

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Record Nr. | UNINA9910159458103321 |
| Autore | Twitty Anne Silverwood <1980-> |
| Titolo | Before Dred Scott : slavery and legal culture in the American confluence, 1787-1857 / / Anne Twitty, University of Mississippi [[electronic resource]] |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | New York : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2016 |
| ISBN | 1-316-98159-2 1-316-98381-1 1-316-98418-4 1-316-98455-9 1-316-98492-3 1-107-53089-X 1-316-28243-0 1-316-98603-9 |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (xiii, 285 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) |
| Collana | Cambridge historical studies in American law and society |
| Disciplina | 342.7308/7 |
| Soggetti | Enslaved persons - Legal status, laws, etc - Missouri - St. Louis Region - History - 19th century |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Note generali | Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 25 Nov 2016). |
| Nota di contenuto | A radical indeterminacy of status -- "With the ease of a veteran litigant" -- "[B]y the help of God and a good lawyer" -- Slavery from liberty to equality -- "[W]orking his emancipation" -- Exploiting the uncertainties of federalism -- Remembering slavery and freedom in the American confluence -- Conclusion. |
| Sommario/riassunto | Before Dred Scott draws on the freedom suits filed in the St Louis Circuit Court to construct a groundbreaking history of slavery and legal culture within the American Confluence, a vast region where the Ohio, Mississippi, and Missouri Rivers converge. Formally divided between slave and free territories and states, the American Confluence was nevertheless a site where the borders between slavery and freedom, like the borders within the region itself, were fluid. Such ambiguity produced a radical indeterminacy of status, which, in turn, gave rise to a distinctive legal culture made manifest by the prosecution of |

hundreds of freedom suits, including the case that ultimately culminated in the landmark United States Supreme Court decision in Dred Scott vs Sandford. Challenging dominant trends in legal history, Before Dred Scott argues that this distinctive legal culture, above all, was defined by ordinary people's remarkable understanding of and appreciation for formal law.
