English in the Southern United States

The English of the southern United States is possibly the most studied 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 whom are 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 at the end of the book will facilitate continued research.

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English in the Southern United States
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The aim of this series is to provide a framework for original work on the English language. 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 will cover a broad range of topics in English grammar, vocabulary, discourse, and pragmatics, and is aimed at an international readership.

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and

SARA L. SANDERS
Coastal Carolina University
This book is dedicated to
Michael Montgomery,
a linguist’s linguist and a true southern gentleman,
whose work continues to shape the course of the
study of Southern English
# Contents

*Notes on the contributors*  
*Acknowledgments*  

**Introduction**  
1 The origins of Southern American English  
John Algeo  

2 Shakespeare in the coves and hollows? Toward a history of Southern English  
Edgar Schneider  

3 Eight grammatical features of southern United States speech present in early modern London prison narratives  
Laura Wright  

4 The shared ancestry of African-American and American-White Southern Englihes: some speculations dictated by history  
Salikoko Mufwene  

5 The complex grammatical history of African-American and white vernaculars in the South  
Patricia Cukor-Avila  

6 Grammatical features of southern speech: *yall*, *might* *could*, and *fixin to*  
Cynthia Bernstein  

7 Sounding southern: a look at the phonology of English in the South  
George Dorrill  

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*Acknowledgments*  

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Patricia Cukor-Avila  

6 Grammatical features of southern speech: *yall*, *might* *could*, and *fixin to*  
Cynthia Bernstein  

7 Sounding southern: a look at the phonology of English in the South  
George Dorrill
Contents

8 Vowel shifting in the southern states 126
   CRAWFORD FEAGIN

9 Enclave dialect communities in the South 141
   WALT WOLFRAM

10 Urbanization and the evolution of Southern American English 159
    JAN TILLERY AND GUY BAILEY

11 The Englishes of southern Louisiana 173
    CONNIE EBLE

12 Features and uses of southern style 189
    BARBARA JOHNSTONE

References 208

Index 233
Notes on the contributors

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