

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910458927503321
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Titolo	Continuity and innovation in the Aramaic legal tradition [[electronic resource] /] / by Andrew D. Gross
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden ; ; Boston, : Brill, 2008
ISBN	1-283-06033-7 9786613060334 90-474-4222-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (242 p.)
Collana	Supplements to the Journal for the study of Judaism, , 1384-2161 ; ; v. 128
Disciplina	349.56
Soggetti	Law - Middle East - History Law - Egypt - Elephantine - History Manuscripts, Aramaic (Papyri) - Egypt - Elephantine Law, Ancient Jewish law Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [204]-226) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction --The acknowledgment of receipt clause -- The investiture clause -- The warranty clause -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Ever since the Elephantine papyri were first published over a century ago, scholars have speculated on the origins of the well-developed legal formularies used in these documents. Since then, many more Aramaic deeds of conveyance both from Elephantine and from elsewhere have been published, especially within the last decade or so. With this expanded text base now available, the time is ripe for a comprehensive re-assessment of these legal formularies. This book endeavors to show that these disparate Aramaic documents, whose chronological scope spans several centuries, form a discrete and coherent tradition. It isolates and identifies the distinctive elements that form the core of this tradition and traces the histories of these elements back through the cuneiform record.

