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# **Front Matter**

Jane B. Grimshaw

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#### INTRODUCTION

All the papers reproduced here, with the exception of Jay Keyser's article on Relative Clauses, are the result of a workshop on the history and structure of English which was held at the University of Massachusetts during the summer of 1974, and supported by grant no. NSF GS 35283 to the University of Massachusetts (Samuel Jay Keyser Principal Investigator). The contributors are members of the Department of Linguistics at the University.

Of the four syntax papers included in the volume the first three address essentially the same problem: distinguishing between deletion and movement as syntactic processes. They approach this problem with respect to Relativization and Comparative formation at various stages in the syntax of English. Using an analysis in which all Relative Clauses are formed by movement, Jay Keyser traces the history of Relativization from Old to Modern English. Jane Grimshaw proposes a rule of relativization by deletion for Relative Clauses in Middle English, and Joan Bresnan argues that Modern English Comparative Deletion, though a deletion rule and not a movement rule, obeys certain constraints that have sometimes been considered diagnostics for movement.

In Cynthia Allen's paper on 'Old English Modals' it is argued that Modals in Old English were main verbs rather than auxiliary verbs, and on this is based an analysis of Old English word order.

Robin Cooper's analysis of Old High German phonology has been included because of its intrinsic interest, and because of the significance of studies in Germanic languages for work on the early stages of English. In 'Metathesis and Old English Phonology' Jay Keyser provides a detailed phonological analysis of a significant amount of Old English data and makes the theoretically interesting claim that a rule of metathesis is crucially involved in solving certain problems that arise.

It is hoped that this volume will be of interest to linguists working in the areas represented here.

Jane B. Grimshaw. Editor.

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J.G.