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Autore	Guarino, Antonio <1914- >
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2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910464717803321
Autore	Shafer Byron E.
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- 1 The Strategic Landscape -- 2 Mapping the Political Landscape -- 3 Structure and Substance -- 4 Structure and Substance -- 5 Mapping the Political Landscape -- 6 Political Values and Presidential Votes -- 7 The Evolution of the Strategic Landscape -- 8 Social Groups and Electoral Evolution -- Conclusion The Landscape of Modern American Politics -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Social scientists and campaign strategists approach voting behavior from opposite poles. Reconciling these camps through a merger of statistics and election experience, The American Political Landscape presents a full-scale analysis of U.S. electoral politics over the last quarter-century. It explains how factors not usually considered hard data, such as personal attitudes and preferences, interact to produce an indisputably solid result: the final tally of votes. While pundits boil down elections to a stark choice between Democrat and Republican, Byron Shafer and Richard Spady explore the further significance of not

voting at all. Voters can and do form coalitions around specific issues, so that simple party identification does not determine voter turnout or ballot choices. Deploying a method that maps political attitudes from 1984 to 2008, the authors describe an electorate in flux. As an old order organized around economic values ceded ground to a new one in which cultural values enjoy equal prominence, persisting links between social backgrounds and political values have tended to empty the ideological center while increasing the clout of the ideologically committed.
