Record Nr. UNINA9910798698003321 Autore Smith Andrea L. **Titolo** Rebuilding shattered worlds: creating community by voicing the past / / Andrea L. Smith and Anna Eisenstein Lincoln, Nebraska;; London, [England]:,: University of Nebraska Pubbl/distr/stampa Press, , 2016 ©2016 **ISBN** 0-8032-9943-5 0-8032-9945-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (209 p.) Collana Anthropology of Contemporary North America Classificazione SOC002010HIS036080 Disciplina 305.800974822 Soggetti Anthropological linguistics - Pennsylvania - Easton (Northampton County) Collective memory - Pennsylvania - Easton (Northampton County) Easton (Northampton County, Pa.) Social conditions Easton (Northampton County, Pa.) Ethnic relations 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 and index. Nota di contenuto Cover; Title Page; Copyright Page; Contents; List of Illustrations; Acknowledgments; Terminology and Transcription Conventions; 1. Ethnography of the Expelled: 2. The Language of Blight: 3. Narrating Diversity: 4. Voices from the Past; 5. The Material of Memory; 6. Nostalgia as Engine of Change; Notes; Bibliography; Index Sommario/riassunto "An ethnography of the ways displaced residents remember the ethnic diversity of their neighborhood in a small city in eastern Pennsylvania destroyed in the name of urban renewal, where memories, linguistic patterns, and material artifacts continue to animate people's everyday lives"--"Rebuilding Shattered Worlds explores the ways a demolished neighborhood in Easton, Pennsylvania, still resonates in the imaginations of displaced residents. Drawing on six years of ethnographic research, the authors highlight the intersecting languages of blight, race, and place as elderly interlocutors attempt to make sense of the world they lost when urban renewal initiatives razed "Syrian

Town"--a densely packed neighborhood of Lebanese American, Italian

American, and African American residents. This ethnography of remembering shows how former residents engage collective memory-making through their shared place, language, and class position within the larger cityscape. Demonstrating the creative power of linguistic resources, material traces, and absent spaces, Rebuilding Shattered Worlds brings together insights from linguistic anthropology and material studies, foregrounding the role language plays in signaling "pastness.""--