

AMERICAN ENGLISH & AMERICAN SCENES: AN INTRODUCTION

Craigie (Sir William), *et al.* (eds), *A Dictionary of American English on Historical Principles* (4 vols, Chicago, 1938-44; reprinted, London, 1969).

Mathews (M.M.) (ed.), *A Dictionary of Americanisms on Historical Principles* (Chicago, 1951).

Cassidy (Frederic G.) *et al.* (eds), *Dictionary of American Regional English* (Cambridge, Mass., 1985-) [4 vols so far: A-C, D-H, I-O, P-Sk].

Webster's New World Dictionary of American English, ed. Victoria Neufeldt *et al.* (New York and London, c.1994).

Landau (Sidney) (ed.), *The Cambridge Dictionary of American English* (Cambridge, c.2000).

Webster's New World College Dictionary, ed. Michael Ayres (4th ed., New York, c.1999).

The Oxford American Dictionary of Current English (New York, 1999).

Lutz (William D.) (ed.), *The Cambridge Thesaurus of American English* (Cambridge, 1994).

Major (Clarence) (ed.), *Black Slang; A Dictionary of Afro-American Talk* (London, 1971).

Chapman (Robert L.) and Kipfer (Barbara Ann) (eds), *New Dictionary of American Slang* (3rd ed., New York, c.1995).

Chapman (Robert L.) (ed.), *Thesaurus of American Slang* (London, 1990).

Partridge (Eric) (ed.), *A Dictionary of Catch Phrases, British and American, from the Sixteenth Century to the Present Day* (London, 1977).

Mieder (Wolfgang) *et al.* (eds), *A Dictionary of American Proverbs* (New York and Oxford, 1996).

Garraty (John A.) and Carnes (Mark C.) (eds), *American National Biography* (24 vols, New York and Oxford, 1999).

Concise Dictionary of American Biography (5th ed., 2 vols, New York, 1997).

Purvis (Thomas L.), *A Dictionary of American History* (Oxford, 1995).

Plano (Jack C.), *The American Political Dictionary* (10th ed., Fort Worth and London, c.1997).

Hitchcock (H. Wiley) and Sadie (Stanley) (eds.), *The Grove Dictionary of*

American Music (4 vols, London, 1986).

Wilmeth (Don B.), *The Language of American Popular Entertainment; A Glossary of Argot, Slang, and Terminology* (London, 1981).

Webster (Noah), *Dissertations on the English Language* (Boston, 1789; reprinted, London, 1997).

Twain (Mark) (pseud.), 'Concerning the American Language' (1882), in *Mark Twain: Collected Tales, Sketches, Speeches, & Essays, 1852-1890*, sel. & ed. Louis J. Budd (Library of America; New York, c.1992).

Whitman (Walt), *An American Primer*, ed. Horace Traubel (1904, reprinted, San Francisco, 1970); and see also his 'Slang in America' [1885], collected in *November Boughs* (1888), text in *Walt Whitman; Poetry and Prose* (Library of America College Edition, New York, 1996), pp. 1189-94; and see also Kramer (Michael P.), *Imagining Language in America* (Princeton, 1992).

James (Henry), *The Question of our Speech; The Lesson of Balzac; Two Lectures* (Boston, 1905; reprinted, New York, 1972).

Mencken (H.L.) (ed.), *The American Language; An Enquiry into the Development of English in the United States* (1919; 4th corr. & enl. ed., 1936; reprinted with Supplements I & II, 3 vols, New York, 1945-8).

Eliot (T.S.), 'American Literature and the American Language' (1953), in his *To Criticize the Critic* (London, 1965), pp. 43-60.

Ricks (Christopher), 'American English and the Inherently Transitory', in his *The Force of Poetry* (Oxford, 1984), pp. 417-41.

Fliegelman (Jay), *Declaring Independence; Jefferson, Natural Language & the Culture of Performance* (Stanford, Cal., c.1993).

Looby (Christopher), *Voicing America; Language, Literary Form, and the Origins of the United States* (Chicago, c.1996).

Gustafson (Thomas), *Representative Words; Politics, Literature, and the American Language, 1776-1865* (Cambridge, 1992).

McDavid (R.I.), *Varieties of American English* (Stanford, Cal., 1980).

Brooks (Cleanth), *The Language of the American South* (Athens, Ga, c.1985).

Simpson (David), *The Politics of American English, 1776-1850* (New York, 1986).

Dillard (J.L.), *A History of American English* (London, 1992).

Tottie (Gunnel), *An Introduction to American English* (Malden, Mass., 2002).

Wolosky (Shira), 'Poetic Languages', in Bercovitch (Sacvan) (ed.), *The Cambridge History of American Literature, Vol. 4: Nineteenth-Century Poetry, 1800-1910* (Cambridge, 2004), pp. 248-323.

Burke (David), *Street Talk; How to Speak and Understand American Slang* (Los Angeles, 1991).

Allen (Irving Lewis), *The City in Slang; New York Life and Popular Speech* (Oxford, 1993).

Baugh (John), *Black Street Speech; Its History, Structure, and Survival* (Austin, Texas, 1983).

Heath (S.B.), *Ways With Words; Language, Life and Work in Communities and Classrooms* (Cambridge, 1983) [on U.S. black and white vernacular speech habitats].

Poplack (Shana) (ed.), *The English History of African American English* (Malden, Mass., 2000).

Bonfiglio (Thomas Paul), *Race and the Rise of Standard American* (Berlin and New York, 2002).

In consulting these studies and reference works it should be remembered that regional and historical aspects of population change, over the course of American expansion, immigration history and urban development, substantially affected language use patterns and linguistic habitats. Some recent overviews of these aspects, including helpful maps and charts, are provided in:

Brogan (Hugh), *The Penguin History of the United States of America* (2nd ed., London, 2001).

Mitchell (Robert D.) and Groves (Paul A.), *North America; The Historical Geography of a Changing Continent* (Totowa, N.J., 1987).

Haines (Michael R.) and Steckel (Richard H.), *A Population History of North America* (Cambridge, 2000).

Ciucci (Giorgio) *et al.*, *The American City; From the Civil War to the New Deal*, trans. Barbara Luigia La Penta (Cambridge, Mass., 1979, reprinted, London, 1980; original Italian ed., Rome, 1973).

Monti (Daniel J.), Jr, *The American City; A Social and Cultural History* (Malden, Mass., 1999).

Homberger (Eric), *The Penguin Historical Atlas of North America* (London, 1995).

Short (John R.), *Representing the Republic; Mapping the United States, 1600-1900* (London, 2001).

Wexler (Alan), *Atlas of Westward Expansion* (New York, c.1995).

Hayes (Derek), *America Discovered; A Historical Atlas of North American Exploration* (Berkeley, 2004).

Conzen (Michael P.) (ed.), *The Making of the American Landscape* (New York and London, 1990, reprinted, 1994).

Bunce (Michael), *The Countryside Ideal; Anglo-American Images of Landscape* (London, 1994).

J.H. Prynne, April 2006

PDF file created on 20 August 2007