The aim of this series is to provide a framework for original studies of present-day English. All are based securely on empirical research, and represent theoretical and descriptive contributions to our knowledge of national varieties of English, both written and spoken. The series covers a broad range of topics in English grammar, vocabulary, discourse and pragmatics, and is aimed at an international readership.
The English of the southern United States is possibly the most studied of any regional variety of any language because of its rich internal diversity, its distinctiveness among regional varieties in the United States, its significance as a marker of regional identity, and the general folkloric appeal of southern culture. However, most, if not all, books about Southern American English have been directed almost exclusively toward scholars already working in the field. This volume, written by a team of experts, many of them internationally known, provides a broad overview of the foundations of and current research on language variation in the southern United States designed to invite new inquiry and inquirers. It explores historical and cultural elements, iconic contemporary features, and current changes in progress. Central themes, issues and topics of scholarly investigation and debate figure prominently throughout the volume. The extensive bibliography will facilitate continued research.

Contents

Contributors
John Algeo, Edgar Schneider, Laura Wright, Salikoko Mufwene, Patricia Cukor-Avila, Cynthia Bernstein, George Dorrill, Crawford Feagin, Walt Wolfram, Jan Tillery, Guy Bailey, Connie Eble, Barbara Johnstone

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This explores the history of the English language in China from the arrival of the first English-speaking traders in the early seventeenth century to the present. Kingsley Bolton brings together and examines a substantial body of historical, linguistic, and sociolinguistic research on the description and analysis of English in Hong Kong and China. He uses early word-lists, satirical cartoons and data from journals and memoirs, as well as more conventional sources, to uncover the forgotten history of English in China and to show how contemporary Hong Kong English has its historical roots in Chinese pidgin English. The book also considers the varying status of English in mainland China over time, and recent developments since 1997. With its interdisciplinary perspective, the book will appeal not only to linguists, but to all those working in the fields of Asian studies and English studies, including those concerned with cultural and literary studies.

Contents
1. New Englishes and World Englishes: pluricentric approaches to English worldwide; 2. The sociolinguistics of English in late colonial Hong Kong (1980–1997); 3. The archaeology of ‘Chinese Englishes’ 1637–1949; 4. The emergence of Hong Kong English as a ‘new English’; 5. Hong Kong, China, and Chinese Englishes; Appendix 1: Chinese dialects in China; Appendix 2: Chinese dialects in Guangdong (Canton) province; Appendix 3: The Common Foreign Language of the Red-haired People (1835); Appendix 4: The vocabulary of Hong Kong English; References; Index.

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How and why did grammatical gender, found in Old English and in other Germanic languages, gradually disappear from English and get replaced by a system where the gender of nouns and the use of personal pronouns depend on the natural gender of the referent? How is this shift related to ‘irregular agreement’ (such as she for ships) and ‘sexist’ language use (such as generic he) in Modern English, and how is the language continuing to evolve in these respects? Anne Curzan’s accessibly written and carefully researched study is based on extensive corpus data, and will make a major contribution by providing a historical perspective on these often controversial questions. It will be of interest to researchers and students in history of English, historical linguistics, corpus linguistics, language and gender, and medieval studies.

Contents
Introduction; 1. Defining English gender; 2. The gender shift in histories of English; 3. A history of gender, people, and pronouns: the story of generic he; 4. Third-person pronouns in the gender shift: why is that ship a she?; 5. Gender and asymmetrical word histories: when boys could be girls; 6. Implications for non-sexist language reform; Appendices: Appendix 1: Background on Early English Personal Pronouns; Appendix 2: Helsinki Corpus Texts and Methodology.
New Zealand English – at just 150 years old – is one of the newest varieties of English, and is unique in that its full history and development are documented in extensive audio-recordings. The rich corpus of spoken language provided by New Zealand’s ‘mobile disk unit’ has provided insight into how the earliest New Zealand-born settlers spoke, and consequently, how this new variety of English developed. On the basis of these recordings, this book examines and analyses the extensive linguistic changes New Zealand English has undergone since it was first spoken in the 1850s. The authors, all experts in phonetics and sociolinguistics, use the data to test previous explanations for new dialect formation, and to challenge current claims about the nature of language change. The first ever corpus-based study of the evolution of New Zealand English, this book will be welcomed by all those interested in phonetics, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics and dialectology.

Contents
1. Introduction; 2. Overview and background; 3. The historical background; 4. Previous attempts to explain the origins of New Zealand English; 5. Methodology; 6. The variables of early New Zealand English; 7. The origins of New Zealand English: reflections from the ONZE data; 8. Implications for language change; Appendices.
As a result of colonisation, many varieties of English now exist around the world. *Legacies of Colonial English* explores the role of British dialects in both the genesis and subsequent history of postcolonial Englishes, and how it came about that many still reflect non-standard British usage from the distant past.

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