Record Nr. UNINA9910786120403321 Autore Marotti Frank <1954-> Titolo Heaven's soldiers [[electronic resource]]: free people of color and the Spanish legacy in antebellum Florida / / Frank Marotti Tuscaloosa,: University of Alabama Press, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-8173-8653-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (246 p.) Collana Atlantic crossings 306.3/620975918 Disciplina Free African Americans - Florida - Saint Johns County - History - 19th Soggetti century Free African Americans - Legal status, laws, etc - Florida - Saint Johns County - History - 19th century Enslaved persons - Emancipation - Florida - Saint Johns County -History - 19th century Seminole War, 2nd, 1835-1842 Saint Johns County (Fla.) History 19th century Florida History 1821-1865 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese Materiale a stampa **Formato** Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Looking backward and forward -- The 1820s: anxious optimism --The 1830s: manumission, property, and family -- The Second Seminole War -- Restricted manumission, migrations, and antimiscegenation -- Preserving Spanish days: marriage and manumission -- The black martial heritage -- Land, paternalism, and laws. Sommario/riassunto Heaven's Soldiers chronicles the history of a community of free people of African descent who lived and thrived, while resisting the constraints of legal bondage, in East Florida in the four decades leading up to the Civil War. Historians have long attributed the relatively flexible system of race relations in pre-Civil War East Florida to the area's Spanish heritage. While acknowledging the importance of that heritage, this book gives more than the usual emphasis to the role of African American agency in exploiting the limited opportunities that

such a heritage permitted