THE CAMBRIDGE EDITION
OF THE WORKS OF
JANE AUSTEN
MANFIELD PARK
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THE CAMBRIDGE EDITION
OF THE WORKS OF
JANE AUSTEN

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GENERAL EDITOR'S PREFACE

Jane Austen wrote to be read and reread. ‘[A]n artist cannot do anything slovenly,’ she remarked to her sister Cassandra. Her subtle, crafted novels repay close and repeated attention to vocabulary, syntax and punctuation as much as to irony and allusion; yet the reader can take immediate and intense delight in their plots and characters. As a result Austen has a unique status among early English novelists – appreciated by the academy and the general public alike. What Henry Crawford remarks about Shakespeare in Mansfield Park has become equally true of its author: she ‘is a part of an Englishman's constitution. [Her] thoughts and beauties are so spread abroad that one touches them every where, one is intimate with [her] by instinct.’ This edition of the complete oeuvre of the published novels and manuscript works is testament to Austen's exceptional cultural and literary position. As well as attempting to establish an accurate and authoritative text, it provides a full contextual placing of the novels.

The editing of any canonical writer is a practice which has been guided by many conflicting ideologies. In the early twentieth century, editors, often working alone, largely agreed that they were producing definitive editions, although they used eclectic methods and often revised the text at will. Later in the century, fidelity to the author's creative intentions was paramount, and the emphasis switched to devising an edition that would as far as possible represent the final authorial wishes. By the 1980s, however, the pursuit of the single perfected text had given way to the recording of multiple intentions of equal interest. Authors were seen to have changed, revised or recanted, or indeed to have directed various
versions of their work towards different audiences. Consequently all states had validity and the text became a process rather than a fixed entity. With this approach came emphasis on the print culture in which the text appeared as well as on the social implications of authorship. Rather than being stages in the evolution of a single work, the various versions existed in their own right, all having something to tell.

The Cambridge edition describes fully Austen’s early publishing history and provides details of composition, publication and publishers as well as printers and compositors where known. It accepts that many of the decisions concerning spelling, punctuation, capitalising, italicising and paragraphing may well have been the compositors’ rather than Austen’s but that others may represent the author’s own chosen style. For the novels published in Jane Austen’s lifetime the edition takes as its copytext the latest edition to which she might plausibly have made some contribution: that is, the first editions of Pride and Prejudice and Emma and the second editions of Sense and Sensibility and Mansfield Park. Where a second edition is used, all substantive and accidental changes between editions are shown on the page so that the reader can reconstruct the first edition, and the dominance of either first or second editions is avoided. For the two novels published posthumously together, Northanger Abbey and Persuasion, the copytext is the first published edition.

Our texts as printed here remain as close to the copytexts as possible: spelling and punctuation have not been modernised and inconsistencies in presentation have not been regularised. The few corrections and emendations made to the texts – beyond replacing dropped or missing letters – occur only when an error is very obvious indeed, and/or where retention might interrupt reading or understanding: for example, missing quotation marks have been supplied, run-on words have been separated and repeated words excised. All changes to the texts, substantive and accidental, have been noted in the final apparatus. Four of the six novels appeared individually in three volumes; we have kept the volume divisions
and numbering. In the case of Persuasion, which was first published as volumes 3 and 4 of a four-volume set including Northanger Abbey, the volume division has been retained but volumes 3 and 4 have been relabeled volumes 1 and 2.

For all these novels the copytext has been set against two other copies of the same edition. Where there have been any substantive differences, further copies have been examined; details of these copies are given in the initial textual notes within each volume, along with information about the printing and publishing context of this particular work. The two volumes of the edition devoted to manuscript writings divide the works between the three juvenile notebooks on the one hand and all the remaining manuscript writings on the other. The juvenile notebooks and Lady Susan have some resemblance to the published works, being fair copies and following some of the conventions of publishing. The other manuscript writings consist in part of fictional works in early drafts, burlesques and autograph and allograph copies of occasional verses and prayers. The possible dating of the manuscript work, as well as the method of editing, is considered in the introductions to the relevant volumes. The cancelled chapters of Persuasion are included in an appendix to the volume Persuasion; they appear both in a transliteration and in facsimile. For all the manuscript works, their features as manuscripts have been respected and all changes and erasures either reproduced or noted.

In all the volumes superscript numbers in the texts indicate end-notes. Throughout the edition we have provided full annotations to give clear and informative historical and cultural information to the modern reader while largely avoiding critical speculation; we have also indicated words which no longer have currency or have altered in meaning in some way. The introductions give information concerning the genesis and immediate public reception of the text; they also indicate the most significant stylistic and generic features. A chronology of Austen's life appears in each volume. More information about the life, Austen's reading, her relationship to publication, the print history of the novels and their critical
General Editor’s preface

reception through the centuries, as well as the historical, political, intellectual and religious context in which she wrote is available in the final volume of the edition: *Jane Austen in Context*.

I would like to thank Cambridge University Library for supplying the copytexts for the six novels. I am most grateful to Linda Bree at Cambridge University Press for her constant support and unflagging enthusiasm for the edition and to Maartje Scheltens and Alison Powell for their help at every stage of production. I owe the greatest debt to my research assistant Antje Blank for her rare combination of scholarly dedication, editorial skills and critical discernment.

Janet Todd
University of Aberdeen
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I've always known that my work was supported by the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities at La Trobe. I'm lucky, too, to have worked in a friendly and encouraging department and I thank my colleagues for putting up with my endless pestering for obscure pieces of information. My friends Ann Blake, Stephen Clarke, Rachel and Denis Gibbs, Ann Newton, David Rawlinson,
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Judith Richards, Bryan Reid and Carl Stanyon have also been called upon, as have Jon Spence, and David Fraser of the Derby Museum and Art Gallery. I’m especially grateful to Linda Bree, my editor at Cambridge University Press, and my colleague Iain Topliss, for their comments on my Notes, and to Brian Southam for putting me onto material I would otherwise have missed. I have found in *Jane Austen and the Navy* a valuable resource.

I reported on work in progress to the Sydney-based Jane Austen Society of Australia, and to the Jane Austen Society of Melbourne. I should like to thank Susannah Fullerton, Fay Jones and Andrea Richards, the Presidents of the two societies, for arranging these meetings, and the members for their questions, as well as their willingness to act as informal research assistants. My greatest indebtedness however is to Laura Carroll and Brian Lloyd, my research associates at La Trobe University. Laura worked on the Notes with exemplary care and perceptiveness, and contributed important new information. The note on *Lovers’ Vows* in this edition is her work. Dr Lloyd was in charge of the text, and collated the variants over a long period with great good-humour. I’m grateful also to my niece, Helen Moreno, who found invaluable material in the British Library.

The latter period of work on this volume has been carried out in rather difficult circumstances, and could not have been completed at all without our children, Ruth and John, and my sisters, Marie Eddy and Roseann Moreno, as well as Judy Goldberg, helping to provide time for me. During these last stages I have read the text aloud several times over with my wife Zaiga, whose memory of her earlier readings of Jane Austen is so vivid that she has raised questions and suggested connections which have decidedly improved this edition. Our collaboration on this has been a great pleasure.

Copy-editing benefited greatly from the assistance of Laura Carroll and Daniel Vuillermin in Melbourne. I thank them, and my copy-editor in Cambridge, Caroline Howlett, for the care they took over a complex task. Laura and Daniel, together with Max Richards, formed a wonderful proofreading team in Melbourne. I should also
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I cannot omit a formal acknowledgement to those previous Jane Austen scholars, foremost among them R. W. Chapman, Jan Fergus, David Gilson, Deirdre Le Faye, Brian Southam and Kathryn Sutherland, without whose work this edition could most certainly not have been undertaken or completed.
CHRONOLOGY
DEIRDRE LE FAYE

1764
26 April Marriage of Revd George Austen, rector of Steventon, and Cassandra Leigh; they go to live at Deane, Hampshire, and their first three children – James (1765), George (1766) and Edward (1767) – are born here.

1768
Summer The Austen family move to Steventon, Hampshire. Five more children – Henry (1771), Cassandra (1773), Francis (1774), Jane (1775), Charles (1779) – are born here.

1773
23 March Mr Austen becomes Rector of Deane as well as Steventon, and takes pupils at Steventon from now until 1796.

1775
16 December Jane Austen born at Steventon.

1781
Winter JA’s cousin, Eliza Hancock, marries Jean-François Capot de Feuillide, in France.

1782
First mention of JA in family tradition, and the first of the family’s amateur theatrical productions takes place.

1783
JA’s third brother, Edward, is adopted by Mr and Mrs Thomas Knight II, and starts to spend time with...
them at Godmersham in Kent.
JA, with her sister Cassandra and cousin
Jane Cooper, stays for some months in Oxford
and then Southampton, with kinswoman
Mrs Cawley.

1785
Spring
JA and Cassandra go to the Abbey House School in
Reading.

1786
Edward sets off for his Grand Tour of Europe, and
does not return until autumn 1790.

April
JA’s fifth brother, Francis, enters the Royal Naval
Academy in Portsmouth.

December
JA and Cassandra have left school and are at home
again in Steventon. Between now and 1793 JA writes
her three volumes of *Juvenilia*.

1788
Summer
Mr and Mrs Austen take JA and Cassandra on a trip
to Kent and London.

December
Francis leaves the RN Academy and sails to East
Indies; does not return until winter 1793.

1791
July
JA’s sixth and youngest brother, Charles, enters the
Royal Naval Academy in Portsmouth.

27 December
Edward Austen marries Elizabeth Bridges, and they
live at Rowling in Kent.

1792
27 March
JA’s eldest brother, James, marries Anne Mathew;
they live at Deane.

?Winter
Cassandra becomes engaged to Revd Tom Fowle.

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Chronology

1793
23 January Edward Austen's first child, Fanny, is born at Rowling.

1 February Republican France declares war on Great Britain and Holland.

8 April JA's fourth brother, Henry, becomes a lieutenant in the Oxfordshire Militia.

15 April James Austen's first child, Anna, born at Deane.

3 June JA writes the last item of her J.

1794
22 February M de Feuillide guillotined in Paris.

September Charles leaves the RN Academy and goes to sea.

?Autumn JA possibly writes the novella Lady Susan this year.

1795
JA probably writes 'Elinor and Marianne' this year.

3 May James's wife Anne dies, and infant Anna is sent to live at Steventon.

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

December Tom Lefroy visits Ashe Rectory – he and JA have a flirtation over the Christmas holiday period.

1796
October JA starts writing ‘First Impressions’.

1797
17 January James Austen marries Mary Lloyd, and infant Anna returns to live at Deane.
Chronology

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

August  
JA finishes ‘First Impressions’ and Mr Austen offers it for publication to Thomas Cadell – rejected sight unseen.

November  
JA starts converting ‘Elinor and Marianne’ into *Sense and Sensibility*. Mrs Austen takes her daughters for a visit to Bath. Edward Austen and his young family move from Rowling to Godmersham.

31 December  
Henry Austen marries his cousin, the widowed Eliza de Feuillide, in London.

1798  
JA probably starts writing ‘Susan’ (later to become *Northanger Abbey*).

17 November  
James Austen’s son James Edward born at Deane.

1799  
Summer  
JA probably finishes ‘Susan’ (*NA*) about now.

1800  
Mr Austen decides to retire and move to Bath.

1801  
24 January  
Henry Austen resigns his commission in the Oxfordshire Militia and sets up as a banker and army agent in London.

May  
The Austen family leave Steventon for Bath, and then go for a seaside holiday in the West Country. JA’s traditionary West Country romance presumably occurs between now and the autumn of 1804.

1802  
25 March  
Peace of Amiens appears to bring the war with France to a close.
### Chronology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1803</td>
<td>Spring: JA sells ‘Susan’ (<em>NA</em>) to Benjamin Crosby; he promises to publish it by 1804, but does not do so.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1804</td>
<td>Summer: The Austens visit Ramsgate in Kent, and possibly also go to the West Country again.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1805</td>
<td>21 January: Mr Austen dies and is buried in Bath.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer: Martha Lloyd joins forces with Mrs Austen and her daughters.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 June: James Austen's younger daughter, Caroline, born at Steventon.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21 October: Battle of Trafalgar.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Chronology

### 1806
- **2 July** Mrs Austen and her daughters finally leave Bath; they visit Clifton, Adlestrop, Stoneleigh and Hamstall Ridware, before settling in Southampton in the autumn.
- **24 July** Francis Austen marries Mary Gibson.

### 1807
- **19 May** Charles Austen marries Fanny Palmer, in Bermuda.

### 1808
- **10 October** Edward Austen’s wife Elizabeth dies at Godmersham.

### 1809
- **5 April** JA makes an unsuccessful attempt to secure the publication of ‘Susan’ (*NA*).
- **7 July** Mrs Austen and her daughters, and Martha Lloyd, move to Chawton, Hants.

### 1810
- **Winter** *S&S* is accepted for publication by Thomas Egerton.

### 1811
- **February** JA starts planning *Mansfield Park*.
- **30 October** *S&S* published.
- **?Winter** JA starts revising ‘First Impressions’ into *Pride and Prejudice*.

### 1812
- **17 June** America declares war on Great Britain.
- **14 October** Mrs Thomas Knight II dies, and Edward Austen now officially takes surname of Knight.
- **Autumn** JA sells copyright of *P&P* to Egerton.

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### Chronology

**1813**

28 January: *P&P* published; JA half-way through *MP*.

?July: JA finishes *MP*.

?November: *MP* accepted for publication by Egerton about now.

**1814**

21 January: JA commences *Emma*.

5 April: Napoleon abdicates and is exiled to Elba.

9 May: *MP* published.


**1815**

March: Napoleon escapes and resumes power in France; hostilities recommence.

29 March: *E* finished.

18 June: Battle of Waterloo finally ends war with France.

8 August: JA starts *Persuasion*.

4 October: Henry Austen takes JA to London; he falls ill, and she stays longer than anticipated.

13 November: JA visits Carlton House, and receives an invitation to dedicate a future work to the Prince Regent.

December: *E* published by John Murray, dedicated to the Prince Regent (title page 1816).

**1816**

19 February: 2nd edition of *MP* published.

Spring: JA’s health starts to fail. Henry Austen buys back manuscript of ‘Susan’ (*NA*), which JA revises and intends to offer again for publication.
Chronology

18 July  First draft of *P* finished.

6 August  *P* finally completed.

1817
27 January  JA starts *Sanditon*.

18 March  JA now too ill to work, and has to leave *S* unfinished.

24 May  Cassandra takes JA to Winchester for medical attention.

18 July  JA dies in the early morning.

24 July  JA buried in Winchester Cathedral.

December  *NA* and *P* published together, by Murray, with a ‘Biographical Notice’ added by Henry Austen (title page 1818).

1869
16 December  JA’s nephew, the Revd James Edward Austen-Leigh (JEAL), publishes his *Memoir of Jane Austen*, from which all subsequent biographies have stemmed (title page 1870).

1871  JEAL publishes a second and enlarged edition of his *Memoir*, including in this the novella *LS*, the cancelled chapters of *P*, the unfinished *W*, a précis of *S*, and ‘The Mystery’ from the *J*.

1884  JA’s great-nephew, Lord Brabourne, publishes *Letters of Jane Austen*, the first attempt to collect her surviving correspondence.

1922  *Volume the Second* of the *J* published.

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Chronology

1925
The manuscript of the unfinished S edited by R. W. Chapman and published as Fragment of a Novel by Jane Austen.

1932
R. W. Chapman publishes Jane Austen's Letters to her sister Cassandra and others, giving letters unknown to Lord Brabourne.

1933
Volume the First of the J published.

1951
Volume the Third of the J published.

1952

1954
R. W. Chapman publishes Jane Austen's Minor Works, which includes the three volumes of the J and other smaller items.

1980
B. C. Southam publishes Jane Austen's 'Sir Charles Grandison', a small manuscript discovered in 1977.

1995
Deirdre Le Faye publishes the third (new) edition of Jane Austen's Letters, containing further additions to the Chapman collections.