

# Chronology

- 1775 On 16 December, Jane Austen, the seventh of eight children of George and Cassandra Austen, is born in Steventon, England.
- 1778 James Gillray is admitted to the Royal Academy to study engraving. His tenure overlaps that of William Blake. The majority of Gillray's satirical engravings appeared between 1793 and 1810.
- 1783 Austen's brother Edward is formally adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Knight, wealthy distant cousins.
- 1793 French Revolutionary War with England begins; France and England are at war almost continuously until the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.
- 1794 The husband of Austen's cousin Eliza is guillotined in Paris; Eliza marries Austen's brother Henry in 1797.
- 1794–95 Austen writes *Lady Susan*.
- 1796 Earliest letter to Cassandra (15–16 September) in the Morgan's collection.
- 1801 Austen family moves to Bath, the preeminent resort town in England.
- 1803 Austen sells copyright for *Northanger Abbey* (then titled "Susan") to Benjamin Crosby, a London publisher, for £10. He never published it.
- 1804 Austen starts drafting *The Watsons*, an unfinished novel.
- 1805 Austen's father dies.
- 1809 Austen settles at Chawton Cottage on her brother Edward's estate.
- 1811 *Sense and Sensibility* published. George III declared insane, the prince of Wales (future George IV) becomes prince regent.
- 1813 *Pride and Prejudice* published.
- 1814 *Mansfield Park* published.
- 1816 *Emma* published and dedicated to the prince regent at his request.
- 1817 Austen begins work on "The Brothers" (later *Sanditon*) but cannot finish due to her worsening illness. On 18 July Jane Austen dies and is buried at Winchester Cathedral.
- 1818 *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* are published posthumously with a biographic note by Austen's brother Henry. The note announces, for the first time, that Jane Austen is the author of these works.
- 1869 James Edward Austen-Leigh publishes a biography of his "dear Aunt Jane" entitled *A Memoir of Jane Austen*.
- 1940 The Jane Austen Society is founded in England. The first Austen film, *Pride and Prejudice*, starring Greer Garson and Laurence Olivier, is released.
- 1979 The Jane Austen Society of North America is founded.
- 1995 Colin Firth plays Mr. Darcy in the BBC/A&E film version of *Pride and Prejudice*. Ang Lee's film of *Sense and Sensibility* is nominated for an Oscar for best picture; Emma Thompson wins an Oscar for best adapted screenplay.
- 2007 *Becoming Jane*, the first feature film inspired by Austen's life and letters, is released.
- 2009 *Later Manuscripts*, the ninth and final volume of the Cambridge edition of the works of Jane Austen is published.