

Editors' Foreword

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/cilt.113.01edi>

Pages v–vi of

**English Historical Linguistics 1992: Papers from the 7th
International Conference on English Historical Linguistics,
Valencia, 22–26 September 1992**

**Edited by Francisco Fernández, Miguel Fuster Márquez and
Juan Jose Calvo**

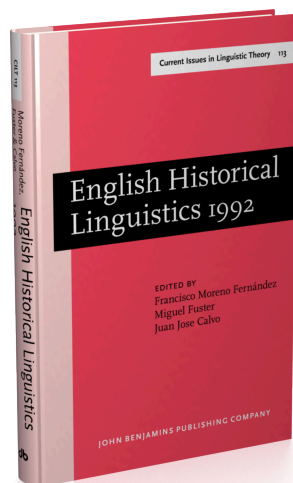
[*Current Issues in Linguistic Theory*, 113]

1994. viii, 388 pp.

© John Benjamins Publishing Company

This electronic file may not be altered in any way. For any reuse of this material written permission should be obtained from the publishers or through the Copyright Clearance Center (for USA: www.copyright.com).

For further information, please contact rights@benjamins.nl or consult our website at benjamins.com/rights



FOREWORD

This volume contains a selection of the papers read during the *Seventh International Conference on English Historical Linguistics* (7.ICEHL), which was held in Valencia (Spain), on 21–26 September 1992. It was the first time that ICEHL took place outside Northern Europe and it appears that the venue chosen resulted in the participation of a significant number of young Spanish scholars currently working in the field.

If one is to judge by the number of participants, this ICEHL has been very successful: approximately 200 scholars attended the meeting. Prior to the event, the Organizing Committee was confronted with the difficult task of having to choose from well over one hundred abstracts submitted. It was decided that only seventy-six papers should be read. They were to be distributed among six plenaries, eight semi-plenaries and sixty fifteen-minute papers. All this was compacted into four days of parallel sessions, starting in morning of the 22nd, and ending in the evening of the 25th of September. The different levels of English and its history were dealt with in these sections: twenty three papers on morpho-syntax, thirteen on dialectology, variation and language contact, eight on lexicology and semantics, eight on pragmatics and text types, five on phonology, four on various aspects of writing, and several more papers on other subjects.

In this volume, we have ‘harvested’ what we believe to be the most important contributions. Once more the selection has been both a time-consuming and an arduous task due to the number and quality of the papers submitted for publication. As the table of contents shows, the material has been rearranged in a slightly different way than in the original program, but fully representative, we trust, of the variety of subjects presented at 7.ICEHL. Some of our invited speakers have concentrated on *general issues*: For instance, Richard Hogg examines the relationship between *linguistics* and *philology*, Enrique Bernárdez analyses syntactic change from the point of view of *catastrophe theory*, Roger Sell suggests a pragmatic analysis of historical data, while Norman Blake and Jacek Fisiak re-open the subject of *periodization* in the history of English. Other speakers focussed on aspects which appear under the headings of phonology and writing, morphology and syntax, lexicology and semantics, and, finally, varieties of English and studies on individual texts.

The editors would like to use the occasion to express their gratitude to those persons and institutions that have actively cooperated with us during and after 7.ICEHL. Our thanks go, in the first place, to the Spanish Ministerio de Educacion y Ciencia, and the local institutions Generalitat Valenciana, Conselleria d'Educació i Ciencia, University of Valencia, Facultat de Filologia and our own Department of English & German Philology, and, last but not least, to The British Council, for their financial support. Likewise, we would like to thank the City of Valencia for assisting us in the arrangement of several social events. We cannot forget the enthusiastic help received from some of our students of English during the Conference, and the efficiency of our former secretary in the English and German Department, Ms Alicia Salvá. Finally, we wish to thank the firm of John Benjamins for accepting the publication of these Proceedings, and particularly for the very sound editorial advice and constant help received from the series editor and Ms Yola de Lusenet of their Amsterdam office.

Valencia, October 1993

Francisco Fernández
Miguel Fuster
Juan-José Calvo