

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910370047403321
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Titolo	An Archaeology of Nineteenth-Century Consumer Behavior in Melbourne, Australia, and Buenos Aires, Argentina / / by Pamela Ricardi
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2020
ISBN	3-030-21595-4
Edizione	[1st ed. 2020.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (247 pages)
Collana	Contributions To Global Historical Archaeology, , 1574-0439
Disciplina	658.8342
Soggetti	Archaeology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 1. Introduction -- Chapter 2. Consumer Choice, Class, Ethnicity and Other Factors -- Chapter 3. Marvellous Melbourne -- Chapter 4. Buenos Aires - The Paris of South America -- Chapter 5. Methodology of An International Comparative Analysis -- Chapter 6. La Casa Peña -- Chapter 7. Casselden Place -- Chapter 8. Trade and Consumer Goods -- Chapter 9. A Site Comparison -- Chapter 10. Discussion: Consumer Behaviours in Nineteenth Century Melbourne and Buenos Aires -- Chapter 11. Conclusion. .
Sommario/riassunto	This book compares consumer behavior in two nineteenth-century peripheral cities: Melbourne, Australia and Buenos Aires, Argentina. It provides an analysis of domestic archaeological assemblages from two inner-city working class neighborhood sites that were largely populated by recently arrived immigrants. The book also uses primary, historical documents to assess the place of these cities within global trade networks and explores the types of goods arriving into each city. By comparing the assemblages and archival data it is possible to explore the role of choice, ethnicity, and class on consumer behavior. This approach is significant as it provides an archaeological assessment of consumer behavior which crosses socio-political divides, comparing a site within a British colony to a site in a former Spanish colony in South America. As two geographically, politically and ethnically distinct cities it was expected that archaeological and archival data would reveal substantial variation. In reality, differences, although noted, were small.

Broad similarities point to the far-reaching impact of colonialism and consumerism and widespread interconnectedness during the nineteenth century. This book demonstrates the wealth of information that can be gained from international comparisons that include sites outside the British Empire.
