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Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [285]-347) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: "Issues concerning the Teutons" -- The tradition of volkisch Germanism -- History and intuition -- The origins of ideographic studies -- Germanic resurgence -- National socialism and antiquity -- Intellectual prehistory -- Academic responses -- The expansion of the Ahnenerbe -- Into the academy -- Epilogue, aftermath -- Conclusion: The secret garden.
Sommario/riassunto	The first theoretically informed study of the relationship between an academic discipline and what the Nazis termed their Weltanschauung. The first study of Sinnbildforschung, German ideograph or swastika studies, though more broadly it tells the tale of the development of German antiquarian studies (ancient Germanic history, archaeology, anthropology, folklore, historical linguistics and philology) under the influence of radical right wing politics, and the contemporary construction of 'Germanicness' and its role in Nazi thought. The swastika and similar symbols were employed by the ancestors of the modern day Germans. As these had also become emblematic symbols of the forces of German reaction, Sinnbildforschung became intrinsically connected with the National Socialist regime after 1933 and disappeared along with the Third Reich in 1945.

