

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910824370703321
Autore	Matejowsky Ty
Titolo	Smothered and covered : Waffle House and the Southern imaginary // Ty Matejowsky
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Tuscaloosa, Alabama : , : The University of Alabama Press, , [2023] ©2023
ISBN	9780817394301 9780817321444
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (233 pages)
Disciplina	647.9575
Soggetti	Restaurants - Social aspects - United States Southern States Social life and customs
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [191]-201) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Waffle House precursors: diners and lunch/breakfast counters -- The house that waffles built -- Waffle House after dark: shift happens -- Waffle House and race -- Waffle House in popular culture -- Conclusion: waffling on Waffle House? Post-southern possibilities.
Sommario/riassunto	"Waffle House has long been touted as an icon of the American South. The restaurant's consistent foregrounding as a resonant symbol of regional character proves relevant for understanding much about the people, events, and foodways shaping the sociopolitical contours of today's Bible Belt. Whether approached as a comedic punchline on the Internet, television, and other popular media or elevated as a genuine touchstone of messy American modernity, Waffle House, its employees, and everyday clientele do much to transcend such one-dimensional characterizations, earning distinction in ways that regularly go unsung. Smothered and Covered: Waffle House and the Southern Imaginary is the first book to socioculturally assess the chain within the field of contemporary food studies. In this groundbreaking work, Ty Matejowsky argues that Waffle House's often beleaguered public persona is informed by various complexities and contradictions. Critically unpacking the iconic eatery from a less reductive perspective offers readers a more realistic and nuanced portrait of Waffle House,

shedding light on how it both reflects and influences a prevailing southern imaginary-an amorphous and sometimes conflicting collection of images, ideas, attitudes, practices, linguistic accents, histories, and fantasies that frames understandings about a vibrant if also paradoxical geographic region. Matejowsky discusses Waffle House's roots in established southern foodways and traces the chain's development from a lunch-counter restaurant that emerged across the South. He also considers Waffle House's place in American and southern popular culture, highlighting its myriad depictions in music, television, film, fiction, stand-up comedy, and sports. Altogether, Matejowsky deftly and persuasively demonstrates how Waffle House serves as a microcosm of today's South with all the accolades and criticisms this distinction entails"--
