

Contents

<i>List of Tables</i>	ix
<i>List of Maps and Figures</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xiv
1 Introduction	1
2 Contact, Isolation and Language Change:	
A Theoretical Framework	8
Introduction	8
Dialect contact and koinéisation	10
Language contact	21
Change without contact: enclave communities	34
3 Tristan da Cunha	41
Topographical and geophysical aspects	41
A social history of Tristan da Cunha	43
Sociolinguistic and linguistic implications	62
Conclusion	70
4 Methodology and Fieldwork	73
The 'pre-history' of the Tristan da Cunha project	73
Fieldwork on Tristan da Cunha	74
Fieldwork and ethnographic activities	79
Defining the object of investigation	84
5 Determining Input Interaction: Present Tense Concord	91
Present tense concord in British English	91
Present tense marking in TdCE	95
Historical and contemporary aspects of present tense marking in TdCE	103
Discussion and conclusion: input interaction and feature selection	108
6 Categoricity and Levelling: Present/Past <i>be</i> Regularisation	111
The special status of <i>be</i> in English	112
Historical and contemporary aspects of <i>be</i> levelling	114
The patterning of <i>is/was</i> regularisation in TdCE: an overview	118
Discussion and conclusion: transplantation and categoricity	135

7 Dynamism v. Retention: 'Completive <i>done</i>'	143
'Completive <i>done</i> ' in world English	144
The (<i>Aux</i>) <i>done V(ed)</i> construction: an overview	148
'Completive <i>done</i> ' in TdCE	154
Discussion and conclusion: dynamic or archaic?	164
8 Innovation and Independent Developments: <i>Useta went</i>	169
Delineating <i>usetá went</i>	170
Regular and irregular verbs	172
Past tense marking in non-standard English	173
Tense marking in TdCE	176
The <i>usetá went</i> construction	183
Discussion and conclusion: insularity and innovation	188
9 Conclusion	195
Selection	196
Conservatism v. innovation	201
Post-insularity	204
Conclusion	206
<i>Appendix</i>	207
<i>Notes</i>	213
<i>References</i>	219
<i>Index</i>	233