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978-0-521-37866-6 - *A-Morphous Morphology*  
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In *A-Morphous Morphology*, Stephen Anderson presents a theory of word structure which relates to a full generative description of language. He holds word structure to be the result of interacting principles from a number of grammatical areas, and thus not localized in a single morphological component. Dispensing with classical morphemes, the theory instead treats morphology as a matter of rule-governed relations, minimizing the non-phonological internal structure assigned to words and eliminating morphologically motivated boundary elements. Professor Anderson makes the further claim that the properties of individual lexical items are not visible to, or manipulated by, the rules of the syntax, and assimilates to morphology special clitic phenomena. *A-Morphous Morphology* maintains significant distinctions between inflection, derivation, and compounding, in terms of their place in a grammar. It contains discussion also of the implications of this new *A-Morphous* position for issues of language change, language typology, and the computational analysis of word structure.

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# A-MORPHOUS MORPHOLOGY

STEPHEN R. ANDERSON

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**For my teachers, and for my students**

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Linguistics will become a science when linguists begin standing  
on one another's shoulders instead of on one another's toes.

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## *Acknowledgments*

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The position described in this book has evolved over the past fifteen years or so, and is a continuation of the view known to some as 'Extended Word and Paradigm Morphology' (see Anderson 1982 and Thomas-Flinders 1981). This view has its origins in the insightful discussion of inflection and of the foundations of morphology in Matthews 1972, and also in the theory of Word Formation Rules of Aronoff (1976). It has developed through several seminars (on morphology, inflection, morphological change, morphology as a parsing problem, and word-internal structure) at UCLA, and owes much to the participants in those groups. Other courses at Stanford (on historical morphology in 1983, and on inflection at the 1987 Linguistic Institute) have also played a role, as well as a number of lectures and conference presentations. More recently, I have had the opportunity to present some of this material to my colleagues in the Department of Cognitive Science at Johns Hopkins, and also to a class at the 1989 Linguistic Institute at the University of Arizona. All of these audiences have provided valuable commentary and criticism, and I would like to express my indebtedness for the patience of these groups and the insights that they have offered me.

I would also like to express my appreciation to Mark Aronoff, John Goldsmith, Sergio Scalise, and especially to Norbert Hornstein, whose comments on portions of this manuscript have been particularly valuable.

Some of the material in this book has appeared elsewhere in other forms. Portions of the surveys presented in Anderson 1988a and Anderson 1988c have been cannibalized here and expanded into various chapters. An earlier version of the analysis of Potawatomi in chapter 6 formed the basis of Anderson 1977c. Much of the material in chapter 10 has appeared in Anderson 1989b, 1990c, 1990b. The historical discussion in chapter 13 is adapted from Anderson 1988b, though with some revisions. A version of chapter 14 has appeared separately as Anderson 1988d. An earlier version of chapter 12 was presented at the International Morphology Meeting in Krems, Austria, in July 1988 and appeared as Anderson 1990d in a volume of papers from that conference. I am grateful to the publishers of these works for their permission to use them in this way. The excuse for going over ground that has already

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to a certain extent appeared in print is that many individual points benefit substantially from being presented in a more comprehensive context that makes clearer their relation to one another.

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