

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910825917003321
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Titolo	The British presence in Macau, 1635-1793 [[electronic resource] /] / Rogerio Miguel Puga ; translated by Monica Andrade
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Hong Kong, : Hong Kong University Press, 2013
ISBN	988-8180-75-4 988-220-844-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (223 p.)
Collana	Royal Asiatic Society books
Disciplina	951.26032
Soggetti	British - China - Macau (Special Administrative Region) Macau (China : Special Administrative Region) History 17th century Macau (China : Special Administrative Region) History 18th century Portugal Foreign relations Great Britain Great Britain Foreign relations Portugal Portugal Colonies Asia History 17th century Portugal Colonies Asia History 18th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Originally published in Portuguese in 2009 by Centro de Historia de Alem-Mar (CHAM), FCSH-New University of Lisbon, and by Centro Cultural e Cientifico de Macau (Lisbon, Portugal) as A Presenca Inglesa e as Relacoes Anglo-Portuguesas em Macau (1635-1793).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- 1. Anglo-Portuguese conflicts and the founding of the East India Company -- 2. The voyage east: The beginning of Anglo-Portuguese relations in the East Indies -- 3. The arrival of the English in Macau -- 4. The beginning of regular East India Company trade with China -- 5. The gradual growth of the British presence in Macau in the early eighteenth century-- 6. Macau as a centre for Chinese control of the European "barbarians" -- 7. The visit of the Centurion -- 8. British relations and conflicts with the Portuguese and Chinese authorities in the second half of the eighteenth century-- 9. The "scramble for the use of Macau"-- 10. "Guests and old allies"-- 11. The importance of Macau for the British China trade -- 12. Lord Macartney's embassy to China, 1792-1794 -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	For more than four centuries, Macau was the center of Portuguese trade

and culture on the South China Coast. Until the founding of Hong Kong and the opening of other ports in the 1840s, it was also the main gateway to China for independent British merchants and their only place of permanent residence. Drawing extensively on Portuguese as well as British sources, *The British Presence in Macau* traces Anglo-Portuguese relations in South China from the first arrival of English trading ships in the 1630s to the establishment of factories at Canton, the beginnings of the opium trade, and the Macartney Embassy of 1793. Longstanding allies in the west, the British and Portuguese pursued more complex relations in the east, as trading interests clashed under a Chinese imperial system and as the British increasingly asserted their power.
