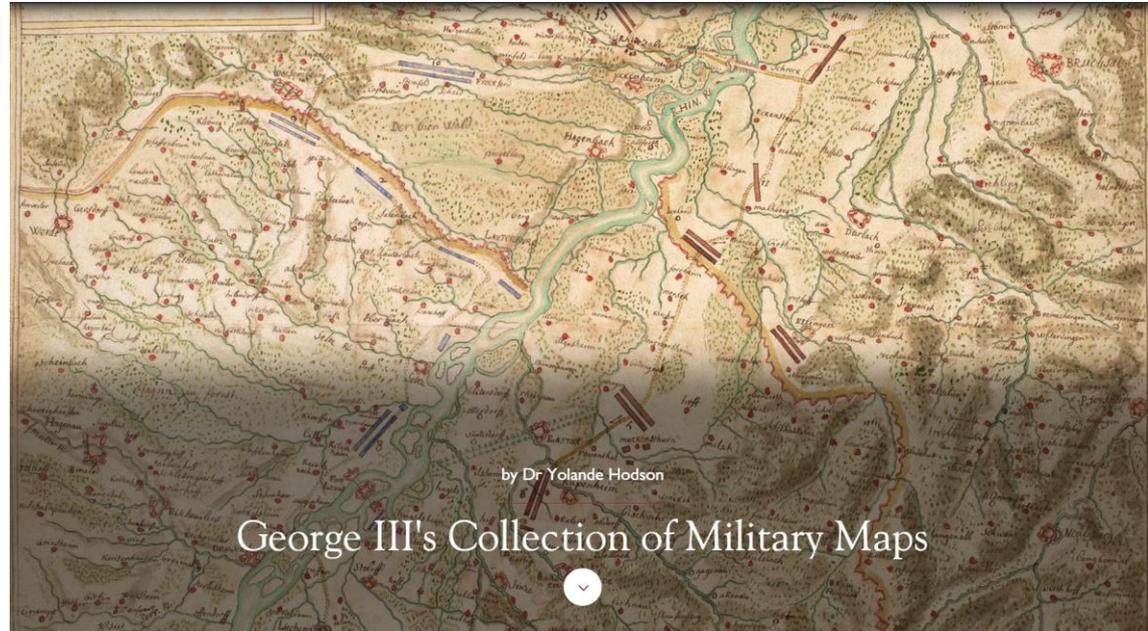
Our solution

- Cloud-based instance of our DAM (Resource Space) used to host resources and generate manifests
- Entirely manual process of creation and data entry – no automation in process or data transfer
- Manifest URL added to a dummy resource in our main DAM instance
- Branded version of Universal Viewer integrated into site
- Tweaking existing methodology for presenting information rather than complete overhaul

The second challenge

George III's Collection of Military Maps

- Extensive collection of maps, prints and sketches, many very large
- Originally conceived as a print catalogue, switch to digital offered opportunity to properly illustrate the works
- Reuse the same process for Albert project



<https://militarymaps.rct.uk>



GIOVANNI PAOLO BIANCHI (FL. 1617-54)

Aire, 1641

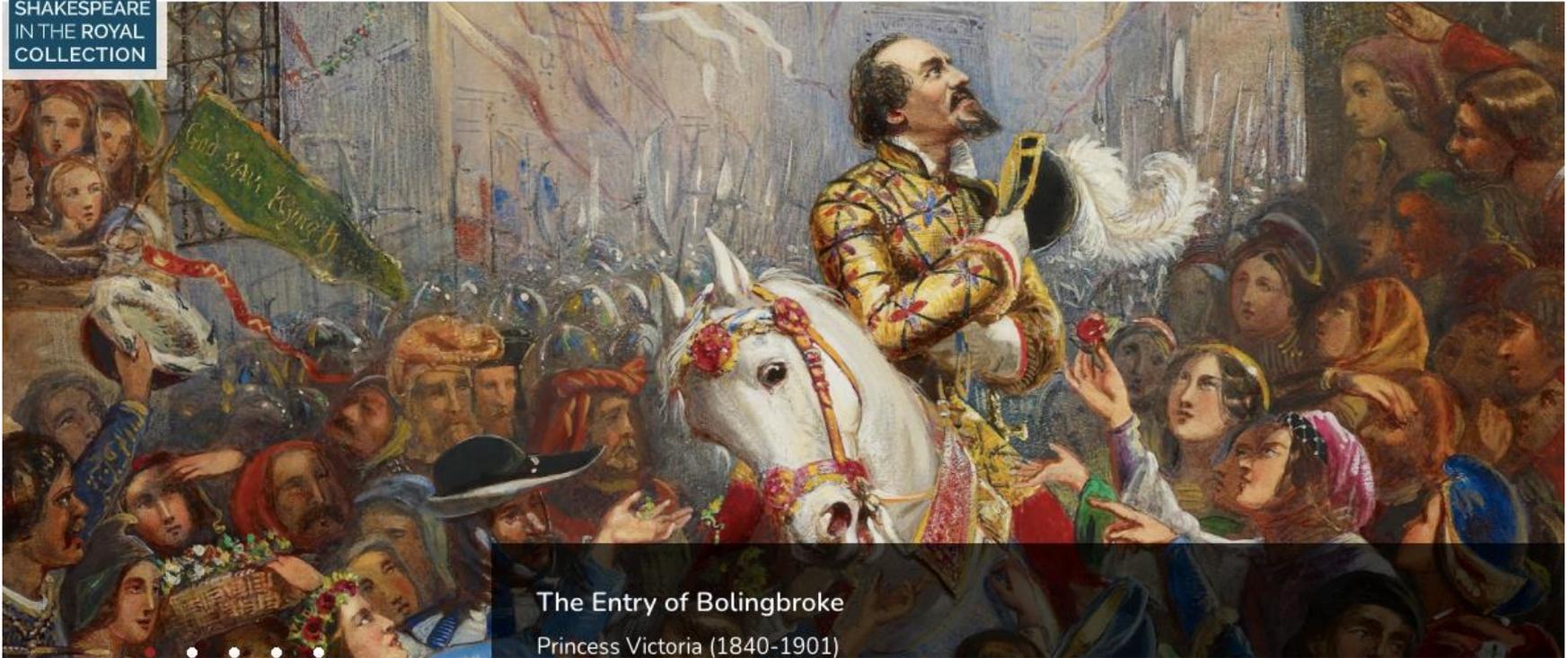
AIRE, Assediata dall' A.R. del / Prencipe Cardinale FERDINANDO
AVS= / TRIACO, alli 12 Agosto 1641 1641 or later

Etching and engraving; printed on paper; mounted on paper (Mount Type B) | 24.2 x 32.5 cm (image) |
RCIN 723007



Next steps

SHAKESPEARE
IN THE ROYAL
COLLECTION



Shakespeare in the Royal Collection <https://sharc.kcl.ac.uk>

Presents Royal Collection objects via IIF in non-RCT site

MAKING HISTORY

SHAKESPEARE AND THE ROYAL FAMILY

3 Section Three: Martyrs and relics / A royal martyr's Folio / Comedies, histories and tragedies, published according to the true originall copies

COMEDIES, HISTORIES AND TRAGEDIES, PUBLISHED ACCORDING TO THE TRUE ORIGINALL COPIES

William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

1632

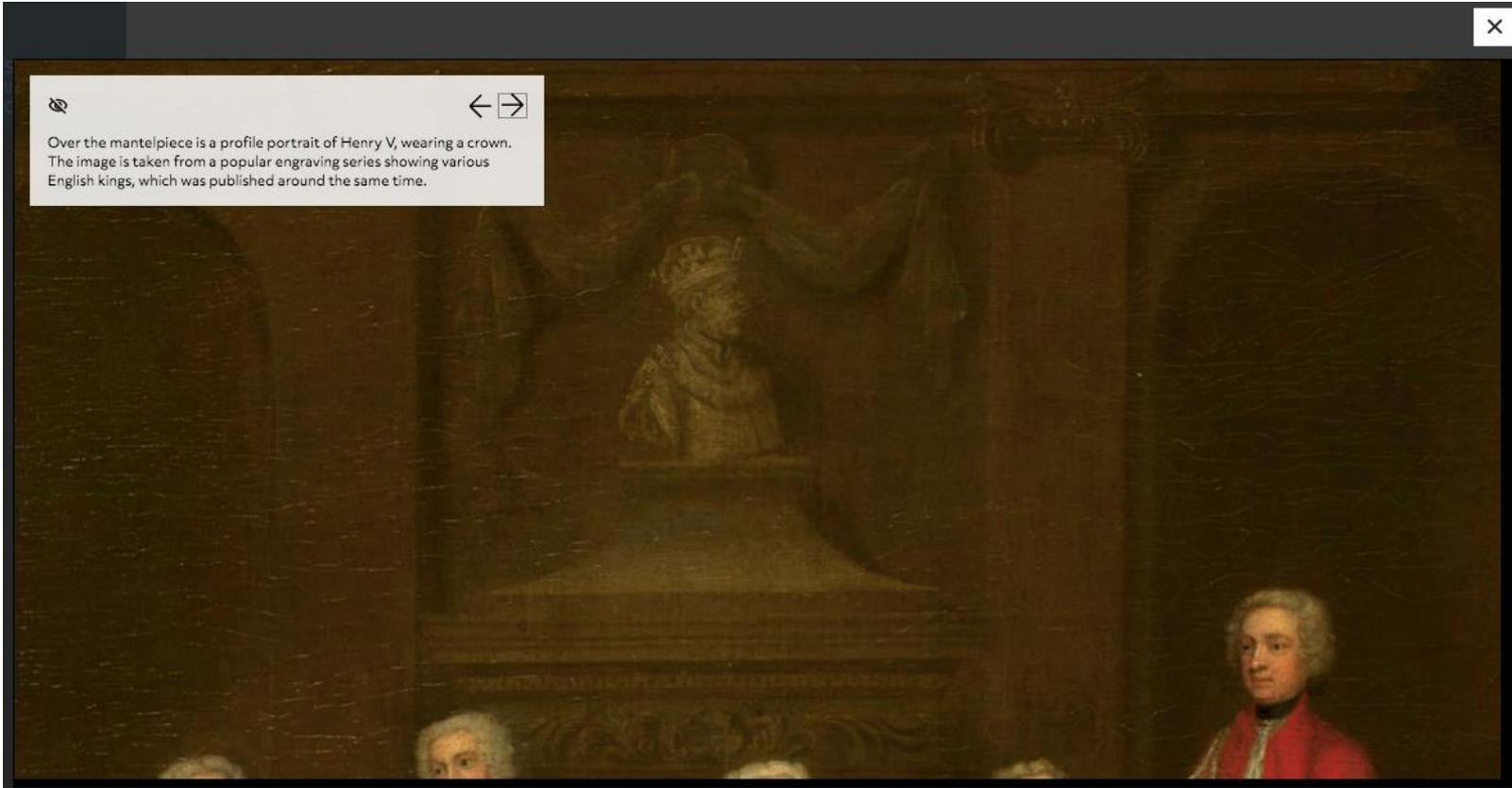
Book, bound in red goatskin with gold tooling

33.5 x 23.7 x 4.8 cm

RCIN 1080415

Image credit: Royal Collection Trust / © Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth II 2021





- Online Exhibitions utilizing Cogapp's 'Storiies' tool launches July 15
- <https://sharc.kcl.ac.uk/exhibition>

Future developments?

- IIF by default rather than opt-in
- Automate manifest generation
- More integrated IIF viewer
- Greater sharing of resources and metadata
- Enhanced use of IIF for storytelling/interpretation

Thank you!

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