

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910780928003321
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Titolo	Water engineering in the ancient world [[electronic resource]] : archaeological and climate perspectives on societies of ancient South America, the Middle East, and South-East Asia / / by Charles R. Ortloff
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, : Oxford University Press, 2009
ISBN	0-19-191749-4 1-282-35462-0 9786612354625 0-19-155354-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (433 p.)
Collana	Oxford scholarship online
Disciplina	628.1093
Soggetti	Paleohydrology Water resources development - History Water-supply engineering - History Naher Osten Sudostasien Altamerika
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Previously issued in print: 2009.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Introduction; 1. Ancient pre-Columbian Peru, Bolivia and Mesoamerica; 2. The Ancient Middle East; 3. Ancient South-East Asia; 4. Hydraulic Engineering and Water Management Strategies of Ancient Societies; 5. Environmental and Climate Perspectives on New World, Old World, and South-East Asian Societies' Achievements in the Hydraulic Sciences; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	A new perspective on archaeological studies of the urban and agricultural water supply and distribution systems of the major ancient civilizations of South America, the Middle East, and South-East Asia. Ortloff uses modern computer analysis methods to extract the true hydraulic/hydrological knowledge base available to these peoples.