

July 23, 1998

Anthony Slide
4118 Rhodes Avenue
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Mr. Slide:

I apologize for taking so long to get back to you. My summer projects list has been crowded.

Your letter indicates an assumption that we hold the papers of Thomas Dixon, but in fact we do not. I think they may be at Wake Forest University, which Dixon attended, or at the North Carolina State Museum in Raleigh. We do, however, have Thomas Dixon's personal library, and I have included a copy of the list. It has not been inventoried in some years; a few volumes may be missing, but at least 95% of what is listed is, in fact, in the cases. We are supplying this at no charge to you. It may be disappointing but helpful to know that Thomas Dixon was not one to make notes in the margins or on the endpapers of his books.

Like many libraries we hold Raymond A. Cook's *Fire from the Flint: the Amazing Careers of Thomas Dixon* and *Thomas Dixon*, James Zebulon Wright's *Thomas Dixon: the Mind of a Southern Apologist*, and Dixon's autobiography *Southern Horizons*. I don't believe that there are any other published full-length works, but I do know that numerous articles, pamphlets, and parts of books have treated Dixon, and that from the twenties until today at least a dozen theses have been written on him.

We keep the Dixon collection in locked cases in a locked room. Serious scholars/authors may, by prior appointment, have access to this room, or to items in it, under supervision. We do not loan out any of the materials, either directly or by interlibrary loan; no photocopying is permitted. I would suggest that you contact me for further information if you do decide to make the trip at 704/434-4293 or vparry@gardner-webb.edu. We are just finishing our summer sessions, and will be starting the fall semester in late August. We probably could not arrange for any access to the collection until at least October, because the room (except for the Dixon collection) is currently being readied to house a 240+ square foot model of the Temple Mount, which will take at least six weeks to assemble.

By the way, sometimes we appreciate the gifts we don't get as much as the gifts we do. Shortly before Thomas Dixon died his second wife and the editor of the local paper corresponded, and the editor suggested that Thomas Dixon be cremated and his ashes kept in Gardner-Webb's library. That might confer upon us a certain uniqueness, but I confess I'm happier that his final resting place is elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Valerie M. Parry
Director of the Library