

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910778141503321
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Titolo	John Tyler [[electronic resource] ] : the accidental president / / by Edward P. Crapol
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chapel Hill, : University of North Carolina Press, c2006
ISBN	0-8078-7743-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (345 p.)
Disciplina	973.5/092 B
Soggetti	Presidents - United States United States Politics and government 1841-1845
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. [301]-319) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Forewarned, forearmed -- Visions of national destiny -- Defending slavery -- Avoiding war and preserving peace -- Pacific visions -- Texas -- Retirement and secession -- Conclusion : precedents and legacies.
Sommario/riassunto	The first vice president to become president on the death of the incumbent, John Tyler (1790-1862) was derided by critics as "His Accidency." In this biography, the author challenges previous depictions of Tyler as a die-hard advocate of states' rights, limited government, and a strict interpretation of the Constitution.