

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910815231103321
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Titolo	Consumption as an investment // osimo Perrotta ; translated by Joan McMullin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2004-
ISBN	1-134-40225-2 0-429-23470-8 0-203-34926-1 1-134-40226-0 1-280-09586-5 0-203-69457-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (399 p.)
Collana	Routledge studies in the history of economics ; ; 71 Consumption as an investment ; ; 1
Classificazione	83.01
Disciplina	339.4/7
Soggetti	Consumption (Economics) Production (Economic theory)
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	Book Cover; Title; Contents; Preface; Acknowledgements; Introduction: the legacy of the past; The Ancients and inner wealth; Patristics: end of the contempt for wealth and labour; Medieval dualism: poverty as an ideal; wealth as a practical goal; Italian humanism ignores economic development; From alms to human capital: the poor in sixteenth century Spain and England; Spain's unproductive consumption; Expanding production: a (fearful) hunger for goods; Productive and unproductive labour; Foreign trade: fostering productive consumption/productive labour The Enlightenment theory of development: consumption as an investmentNotes; References; Subject index; Name index
Sommario/riassunto	This work explores the changing place of consumption as a source of investment in production and growth within economic writings from ancient history to the present. This project is carried out with great skill, vigour and originality and will help to bring consumption studies to the mainstream of economic thought.

