This volume is the third in a series inspired by an informal meeting at Stanford in 2012 that prompted collaborative study of how regionally defining differences in vowels were instantiated in parts of the West with very different migratory histories and with very different senses of place and practice. The previous two volumes suggested that Anglo speakers were not the only ones participating in or leading regional sound changes and that non-Anglo influences may be foundational to the formation of local dialectal patterns. Yet, these remain vastly understudied dialects. This volume more directly focuses on important phenomena in the speech of underrepresented groups in the West to uncover how such varieties contribute to and enrich our understanding of the history and realization of speech in the region. With this new volume, we address shared sociophonetic features common to multiple social groups in a given dialect area, but we also critique potentially essentialist assumptions about the origin of features and the range of features of import to defining modern Western speech.

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