Record Nr. UNINA9910796163103321 Autore Malanson Jeffrey J. <1980-> Titolo Addressing America: George Washington's farewell and the making of national culture, politics, and diplomacy, 1796-1852 / / Jeffrey J. Malanson Pubbl/distr/stampa Kent, Ohio:,: The Kent State University Press,, 2015 ©2015 **ISBN** 1-63101-160-X 1-63101-161-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (264 pages) Collana New studies in U.S. foreign relations 973.4/1092 Disciplina Soggetti National characteristics, American United States Foreign relations 1783-1865 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Constructing the Farewell Address -- Washington's Farewell in the American mind, 1796-1817 -- John Quincy Adams and the legacy of the Farewell Address -- America's fundamental principles of foreign policy and the Panama Congress of 1826 -- The revaluing of American principles, 1826-1850 -- "Washington or Kossuth?": The Farewell address in the American mind at midcentury -- Conclusion. Sommario/riassunto In his presidential Farewell Address of 1796, George Washington presented a series of maxims to guide the construction of a wise foreign policy. He believed, as did generations of his adherents, that if the United States stayed true to the principles he discussed, the country would eventually attain national greatness and international respectability. These principles quickly became engrained in the DNA of what it meant to be an American in the first half of the nineteenth century, shaping the formation of U.S. foreign policy, politics, and political culture. The Declaration of Independence affirmed American ideals, the Constitution established American government, and the Farewell Address enabled Americans to understand their country and

its place in the world. While the Declaration and Constitution have persisted as foundational documents, our appreciation for the Farewell

Address has faded with time. By focusing on the enduring influence of the Farewell Address on nineteenth-century Americans, and on their abiding devotion to Washington, author Jeffrey Malanson brings the Address back into the spotlight for twenty-first-century readers. When citizens gathered in town halls, city commons, and local churches to commemorate Washington, engagement with the Farewell Address was a cornerstone of their celebrations. This annual rededication to Washingtons principles made the Farewell Address both a framework for the attainment of national happiness and prosperity and a blueprint for national security, and it resulted in its position as the central text through which citizens of the early republic came to understand the connections between the nations domestic and foreign ambitions. Through its focus on the diplomatic, political, and cultural impacts of Washingtons Farewell Address, Addressing America reasserts the fundamental importance of this critical document to the development of the United States in the first

half of the nineteenth century.