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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Table of contents -- Foreword -- Section 1: Linguistics and philology -- Introduction: Linguistics and philology / Curzan, Anne / Emmons, Kimberly -- Philology, linguistics, and the history of [hw]~[w] / Minkova, Donka -- An essay in historical sociolinguistics?: On Donka Minkova's "Philology, linguistics, and the history of [hw]~[w]" / Milroy, Lesley -- A brief response / Minkova, Donka -- Why we should not believe in short diphthongs / White, David L. -- Extended forms (Streckformen) in English / Liberman, Anatoly -- Linguistic change in words one owns: How trademarks become "generic" / Butters, Ronald R. / Westerhaus, Jennifer -- Section 2: Corpus- and text-based studies -- Introduction: Corpus- and text-based studies / Curzan, Anne / Emmons, Kimberly -- The meanings and uses of the progressive construction in an early eighteenth-century English network / Fitzmaurice, Susan M. -- Investigating the expressive progressive: On Susan M. Fitzmaurice's "The meanings and uses of the progressive construction in an early eighteenth-century English network" / Smitterberg, Erik -- A brief response / Fitzmaurice, Susan M. -- Modal use across registers and time / Biber, Douglas -- The need for good texts: The case of Henry Machyn's Day Book, 1550-1563 / Bailey, Richard W. -- The perils of firsts: Dating Rawlinson MS Poet. 108 and

tracing the development of monolingual English lexicons / Lancashire, Ian -- Section 3: Constraint-based studies -- Introduction: Constraint-based studies / Curzan, Anne / Emmons, Kimberly -- The evolution of Middle English alliterative meter / Russom, Geoffrey -- Old English poetry and the alliterative revival: On Geoffrey Russom's "The evolution of Middle English alliterative meter" / Fulk, Robert D. -- A brief response / Russom, Geoffrey -- A central metrical prototype for English iambic tetrameter verse: Evidence from Chaucer's octosyllabic lines / Li, Xingzhong -- Early English clause structure change in a stochastic optimality theory setting / Clark, Brady Z. -- The role of perceptual contrast in Verner's Law / Petrova, Olga -- Section 4: Dialectology -- Introduction: Dialectology / Curzan, Anne / Emmons, Kimberly -- Historical perspectives on the pen/pin merger in Southern American English / Montgomery, Michael / Eble, Connie -- Digging up the roots of Southern American English: On Michael Montgomery and Connie Eble's "Historical perspectives on the pen/pin merger in Southern American English" / Bailey, Guy -- A brief response / Montgomery, Michael / Eble, Connie -- Vowel merger in west central Indiana: A naughty, knotty project / Phillips, Betty S. -- The spread of negative contraction in early English / Hogg, Richard M. -- Name index -- Subject index

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### Sommario/riassunto

Studies in the History of the English Language II: Unfolding Conversations contains selected papers from the SHEL-2 conference held at the University of Washington in Spring 2002. In the volume, scholars from North America and Europe address a broad spectrum of research topics in historical English linguistics, including new theories/methods such as Optimality Theory and corpus linguistics, and traditional fields such as phonology and syntax. In each of the four sections - Philology and linguistics; Corpus- and text-based studies; Constraint-based studies; Dialectology - a key article provides the focal point for a discussion between leading scholars, who respond directly to each other's arguments within the volume. In Section 1, Donka Minkova and Lesley Milroy explore the possibilities of historical sociolinguistics as part of a discussion of the distinction between philology and linguistics. In Section 2, Susan M. Fitzmaurice and Erik Smitterberg provide new research findings on the history and usage of progressive constructions. In Section 3, Geoffrey Russom and Robert D. Fulk reanalyze the development of Middle English alliterative meter. In Section 4, Michael Montgomery, Connie Eble, and Guy Bailey interpret new historical evidence of the pen/pin merger in Southern American English. The remaining articles address equally salient problems and possibilities within the field of historical English linguistics. The volume spans topics and time periods from Proto-Germanic sound change to twenty-first century dialect variation, and methodologies from painstaking philological work with written texts to high-speed data gathering in computerized corpora. As a whole, the volume captures an ongoing conversation at the heart of historical English linguistics: the question of evidence and historical reconstruction.

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