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| 1. Record Nr. | UNINA9910780366903321 |
| Autore | Palmer Robert C. <1947-> |
| Titolo | Selling the church : the English parish in law, commerce, and religion, 1350-1550 // Robert C. Palmer |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa | Chapel Hill : , : University of North Carolina Press, , 2002 |
| ISBN | 979-88-908728-7-6 0-8078-6139-1 |
| Descrizione fisica | 1 online resource (330 pages) : illustrations |
| Collana | Studies in legal history |
| Disciplina | 274.2/05 |
| Soggetti | Church and state - England - History Parishes - England - History Leases - England - History Benefices, Ecclesiastical - England - History Reformation - England |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese |
| Formato | Materiale a stampa |
| Livello bibliografico | Monografia |
| Nota di bibliografia | Includes bibliographical references (p. [313]-317) and index. |
| Nota di contenuto | Contents; Acknowledgments; Introduction; 1. The Parish as a Governed Community; 2. The Parish as a Commercial Entity; 3. The Common Law and the Mundane Church; 4. Parish Leases: The Practice; 5. Parish Leases: Conflicts and Consequences; 6. Reforming the Parish by Statute; 7. Enforcing the Statutes of 1529; 8. The Dissolution of the Religious Houses; 9. Conceiving the Reformation; Appendix 1: Bailiff Style of Parish Manager; Appendix 2: Incidence of Nonparish Leaseholds in Common Pleas; Appendix 3: Parish Leases from the Plea Rolls; Appendix 4: Enforcement Suits under the Statutes of 1529; Appendix 5: Request of a Feoffee; Appendix 6: Premunire; Bibliography; Index |
| Sommario/riassunto | In the years of expanding state authority following the Black Death, English common law permitted the leasing of parishes by their rectors and vicars, who then pursued interests elsewhere and left the parish in the control of lay lessees. But a series of statutes enacted by Henry VIII between 1529 and 1540 effectively reduced such clerical absenteeism. Robert Palmer examines this transformation of the English parish and argues that it was an important part of the English Reformation. |

