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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- List of illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction: Brooklyn's promised land, weeksville, 1835–1910: "a model for places of much greater pretensions" -- 1. "Here will we take our stand": weeksville's origins, from slavery to freedom, 1770–1840 -- 2. "Owned and occupied by our own people": weeksville's growth: family, work, and community, 1840–1860 -- 3. "Shall we fly or shall we resist?": from emigration to the civil war, 1850–1865 -- 4. "Fair schools, a fine building, finished writers, strong minded women": politics, women's activism, and the roots of progressive reform, 1865–1910 -- 5. "Cut through and gridironed by streets": physical changes, 1860–1880 -- 6. "Part of this magically growing city": weeksville's growth and disappearance, 1880–1910 -- 7. "A seemingly viable neighborhood that no longer exists": weeksville, lost and found, 1910–2010 -- Notes -- Index -- About the author
Sommario/riassunto	Tells the riveting narrative of the growth, disappearance, and eventual rediscovery of one of the largest free black communities of the nineteenth century In 1966 a group of students, Boy Scouts, and local citizens rediscovered all that remained of a then virtually unknown

community called Weeksville: four frame houses on Hunterfly Road. The infrastructure and vibrant history of Weeksville, an African American community that had become one of the largest free black communities in nineteenth century United States, were virtually wiped out by Brooklyn's exploding population and expanding urban grid. Weeksville was founded by African American entrepreneurs after slavery ended in New York State in 1827. Located in eastern Brooklyn, Weeksville provided a space of physical safety, economic prosperity, education, and even political power for its black population, who organized churches, a school, orphan asylum, home for the aged, newspapers, and the national African Civilization Society. Notable residents of Weeksville, such as journalist and educator Junius P. Morell, participated in every major national effort for African American rights, including the Civil War. Drawing on maps, newspapers, census records, photographs, and the material culture of buildings and artifacts, Wellman reconstructs the social history and national significance of this extraordinary place. Through the lens of this local community, Brooklyn's Promised Land highlights themes still relevant to African Americans across the country.
