

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910452829703321
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Titolo	Jewish identity in the reconstruction South [[electronic resource]] : ambivalence and adaptation / / Anton Hieke
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin, : De Gruyter, 2013
ISBN	3-11-027775-1 3-11-027774-3
Descrizione fisica	x, 384 p. : ill., maps
Collana	New Perspectives on Modern Jewish History ; ; 4 New perspectives on modern Jewish history, , 2192-9645 ; ; v. 4
Disciplina	975.00492/4
Soggetti	Jews - Southern States - History Jews - Southern States - Identity Judaism - Southern States - History Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) Electronic books.
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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Acknowledgments -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- Figures (Maps, Charts, Images) -- Introduction -- I. Coming to the Reconstruction South -- II. Jews and southern society: Integrated Outsiders -- III. Judaism and Jewish Identity in Georgia and the Carolinas, 1860-1880 -- Conclusion -- Glossary -- Appendices -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	How far can Jewish life in the South during Reconstruction (1863-1877) be described as German in a period of American Jewry traditionally referred to as 'German Jewish' in historiography? To what extent were Jewish immigrants in the South acculturated to Southern identity and customs? Anton Hieke discusses the experience of Jewish immigrants in the Reconstruction South as exemplified by Georgia and the Carolinas. The book critically explores the shifting identities of German Jewish immigrants, their impact on congregational life, and of their identity as 'Southerners'. The author draws from demographic data of six thousand individuals representing the complete identifiable Jewish minority in Georgia, South and North Carolina from 1860 to 1880.

Reconstruction, it is concluded, has to be seen as a formative period for the region's Jewish congregations and Reform Judaism. The study challenges existing views that are claiming German Jews were setting the standard for Jewish life in this period and were perceived as distinct from Jews of another background. Rather Hieke arrives at a conclusion that takes into consideration the migratory movement between North and South.
