

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910968725303321
Titolo	Traces and memories of slavery in the Atlantic world // edited by Lawrence Aje and Nicolas Gachon
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Routledge, , 2020
ISBN	1-000-06548-0 0-429-31680-1
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (316 pages)
Collana	Routledge studies in the history of the Americas
Disciplina	306.362097
Soggetti	15.85 history of America Slavery - America - History Slave trade - America - History Slavery - Atlantic Ocean Region - History Slave trade - Atlantic Ocean Region - History Memory - Social aspects - America Collective memory - America Memory - Social aspects - Atlantic Ocean Region Collective memory - Atlantic Ocean Region
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
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Sommario/riassunto

Traces and Memories deals with the foundation, mechanisms and scope of slavery-related memorial processes, interrogating how descendants of enslaved populations reconstruct the history of their ancestors when transatlantic slavery is one of the variables of the memorial process. While memory studies mark a shift from concern with historical knowledge of events to that of memory, the book seeks to bridge the memorial representations of historical events with the production and knowledge of those events. The book offers a methodological and epistemological reflection on the challenges that are raised by archival limitations in relation to slavery and how they can be overcome. It covers topics such as the historical and memorial legacy/ies of slavery, the memorialization of slavery, the canonization and patrimonialization of the memory of slavery, the places and conditions of the production of knowledge on slavery and its circulation, the heritage of slavery and the (re)construction of (collective) identity. By offering fresh perspectives on how slavery-related sites of memory have been retrospectively (re)framed or (re)shaped, the book probes the constraints which determine the inscription of this contentious memory in the public sphere. The volume will serve as a valuable resource in the area of slavery, memory, and Atlantic studies.
