1. Record Nr. UNINA9910824410903321 Autore Legacey Erin-Marie Titolo Making Space for the Dead: Catacombs, Cemeteries, and the Reimagining of Paris, 1780-1830 / / Erin-Marie Legacey Ithaca, NY:,: Cornell University Press,, [2019] Pubbl/distr/stampa ©2019 **ISBN** 1-5017-1561-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (229 pages) Disciplina 393/.10944361 Soggetti Catacombs - France - Paris - History Burial - Social aspects - France - Paris - History - 19th century Burial - Social aspects - France - Paris - History - 18th century France History Revolution, 1789-1799 Influence Paris (France) Social life and customs 19th century Paris (France) Social life and customs 18th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- List of Abbreviations -- Introduction: The Revolution of the Dead --1. The Problem of the Dead -- 2. The Solution of the Dead -- 3. The City of the Dead -- 4. The Empire of the Dead -- 5. The Museum of the Dead -- Conclusion: The Historian of the Dead -- Notes --Bibliography -- Index Sommario/riassunto The dead of Paris, before the French Revolution, were most often

The dead of Paris, before the French Revolution, were most often consigned to mass graveyards that contemporaries described as terrible and terrifying, emitting "putrid miasmas" that were a threat to both health and dignity. In a book that is at once wonderfully macabre and exceptionally informative, Erin-Marie Legacey explores how a new burial culture emerged in Paris as a result of both revolutionary fervor and public health concerns, resulting in the construction of park-like cemeteries on the outskirts of the city and a vast underground ossuary. Making Space for the Dead describes how revolutionaries placed the dead at the center of their republican project of radical reinvention of French society and envisioned a future where graveyards would do

more than safely contain human remains; they would serve to educate and inspire the living. Legacey unearths the unexpectedly lively process by which burial sites were reimagined, built, and used, focusing on three of the most important of these new spaces: the Paris Catacombs, Père Lachaise cemetery, and the short-lived Museum of French Monuments. By situating discussions of death and memory in the nation's broader cultural and political context, as well as highlighting how ordinary Parisians understood and experienced these sites, she shows how the treatment of the dead became central to the reconstruction of Parisian society after the Revolution.