

Unit Six- The Romantic Period (1798-1832)

Jane Austen Bio

Birthdate 12/16/1775 City, Country Steventon, England

Parents George and Cassandra Austen

Father's profession minister

Was extremely close to sister Cassandra

Attended school in Oxford, Southhampton and the Abbey School at Reading, but left when the family could no longer afford tuition.



Learned French, Italian, and the piano from family at home.

Met Tom LeFroy at the age of 20. She fell in love with him but his family sent him away because she was poor.

Met and got engaged to Harris Bigg-Wither at age 27, but changed her mind because she did not love him.

Austen never married, but wrote a great deal about courtship and marriage in her novels.

First three novels (1796-1798): Northanger Abbey, Sense and Sensibility, and Pride and Prejudice, but they were not published until later.

After her father's death, Austen began to write again and penned Mansfield Park, Emma, and Persuasion in Chawton.

She was writing the novel Sandition when she contracted a sudden illness, likely Addison's disease, and died in 1817.