

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910452002403321
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Titolo	Gouverneur Morris [[electronic resource]] : an independent life / / William Howard Adams
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, : Yale University Press, c2003
ISBN	1-281-74064-0 9786611740641 0-300-12704-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (1 online resource (xvi, 345 p.)) : ill
Disciplina	973.4/092 B
Soggetti	Statesmen - United States Electronic books. United States History Revolution, 1775-1783 Biography New York (State) History Revolution, 1775-1783 Biography United States Politics and government 1775-1783 United States Politics and government 1783-1789
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 324-334) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- INTRODUCTION. Redeeming Mr. Morris -- CHAPTER 1. The Pedigree -- CHAPTER 2. A Profession -- CHAPTER 3. Things Fall Apart -- CHAPTER 4. "The Great Question of Independency" -- CHAPTER 5. Breaking the Fetters -- CHAPTER 6. The Continental Congress, 1778-1779 -- CHAPTER 7. Money Matters -- CHAPTER 8. The Convention -- CHAPTER 9. Paris, 1789 -- CHAPTER 10. Business as Usual -- CHAPTER 11. A Presidential Mission -- CHAPTER 12. Minister to France -- CHAPTER 13. The Long Journey Home -- CHAPTER 14. On Native Ground -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	A plainspoken, racy patrician who distrusted democracy but opposed slavery and championed freedom for all minorities, an important player in the American Revolution, later an astute critic of the French Revolution, Gouverneur Morris remains an enigma among the founding generation. This comprehensive, engrossing biography tells his robust

story, including his celebrated love affairs during his long stay in Europe. Morris's public record is astonishing. One of the leading figures of the Constitutional Convention, he put the Constitution in its final version, including its opening Preamble. As Washington's first minister to Paris, he became America's most effective representative in France. A successful, international entrepreneur, he understood the dynamics of commerce in the modern world. Frankly cosmopolitan, he embraced city life as a creative center of civilization and had a central role in the building of the Erie Canal and in laying out the urban grid plan of Manhattan. William Howard Adams describes Morris's many contributions, talents, sophistication, and wit, as well as his romantic liaisons, free habits, and free speech. He brings to life a fascinating man of great stature, a founding father who receives his due at last.
