

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910462082603321
Autore	Trevor-Roper H. R (Hugh Redwald), <1914-2003.>
Titolo	The invention of Scotland [[electronic resource]] : myth and history // Hugh Trevor-Roper
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven [Conn.], : Yale University Press, c2008
ISBN	0-300-17653-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (304 p.)
Disciplina	941.10072
Soggetti	National characteristics, Scottish - Historiography Electronic books. Scotland Historiography Scotland Civilization Historiography Scotland History
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. [237]-267) and index.
Nota di contenuto	The political myth. Scotia's rise to glory? -- George Buchanan -- Buchanan's nemesis -- The literary myth. The search for a Celtic Homer -- James Macpherson and Fingal -- The controversy over Ossian -- The sartorial myth. The coming of the kilt -- The tartan.
Sommario/riassunto	This book argues that while Anglo-Saxon culture has given rise to virtually no myths at all, myth has played a central role in the historical development of Scottish identity. Hugh Trevor-Roper explores three myths across 400 years of Scottish history: the political myth of the "ancient constitution" of Scotland; the literary myth, including Walter Scott as well as Ossian and ancient poetry; and the sartorial myth of tartan and the kilt, invented-ironically, by Englishmen-in quite modern times. Trevor-Roper reveals myth as an often deliberate cultural construction used to enshrine a people's identity. While his treatment of Scottish myth is highly critical, indeed debunking, he shows how the ritualization and domestication of Scotland's myths as local color diverted the Scottish intelligentsia from the path that led German intellectuals to a dangerous myth of racial supremacy. This compelling manuscript was left unpublished on Trevor-Roper's death in 2003 and is now made available for the first time. Written with characteristic

elegance, lucidity, and wit, and containing defiant and challenging opinions, it will absorb and provoke Scottish readers while intriguing many others. "I believe that the whole history of Scotland has been coloured by myth; and that myth, in Scotland, is never driven out by reality, or by reason, but lingers on until another myth has been discovered, or elaborated, to replace it."-Hugh Trevor-Roper
