This book is the outcome of years of research in Austen archives, and stems from the original family biography by W. and R. A. Austen-Leigh, *Jane Austen: her Life and Letters*. *Jane Austen: A Family Record* was first published in 1989, and this new edition incorporates information that has come to light since then, and provides new illustrations and updated family trees. Le Faye gives a detailed account of Jane's life and literary career. She has collected together documented facts as well as the traditions concerning the novelist, and places her within the context of a widespread, affectionate and talented family group. Readers will learn how Jane transformed the stuff of her peaceful life in the Hampshire countryside into six novels that are amongst the most popular in the English language. This fascinating record of Austen and her family will be of great interest to general readers and scholars alike.

Deirdre Le Faye has been actively researching the life and times of Jane Austen and her family for the last thirty years. In 1995 she prepared a completely new edition of *Jane Austen's Letters*. She has also written several other books: a short illustrated biography, *Jane Austen (1998)*, *Jane Austen: 'Outlandish Cousin', the Life and Letters of Eliza de Feuillide* (2002) and *Jane Austen: The World of Her Novels* (2002) as well as numerous articles in literary journals.
JANE AUSTEN:
A FAMILY RECORD

SECOND EDITION

DEIRDRE LE FAYE
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Foreword

Richard Austen-Leigh and his uncle Willie Austen-Leigh combined in 1913 to publish the first *Life and Letters of Jane Austen*. They were descended from Jane’s nephew James Edward (respectively his grandson and his youngest son), and except for his *Memoir* little was known about her at that time.

Richie was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, and worked most of his life at Spottiswode, the family publishing business, with his elder brother Eddie. Their sister Kathleen married Edward Impey, who became a well-loved housemaster at Eton and had three sons. It was her son Lawrence Austen Impey (my husband) who inherited from Uncle Richie books and papers about Jane and her family. Among Uncle Richie’s books was his much-worn copy of the *Life and Letters*. It was stuffed to almost double its size with papers and correspondence he had about Jane, and filled with notes. Our friend Deirdre Le Faye considered he was clearly planning a revised edition. She is a scholar devoted to Jane Austen, working at the British Museum, and has written many papers on Jane and her family. She has studied the letters, diaries, etc., left by Uncle Richie and so I asked her if she would take on the task of revision, adding the new material and bringing it up to date for publication. We feel this book, being the first main source of knowledge about Jane Austen, will be welcomed by scholars all over the world.

JOAN IMPEY
1989
Preface

It will be seen from the Foreword (written when the first edition of this book was published) that the Impey family, heirs of R. A. Austen-Leigh, were kind enough to entrust to me the task of revising and updating the definitive biography of their collateral ancestress, *Jane Austen, her Life and Letters, a Family Record*, a task which I was both honoured and delighted to undertake.

Nearly forty years have now passed since I first became a member of the Jane Austen Society, and for the first ten of these I was content to pay occasional visits to Chawton Cottage, to attend the Annual General Meeting every July, and to read works of Austenian biography and literary criticism as well as, naturally, rereading the novels themselves. My own serious biographical studies did not commence until the late 1970s when, in the course of some local history work in the London Borough of Camden, I found out quite unexpectedly that Jane’s aunt Mrs Hancock was buried in the parish churchyard of St John-at-Hampstead, London NW3, together with her daughter Eliza de Feuillide and her grandson Hastings de Feuillide. Attempts to discover why the trio should have been buried there made me realise that all current Austenian biography was in some way or other inadequate – lacking in detail, uncertain in its chronology, imprecise or contradictory in its statements and (with one or two honourable exceptions) showing little signs of any original research having been carried out since Dr R. W. Chapman published the first proper collection of *Jane Austen’s Letters* in 1932.

Since the 1980s, therefore, I have concentrated on finding out anything and everything which has any kind of bearing upon the life of Jane Austen and her family, and this research has enabled me to publish various short articles on specific topics as I have come across them, as well as, in 1989, the first edition of this book. I have followed in Jane’s footsteps round the south of England; searched for gravestones; corresponded with and visited County Record Offices and private persons, including several members of
the Austen family; and read unpublished letters, memoirs, diaries, journals, parish registers, account-books, naval log-books, Wills, inventories and other miscellaneous documents held in public and private archives in this country and in America. The information found in this way, combined with what was accurately available in print, grew into a card-index of some 10,000 entries relating to the Austens and their connections and covering the period from approximately 1700 to 1900. The compilation of this index enabled me to identify errors in previous publications, fill in many of the gaps in the chronology of Jane’s life as previously known, and locate correctly some of the anecdotes about her preserved in family tradition.

In the course of this work, I had the pleasure of meeting the Impey family, who gave me the unique privilege of months of study of their complete family archive, including R. A. Austen-Leigh’s annotated copy of the original Life that he and his uncle William had first written in 1913. It seemed to me that R. A. Austen-Leigh had been intending to produce an updated edition; and so, with this aim in mind, in 1989 I revised and enlarged his original text in order to incorporate information which had been published since 1913 and also that stemming from my own original researches in recent years.

This revision led to a shift in the balance of the original text which was reflected in a change in the subtitling, making ‘A Family Record’ the second rather than the third element. In their book the Austen-Leighs relied largely upon quoting rather arbitrary extracts from such letters of Jane’s as they could then find, which not only meant that there were breaks in the chronological continuity at times when no letters appeared to exist, but also that Jane’s place in her family circle, and the family circle as a whole, were both left rather nebulous; the effect was something like being shown a picture of a solitary rose in a specimen vase, with no information as to the bush from which it was plucked or the garden in which the bush grew. For my enlarged version, therefore, I devoted more space to filling in the hitherto blank periods between her surviving letters, and to illuminating the background against which the progress of her life must be seen.

Perhaps more than any other writer, Jane was so much a product and a part of her family that neither her life, her letters nor her works can be properly understood without reference to the lives of the rest of the Austens. As a single woman, with no private income, she had no option but to live with her parents and abide by their decisions and, had she survived longer, she would always have remained beholden to her brothers for financial upkeep and social contacts. Luckily, the family group was close-knit and affectionate, and the letters exchanged between its members
show how much Jane was valued as a daughter, sister, aunt and friend, and how sympathetic they were towards her literary work. In this respect, it is as well for posterity that she did remain single, since marriage and maternity would probably have left her no time for creative composition.

In 1995 I was able to publish a completely new edition of Jane’s letters, including those which had come to light since Dr Chapman’s second edition of 1952, so that Jane’s own words have now become fully and freely accessible in this separate publication. Furthermore, since 1989 much original research has been carried out into the lives of Jane and her family, especially by members of the Jane Austen Society, and the new information from these various sources needs in its turn to be incorporated into the 1989 text, thus finally superseding the original Life and Letters.

As Jane herself was so modest and unassuming, it is very lucky from the biographical point of view that the Austens were a highly intelligent and literate group, quick to commit their thoughts to paper in letters, journals and memoirs; without these family records it would be otherwise very difficult to trace the course of her brief life. Some of this collective information was paraphrased by James Edward Austen-Leigh in his Memoir of Jane Austen in 1869 and also referred to again in the 1913 Life, but on this present occasion preference has been given to straightforward quotation from these original sources, so that the Austens can speak to us now with their own individual voices as they did to each other at the time.
Acknowledgments

Apart from the Impey family, my grateful thanks are due to the following private individuals, librarians, archivists, curators and the staffs of their respective institutions, in both the United Kingdom and the United States, who have in their several and various ways extended most welcome hospitality, provided constant encouragement, corresponded with me, permitted me to read and quote from their archives and also supplied photocopies therefrom, in some cases for periods ranging over a number of years: Mr Matthew Alexander, the great-grandsons of Admiral Sir Francis Austen, Joan Austen-Leigh, Mr Jack Ayres, Miss S. J. Barnes, Mr and Mrs Peter Bell, Mrs E. S. Binnall, Miss Jean K. Bowden, Mrs Joyce Bown, Lord Brabourne, The British Library Board, Mr Herbert Cahoon, Dr Clive Caplan, Tom Carpenter and the Trustees of the Jane Austen Memorial Trust, Dr June Chatfield, Mr G. C. R. Clay, Mr and Mrs John Coates, Dr Edward Copeland, Mr T. A. B. Corley, Mr John Cresswell, Mr T. Cross, Mr C. R. Davey, Prof. Peter Davison, Lord Deedes, Abbé Michel Devert, Miss R. C. Dunhill, Miss Elizabeth Einberg, Mr Oliver Everett, Mr J. M. Farrar, Mr Mark R. Farrell, Mr John Finch, Mrs Penelope Fletcher, Dr Levi Fox, Dr Michael Freeman, Miss M. A. V. Gill, Mr H. Gillet, Mr David Gilson, Mr Victor Gray, Mr J. A. S. Green, Mr Peter Hacker, Revd Dr A. Tindal Hart, Miss Carol Hartley, Revd Canon Philip Hobbs, Mr G. P. Hoole, Mr and Mrs Hopkinson, the Houghton Library of Harvard University, Mrs V. G. Hunt, Mrs Sarah Hynd, Mr Hugh Jaques, Revd W. A. W. Jarvis, Miss Elizabeth Jenkins, Mr Henry Jenkins, Mr Colin Johnston, Mrs M. Joyce, Dr Bryan Keith-Lucas, Mrs Diana Kleyne, Dr G. A. Knight, Ms Edith Lank, Miss M. M.Lascelles, Miss Helen Lefroy, Lexbourne Ltd, Mrs Susan McCartan, Mr and Mrs McEvoy, Mr K. G. McKenna, Mrs C. R. Maggs, Dr Meg Mathies, Mr Duncan Mirylees, Mrs Jo Modert, Mrs V. Moger, Mrs T. M. Morrish, the Trustees of the National Maritime Museum, Mrs J. E. Neale, Lt-Col. R. W. Nye, Miss A. M. Oakley, Dr M. J. Orbell, Oxford University Press, Miss Daphne Phillips, Mr Patrick Piggott, Revd
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Notes and abbreviations

Dates of birth, marriage and death are taken from R. A. Austen-Leigh’s *Pedigree of Austen* unless otherwise stated. See Bibliography.


To avoid confusion between similarly named members of the family, the following conventions have been adopted: Anne Mathew, Mary Lloyd, Martha Lloyd, Mary Gibson, Fanny Palmer and Harriet Palmer are referred to by their maiden names even after marriage. Eliza de Feuillide is best known by the letters she wrote while married to her first husband, and therefore continues to be referred to by this name after her marriage to Henry Austen.

Jane’s brother Edward, and his eldest daughter Fanny, are referred to as ‘Knight’, although their change of name did not occur until 1812. Information on the Knight family between 1803 and 1817 is taken from Fanny’s diaries and letters unless otherwise stated.

Similarly, Jane’s nephew and biographer James Edward Austen-Leigh is referred to as such, although he did not add ‘-Leigh’ to his name until 1837.

Where quotations from manuscripts are given, spelling and punctuation have been left as in the original.

In the references family names are abbreviated as follows:

| JA  | Jane Austen          |
| CEA | Cassandra Elizabeth Austen |
| EAK | Edward Austen/Knight   |
| HTA | Henry Thomas Austen    |
| FWA | Francis William Austen  |
| CJA | Charles John Austen    |
| JEAL| James Edward Austen-Leigh|
| CMCA| Caroline Mary Craven Austen |
| JAMT| Jane Austen Memorial Trust. |
Titles of reference works (for full details see Bibliography) are abbreviated as follows:

S&S  Sense and Sensibility
P&P  Pride and Prejudice
MP  Mansfield Park
E  Emma
NA  Northanger Abbey
P  Persuasion
MW  Minor Works
Alum Cantab  Alumni Cantabrigienses, J. A. Venn
Alum Oxon  Alumni Oxonienses, J. Foster
AP  Austen Papers, 1764–1856, ed. R. A. Austen-Leigh
Aspects  Personal Aspects of Jane Austen, M. A. Austen-Leigh
BC  The Book Collector
CMCA Rems  Reminiscences, Caroline Austen, ed. Deirdre Le Faye
CPVA  Jane Austen: Collected Poems and Verse of the Austen Family, ed. David Selwyn
CPVA  Jane Austen: Collected Poems and Verse of the Austen Family, ed. David Selwyn
FCL  Family Unpublished manuscript, Fanny-Caroline Lefroy
History
Gents Mag  Gentleman’s Magazine
JALM  Jane Austen’s Literary Manuscripts, B. C. Southam
JAOC  Jane Austen’s ‘Outlandish Cousin’: the Life and Letters of Eliza de Feuillide, Deirdre Le Faye
JEAL  James Edward Austen-Leigh, M. A. Austen-Leigh
Letters  Jane Austen’s Letters, ed. Deirdre Le Faye
Life  Jane Austen, her Life and Letters, W. and R. A. Austen-Leigh
MAJA  My Aunt Jane Austen, Caroline Austen
Memoir  A Memoir of Jane Austen, J. E. Austen-Leigh, ed.
Kathryn Sutherland
N&Q  Notes and Queries
Pedigree  Pedigree of Austen, R. A. Austen-Leigh
PULC  Princeton University Library Chronicle
Reports  Collected Reports of the Jane Austen Society
RES  The Review of English Studies
SB  Jane Austen’s Sailor Brothers, J. H. and E. C. Hubback
TLS  Times Literary Supplement
Chronology of Jane Austen’s life

1764
26 April  Marriage of Revd George Austen and Cassandra Leigh (in due course, Jane Austen’s parents).
9 Oct.  Marriage of James Leigh-Perrot (Mrs Austen’s brother) and Jane Cholmeley.

1765
Summer  Mr and Mrs Hancock (Mr Austen’s sister) and their daughter Eliza (‘Betsy’) return from India.

1766
26 Aug.  George Austen the younger born at Deane.

1767

1768
July/Aug.  Austen family move to Steventon.
?Autumn  Mr Hancock returns alone to India.
29 Dec.  Marriage of Jane Leigh (Mrs Austen’s sister) and Revd Dr Edward Cooper.

1770
1 July  Edward Cooper the younger born in London.

1771
8 June  Henry Thomas Austen born at Steventon.
27 June  Jane Cooper born at Southcote, near Reading.
?Autumn  Cooper family move to Bath, No. 12 Royal Crescent.

1773
**Chronology of Jane Austen's life**

23 March Mr Austen becomes Rector of Deane as well as Steventon. Pupils live at Steventon from now until 1796.

1774
23 April Francis William Austen born at Steventon.

1775
5 Nov. Mr Hancock dies in Calcutta.

1776
June Mr and Mrs Austen in London, probably en route to or from Kent.

1777
Winter Mrs Hancock and Eliza go to Continent.

1779
23 June Charles John Austen born at Steventon.
3 July James Austen matriculates at St John's College, Oxford.
Summer Mr and Mrs Thomas Knight II (cousins of Mr Austen) visit Steventon.

1780
Coopers move to No. 14 Bennett Street, Bath. Mr and Mrs Austen take HTA on a visit to Kent.

1781
? Autumn Marriage of Eliza Hancock to Jean-François Capot de Feuillide, in France.

1782
Summer First mention of JA in family tradition.
Dec. First amateur theatrical production at Steventon – *Matilda*.

1783
Edward Austen adopted by Mr and Mrs Thomas Knight II.
Easter JA, CEA and Jane Cooper go to Mrs Cawley in Oxford; Mr and Mrs Austen, with HTA and FWA, visit relations in Kent.
3 May Revd I.P.G. Lefroy instituted to Ashe.
Summer Mrs Cawley moves to Southampton and the girls fall ill.
Chronology of Jane Austen’s life

1784
July
The Rivals performed at Steventon. Revd Dr Cooper moves to Sonning.

1785
Spring
JA and CEA go to the Abbey House School, Reading.

1786
EAK abroad on Grand Tour from 1786 to 1790.
15 April
FWA enters Royal Naval Academy, Portsmouth.
25 June
Eliza de Feuillide’s son Hastings born at Calais, while she is en route to London.
Nov.
James Austen goes to the Continent.
End Dec.
JA and CEA have now left school.

1787
JA starts writing her Juvenilia.
Autumn
James Austen returns from Continent.
Dec.
The Wonder performed at Steventon.

1788
Jan.
The Chances performed at Steventon.
March
Tom Thumb performed at Steventon. A ‘private theatrical exhibition’ also performed at Steventon some time later this year.
1 July
HTA matriculates at St John’s College, Oxford.
Summer
Mr and Mrs Austen take JA and CEA to Kent and London.
Sept.
Mrs Hancock and Eliza de Feuillide return to France.
23 Dec.
FWA sails to East Indies.
Winter
The Sultan and High Life Below Stairs performed at Steventon.

1789
31 Jan.
First issue of ‘The Loiterer’ appears – published weekly by James Austen in Oxford until March 1790.
Spring
Lloyd family rent Deane parsonage.

1790
April
James Austen takes up residence as curate of Overton.
Autumn
EAK returns to England from Grand Tour.

1791
21 June
Death of Mr Francis Austen of Sevenoaks.
Chronology of Jane Austen’s life

20 July CJA enters Royal Naval Academy, Portsmouth.
27 Dec. Marriage of EAK and Elizabeth Bridges, in Kent; they live at Rowling, near Goodnestone.

1792
Jan. The Lloyds leave Deane for Ibthorpe.
26 Feb. Death of Mrs Hancock, in London.
27 March Marriage of James Austen and Anne Mathew, at Laverstoke; they presently take up residence at Deane parsonage.
27 Aug. Death of Revd Dr Cooper, at Sonning.
Oct. JA and CEA visit the Lloyds at Ibthorpe.
?Winter CEA engaged to Revd Tom Fowle.

1793
23 Jan. EAK’s first child, Fanny, born at Rowling.
1 Feb. Republican France declares war on Great Britain and Holland.
Spring HTA becomes Lieutenant in Oxfordshire Militia.
14 March Marriage of Revd Edward Cooper and Caroline Lybbe-Powys; they live at Harpsden till 1799.
15 April James Austen’s first child, Anna, born at Deane.
3 June JA writes last item of Juvenilia.
Winter FWA returns home from Far East.
Dec. JA and CEA visit Butler-Harrison cousins in Southampton.

1794
Midsummer JA and CEA visit the Leigs at Adlestop.
? Aug. JA and CEA visit EAK and Elizabeth at Rowling.
Sept. CJA leaves Royal Naval Academy and goes to sea.
23 Oct. Death of Mr Thomas Knight II.
?Autumn JA probably writes Lady Susan this year.

1795
3 May JA probably writes Elinor and Marianne this year.
3 May Death of Anne Mathew at Deane; Anna sent to live at Steventon.
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Chronology of Jane Austen's life

Autumn  
Revd Tom Fowle joins Lord Craven as his private chaplain for the West Indian campaign.

Dec.  
Tom Lefroy visits Ashe Rectory.

1796

Jan.  
Tom Lefroy leaves Ashe for London.

April  
JA and CEA visit Coopers at Harpsden.

?Summer  
Both HTA and James Austen courting Eliza de Feuillide.

June  
Capt. Thomas Williams knighted.

Aug.  
EAK and FWA take JA to Rowling via London; she returns to Steventon late September/early October.

Oct.  
JA starts writing *First Impressions*.

End Nov.  
James Austen engaged to Mary Lloyd.

1797

17 Jan.  
Marriage of James Austen and Mary Lloyd at Hurstbourne Tarrant; Anna returns to live at Deane.

Feb.  
Tom Fowle dies of fever at San Domingo and is buried at sea.

Aug.  
JA finishes *First Impressions*.

1 Nov.  
Mr Austen offers *First Impressions* to publisher Cadell; rejected sight unseen.

Nov.  
JA starts converting *Elinor and Marianne* into *Sense and Sensibility*.

Mrs Austen, JA and CEA visit the Leigh-Perrots in Bath, at Paragon Buildings.

EAK and family move from Rowling to Godmersham.

Winter  
Revd Samuel Blackall visits Ashe.

31 Dec.  
Marriage of HTA and Eliza de Feuillide, in London.

1798

6 April  
Death of Mr William Hampson Walter (Mr Austen's elder half-brother), in Kent.

Aug.  
Mr and Mrs Austen, with JA and CEA, visit Godmersham.

JA probably starts writing *Susan (Northanger Abbey)*.

9 Aug.  
Lady Williams (Jane Cooper) killed in road accident.

24 Oct.  
JA and her parents leave Godmersham for Steventon.

Mrs Austen ill until end November.

17 Nov.  
James Austen's son James Edward born at Deane.
Chronology of Jane Austen's life

1799
Feb. JA possibly visits Lloyds at Ibthorpe.
March CEA returns to Steventon from Godmersham.
17 May Mrs Austen and JA arrive in Bath, with EAK and Elizabeth, and stay at No. 13 Queen Square.
End June They return home. JA probably finishes Susan (Northanger Abbey) about now.
Late summer The Austens pay round of visits to Leighs at Adlestrop, Coopers at Harpsden, and Cookes at Great Bookham.
14 Aug. Mrs Leigh-Perrot charged with theft and committed to Ilchester Gaol.
Oct. The Coopers move to Hamstall Ridware, Staffs.

1800
29 March Mrs Leigh-Perrot tried at Taunton and acquitted. Probably stays at Steventon thereafter.
Oct. EAK visits Steventon and takes CEA back to Godmersham with him via Chawton and London.
End Nov. JA visits Lloyds at Ibthorpe; returns home mid-December.
Dec. Mr Austen decides to retire and move to Bath.

1801
Jan. HTA resigns commission in Oxfordshire Militia and sets up as banker and Army agent in London, living at 24 Upper Berkeley Street and with office at Cleveland Court, St James's.
End Jan. JA visits Bigg-Wither family at Manydown.
Feb. CEA returns to Steventon from Godmersham via London.
May The Austen family leave Steventon; Mrs Austen and JA travel to Bath via Harpsden, and stay with the Leigh-Perrots.
End May The Austens lease No. 4 Sydney Place and then go on West Country holiday; probably visiting Sidmouth and Colyton.
JA's traditionary West Country romance presumably occurs between now and the autumn of 1804.
Sept. The Austens visit Steventon and Ashe.
5 Oct. They return to Bath.
Chronology of Jane Austen’s life

1802
Spring Mrs Lybbe-Powys visits Austens in Bath.
25 March Peace of Amiens commences.
April James and Mary, with Anna, visit the Austens in Bath.
Summer CJA joins Austens for holidays; they visit Dawlish and probably Teignmouth, also probably Tenby and Barmouth. HTA and Eliza go to France.
Autumn FWA joins Austens in Bath.
1 Sept. JA and CEA arrive at Steventon.
3 Sept. CJA takes JA and CEA to Godmersham.
28 Oct. CJA brings his sisters back to Steventon.
25 Nov. JA and CEA visit Manydown.
2 Dec. Harris Bigg-Wither proposes to JA.
3 Dec. JA and CEA return to Steventon and set off at once for Bath.
Winter JA revises Susan (Northanger Abbey).

1803
Feb. Mrs Lybbe-Powys visits Austens in Bath.
Spring JA sells Susan (Northanger Abbey) to Crosby & Son of London.
HTA returns from France; his office now in Cannon Row, Westminster.
18 May Napoleon breaks Peace of Amiens; Eliza de Feuillide returns from France.
Summer JA possibly visits Charmouth, Up Lyme and Pinny.
July FWA stationed in Ramsgate.
Sept. to Oct. Mr and Mrs Austen, probably accompanied by JA and CEA, stay at Godmersham.
Oct. JA and CEA visit Ashe.
24 Oct. They return to Bath.
Nov. The Austens visit Lyme Regis.

1804
JA probably writes The Watsons this year
Jan. Mrs Lybbe-Powys visits the Austens in Bath.
Spring Mrs Austen seriously ill.
HTA moves house to 16 Michael’s Place, Brompton, and moves office to Albany, Piccadilly.
Summer The Austens, with HTA and Eliza, visit Lyme Regis.
Chronology of Jane Austen's life

16 Dec. Madam Lefroy of Ashe killed in a riding accident.

1805
21 Jan. Death of Mr Austen in Bath.
25 March Mrs Austen and her daughters move to No. 25 Gay Street, Bath.
16 April Mrs Lloyd dies at Ibthorpe, and thereafter Martha Lloyd joins forces with Mrs Austen, JA and CEA.
June Mrs Austen, JA and CEA, travel to Godmersham via Steventon, taking Anna with them.
18 June James Austen’s younger daughter Caroline born at Steventon.
17 Sept. JA and CEA go to Worthing, and stay there with Mrs Austen and Martha until at least early November.
21 Oct. Battle of Trafalgar – FWA unable to participate.

1806
Jan. Mrs Austen and her daughters visit Steventon.
29 Jan. Mrs Austen returns to Bath and takes lodgings in Trim Street.
Feb. JA and CEA visit Manydown, returning to Bath via Steventon mid-March.
2 July Mrs Austen and her daughters finally leave Bath, and go via Clifton to Adlestrop.
24 July Marriage of FWA to Mary Gibson, at Ramsgate.
5 Aug. Adlestrop family party go to Stoneleigh Abbey.
14 Aug. Mrs Austen and her daughters go from Stoneleigh to visit the Coopers at Hamstall Ridware and stay about five weeks.
Oct. The Austens call at Steventon, and with FWA and Mary Gibson take lodgings at Southampton.
Winter CEA visits Godmersham.

1807
March Austens move into house in Castle Square, Southampton.
April HTA brings CEA back to Southampton from Godmersham via London.
Chronology of Jane Austen’s life

19 May 1808
Marriage of CJA to Fanny Palmer, in Bermuda.

Aug.
The Coopers visit Southampton.

Sept.
EAK arranges family gathering at Chawton Great House, followed by further family gathering in Southampton.

**1808**

Jan. to March
JA and CEA staying at Steventon, Manydown, and with the Fowles at Kintbury.

15 May
HTA and JA at Steventon en route for London; JA stays with HTA.

14 June
JA goes from London to Godmersham with James and Mary Lloyd.

8 July
JA returns to Southampton.

28 Sept.
CEA goes to Godmersham.

10 Oct.
Death of Elizabeth Austen (Knight).

**1809**

Feb.
CEA returns to Southampton.

5 April
JA attempts to secure publication of *Susan (Northanger Abbey)*.

May
Mrs Austen and her daughters arrive at Godmersham.

June
HTA and Eliza move house to No. 64 Sloane Street, London.

7 July
Mrs Austen and her daughters move into Chawton Cottage.

Oct.
EAK and Fanny visit Chawton.

**1810**

July to Aug.
JA and CEA visit Manydown and Steventon.

Nov.
EAK and Fanny visit Chawton.

Winter
*Sense and Sensibility* accepted for publication by Thomas Egerton.
The Leigh-Perrots buy No. 49 Great Pulteney Street, Bath.

**1811**

Feb.
JA planning *Mansfield Park*.

March
JA staying with HTA in London and correcting proofs of *Sense and Sensibility*; CEA at Godmersham.

May
JA returns to Chawton via Streatham.

Aug.
CJA and family return to England.

30 Oct.
*Sense and Sensibility* published.
Chronology of Jane Austen’s life

Nov. JA visits Steventon.
? Winter JA starts revising *First Impressions* into *Pride and Prejudice*.

1812

April EAK and Fanny visit Chawton.
9–25 June Mrs Austen and JA visit Steventon – the last time Mrs Austen does so; CEA goes to Godmersham.
17 June America declares war on Great Britain.
14 Oct. Death of Mrs Thomas Knight II; Edward Austen now officially takes surname of Knight.

Autumn JA probably visits London and sells copyright of *Pride and Prejudice* to Thomas Egerton.

1813

21 April EAK and family come to Chawton Great House and stay for four months.
22 April JA goes to London to attend Eliza de Feuillide.
25 April Eliza de Feuillide dies.
1 May JA returns to Chawton.
19 May HTA takes JA to London again, for a fortnight.
June HTA moves to live over office at No. 10 Henrietta Street.
?July JA finishes *Mansfield Park*.
17 Aug. Anna Austen engaged to Ben Lefroy.
Sept. EAK and JA travel via London to Godmersham; her last visit there.
13 Nov. EAK takes JA back to Chawton via London; *MP* probably accepted for publication at this time.
?Winter HTA moves from No. 64 to No. 63 Sloane Street.

1814

21 Jan. JA commences *Emma*.
1 March HTA takes JA to London.
April JA returns to Chawton via Streatham.
EAK and family stay at Chawton Great House for two months.
5 April Napoleon abdicates and is exiled to Elba.
9 May *Mansfield Park* published, by Thomas Egerton.
Midsummer JA visits the Cookes at Great Bookham.
HTA moves house to No. 23 Hans Place, London.
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Chronology of Jane Austen’s life

Aug. JA visits HTA in London.
FWA and family move into Chawton Great House and stay there for about two years.
3 Sept. HTA takes JA home to Chawton.
6 Sept. CJA’s wife Fanny Palmer dies after childbirth.
Autumn Hinton/Baverstock lawsuit against EAK commences.
8 Nov. Marriage of Anna Austen and Ben Lefroy at Steventon; they go to live in Hendon, near London.
25 Nov. JA visits HTA in London.
5 Dec. HTA takes JA back to Chawton.
26 Dec. JA and CEA stay with Mrs Heathcote and Miss Bigg in Winchester.

1815
2–16 Jan. JA and CEA stay at Steventon, also visiting Ashe and Laverstoke.
March Napoleon escapes and resumes power in France; hostilities recommence.
29 March Emma finished.
?March or JA and CEA probably visit HTA in London.
April 18 June Battle of Waterloo finally ends war with France.
July Mary Lloyd and Caroline stay at Chawton.
8 Aug. JA starts Persuasion.
Aug. Anna and Ben Lefroy move to Wyards, near Chawton.
JA possibly goes to London to negotiate publication of Emma, returning early in September.
4 Oct. HTA takes JA to London; he falls ill, and she stays longer than anticipated.
13 Nov. JA visits Carlton House.
16 Dec. JA returns to Chawton.

1816
Spring JA begins to feel unwell.
HTA buys back MS of Susan (Northanger Abbey), which JA revises and intends to offer again for publication.
15 March HTA’s bank fails; he leaves London.
May EAK and Fanny stay at Chawton for three weeks.
Chronology of Jane Austen’s life

22 May
JA and CEA go to Cheltenham via Steventon.

15 June
They return to Chawton via Kintbury.

Midsummer
FWA and family move from Chawton Great House to Alton.

18 July
First draft of Persuasion finished.

6 Aug.
Persuasion finally completed.

Sept.
CEA and Mary Lloyd go to Cheltenham.

Dec.
HTA ordained, becomes curate of Chawton.

1817
FWA and family living in Alton this year.

27 Jan.
JA starts Sanditon.

18 March
Ceases work on this MS.

28 March
Death of Mr Leigh-Perrot at Scarlets.

27 April
JA makes her Will.

24 May
CEA takes JA to Winchester, where they lodge at No. 8 College Street.

18 July
JA dies in early morning.

24 July
Buried in Winchester Cathedral.

?Autumn
HTA arranges publication of Northanger Abbey and Persuasion.

End Dec.
NA and P published together, by John Murray, with ‘Biographical Notice’ added by HTA.