

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910462681803321
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Titolo	The conservation movement : a history of architectural preservation : antiquity to modernity // Miles Glendinning
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2013
ISBN	1-283-97321-9 0-203-08039-4 1-136-16702-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (535 p.)
Disciplina	720.28/8
Soggetti	Architecture - Conservation and restoration - History 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 and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. I. Pre-1789 : Foundations of the movement : care for old buildings in the pre-modern age -- pt. II. 1789-1914 : Growth of the movement : first modern ideologies of conservation -- pt. III. 1914-45 : Crisis of the movement : mass heritage, mass destruction -- pt. IV. 1945-89 : Heyday of the movement : parallel narratives of postwar preservation -- pt. V. Post-1989 : The contemporary story.
Sommario/riassunto	In many cities across the world, particularly in Europe, old buildings form a prominent part of the built environment, and we often take it for granted that their contribution is intrinsically positive. How has that widely-shared belief come about, and is its continued general acceptance inevitable? Certainly, ancient structures have long been treated with care and reverence in many societies, including classical Rome and Greece. But only in modern Europe and America, in the last two centuries, has this care been elaborated and energised into a forceful, dynamic ideology: a 'Conservat