

Dear History Colleagues:

April 29, 1994

(May)

I wondered if you might have any information about a woman named Ruth Norcross Hoxie? She reportedly once had a seasonal residence at 826 Fourth Avenue in Hendersonville and was a published writer and member of organizations such as the League of American Pen Women and the DAR. She had a sister named Evelyn Norcross Sherrill who was active in many of the same groups. Ruth married Richard L. Hoxie after the death of Hoxie's first wife, who was the 19th Century sculptor Vinnie Ream (1847-1914). Information about Vinnie is sometimes listed under her married name of Hoxie. Reportedly, Ruth was once writing a 3 volume biography on Vinnie that we have been unable to locate. I am also looking for information about Vinnie's son Richard Ream Hoxie who was born in 1883 and may have died in 1936.

Richard L. Hoxie died in 1930 and Ruth inherited what remained of the Hoxie estate. She was in charge of its disbursement and donated the Hoxie papers to the Library of Congress. She was also guardian of the son who was mentally debilitated from a childhood accident. I am attempting to locate an obituary of Richard Ream Hoxie and the location of his grave.

Does your community have any connection with the writer Thomas Dixon or do you have any information of any connection between Dixon and Vinnie Ream or Ruth Norcross Hoxie? *
Dixon once established a colony of artists in North Carolina and was the author of a novel about the reconstruction era titled "The Clansman" which mentions Vinnie Ream on page 176.

I have been writing a comprehensive illustrated biography on Vinnie Ream for several years. As a member of the Ream family through both parents, I took a personal interest in the work. I am also trying to track down more close relatives and the present location of missing Vinnie Ream sculpture, papers, old news clippings and artifacts. The artist made many busts and medallions of notable men from the civil war and reconstruction period. Ruth Hoxie also had a large oil portrait of Vinnie Ream dressed in a cavalier costume that we have been unable to locate. Any help or suggestions that you can offer would be appreciated.

Respectfully,



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* P.S. - IS THERE ANY MATERIAL IN
THE DIXON PAPERS THAT MENTION
THESE PEOPLE, LETTERS, ETC?