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**Historical Linguistics 1989: Papers from the 9th
International Conference on Historical Linguistics, New
Brunswick, 14–18 August 1989**

Edited by Henk Aertsen and Robert J. Jeffers

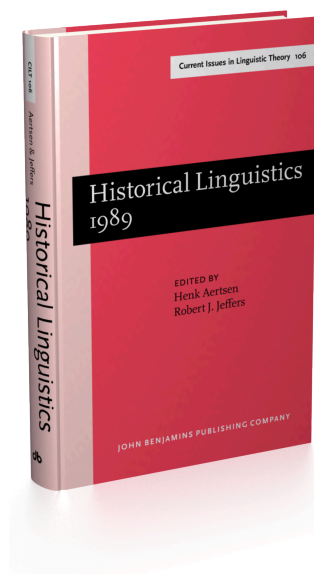
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Foreword

The 9th International Conference on Historical Linguistics took place in New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA from August 14 to 18, 1989. The Conference was hosted by Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey and was organized with the assistance of the Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Linguistics. ICHL 9 was attended by 141 linguists from 26 countries; 117 papers on a wide range of historical linguistic topics were delivered in parallel sections. The abstracts of papers presented at the Conference were submitted for assessment to a committee (Henning Andersen, Dorothy Disterheft, Marinel Gerritsen, Robert Jeffers, Jaap van Marle) prior to the Conference and the final decision as to which papers should be included in the program was based on the committee's recommendations.

The present volume contains a selection of papers read at the general sessions of ICHL 9. The Conference program also included two Special Topics Workshops: a workshop on Internal and External Factors in Syntactic Change organized by Marinel Gerritsen and Dieter Stein; and a workshop on Latin and the Romance Languages in the Middle Ages organized by Roger Wright. Papers from the two workshops have been published separately. The workshops significantly enhanced the Conference and I want to thank Marinel, Dieter and Roger for their gracious cooperation and for immense efforts expended on the mounting of these special sessions.

The success of ICHL 9 was due in large part to the extraordinary level of economic, practical and moral support that was provided by the Rutgers Administration and by many of my individual colleagues and associates at Rutgers. In particular, I want to acknowledge here the generous financial support of consecutive Deans of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Tilden Edelstein and Richard McCormick; Provost Paul Leath; James Reed, Dean of Rutgers College; James Johnson, University Director of International Programs; Carl Kirschner, Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese; and my colleagues in the Department of Linguistics.

Countless individuals also gave selflessly of their time and energy to this project. Among them, Seth Gopin deserves special mention for lending his unique talents to the planning and implementation of the Conference's very successful Wednesday afternoon excursions to New York City. Two people, however, deserve the largest share of the credit for the professional and efficient management of ICHL 9. For more than a year, Jill Millerand and Jean Mecka labored energetically and intelligently on all aspects of the Conference. Their commitment to this project was total and enthusiastic, and far above the call of duty. They have earned my most sincere gratitude and my everlasting respect.

Jean Mecka deserves an additional expression of appreciation for her extraordinary contribution to the preparation of this volume. We confronted many unexpected technical problems in our attempts to prepare camera-ready copy for the publisher; Jean's tenacity, creativity and common sense in the effort to provide possible solutions to those problems was remarkable.

I must express my regrets here for the unfortunate delay in the appearance of this volume, a delay which was occasioned by the necessity for me to attend to calamitous occurrences in my personal life. I am most grateful to Henning Andersen for his role in bringing about the collaboration between me and Henk Aertsen that made possible the completion of this project this year. Henk's efforts over the past several months on behalf of the publication of this volume have been heroic. I owe him an enormous debt of gratitude, as do the volume's authors, for his expertise, his labor and his great generosity. Finally, I take this opportunity to express heartfelt thanks to the contributors to this volume for their exceptional patience and understanding.

Robert J. Jeffers
Rutgers University
October 1992

Just before the present volume went to press, I was informed of the passing away of my co-editor, Robert Jeffers. He wrote the above Foreword in October 1992 when we met in New York to discuss various editorial matters with regard to "our" book. Not very long after that meeting it became apparent that he had the same disease that had killed his partner a year earlier; in December he was hospitalized and on May 2, 1993, he died.

Robert Jeffers will be remembered by those who knew him as a fine Sanskritist and historical linguist, and he will live on in our memories through his publications, of which the present volume is the last. I dedicate this volume, the proceedings of the conference he organized, to his memory.

Henk Aertsen
Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam
May 1993

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