Record Nr. UNINA9910967071903321 Autore Boag Peter <1961-> Titolo Re-dressing America's frontier past / / Peter Boag Pubbl/distr/stampa Berkeley,: University of California Press, 2011 **ISBN** 9786613278319 9781283278317 1283278316 9780520949959 0520949951 Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (270 p.) Descrizione fisica Disciplina 306.77/8097809034 Soggetti Gender-nonconforming people - West (U.S.) - History - 19th century Gender identity - West (U.S.) - History - 19th century Homosexuality - West (U.S.) - 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. "Known to all police west of the Mississippi": disrobing the female-to-Nota di contenuto male cross-dresser -- "I have done my part in the winning of the West" : unveiling the male-to-female cross-dresser -- "And love is a vision and life is a lie": the daughters of Calamity Jane -- "He was a Mexican" : race and the marginalization of male-to-female cross-dressers in Western history -- "Death of a modern Diana": sexologists, crossdressers, and the heteronormalization of the American frontier --Conclusion: Sierra Flats and haunted valleys: cross-dressers and the contested terrain of America's frontier past. Sommario/riassunto Americans have long cherished romantic images of the frontier and its colorful cast of characters, where the cowboys are always rugged and the ladies always fragile. But in this book, Peter Boag opens an extraordinary window onto the real Old West. Delving into countless primary sources and surveying sexological and literary sources, Boag paints a vivid picture of a West where cross-dressing-for both men and women-was pervasive, and where easterners as well as Mexicans and

even Indians could redefine their gender and sexual identities. Boag asks, why has this history been forgotten and erased? Citing a cultural

moment at the turn of the twentieth century-when the frontier ended, the United States entered the modern era, and homosexuality was created as a category-Boag shows how the American people, and thus the American nation, were bequeathed an unambiguous heterosexual identity.