Record Nr. UNINA9910822455703321 Autore Myers Amrita Chakrabarti Titolo Forging freedom: Black women and the pursuit of liberty in antebellum Charleston / / Amrita Chakrabarti Myers Chapel Hill, : University of North Carolina Press, c2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 979-88-908828-2-0 1-4696-0259-8 0-8078-6909-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (282 p.) Gender and American culture Collana Disciplina 305.48/8960730757915 305.488960730757915 African American women - South Carolina - Charleston - History -Soggetti 19th century African American women - South Carolina - Charleston - Social conditions - 19th century Freed persons - South Carolina - Charleston - History - 19th century Freed persons - South Carolina - Charleston - Social conditions - 19th Charleston (S.C.) History 1775-1865 Charleston (S.C.) Social conditions 19th century Charleston (S.C.) Race relations History 19th century 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 Introduction: imagining freedom in the slave South -- City of contrasts : Charleston before the Civil War -- A way out of no way : Black women and manumission -- To survive and thrive : race, sex, and waged labor in the city -- The currency of citizenship: property ownership and Black female freedom -- A tale of two women : the lives of Cecille Cogdell and Sarah Sanders -- A fragile freedom: the story of Margaret Bettingall and her daughters -- Epilogue : the continuing search for freedom. Sommario/riassunto For black women in antebellum Charleston, freedom was not a static legal category but a fragile and contingent experience. In this deeply

researched social history, Amrita Chakrabarti Myers analyzes the ways

in which black women in Charleston acquired, defined, and defended their own vision of freedom. Drawing on legislative and judicial materials, probate data, tax lists, church records, family papers, and more, Myers creates detailed portraits of individual women while exploring how black female Charlestonians sought to create a fuller freedom by improving their financial, social, an