



Cowan Family Papers (SP0007)

Collection Number: SP0007

Collection Title: Cowan Family Papers

Dates: 1855-2013

Creator: Atkinson, Donna Kay Cowan, 1940-

Abstract: The Cowan Family Papers contain correspondence and financial records pertaining to Frank Cowan and his property in Barton County, Missouri. Other materials include documents and photographs relating to the history of the Golden City High School.

Collection Size: 1 cubic foot
(18 folders, 15 photographs)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield](https://www.shsmo.org/research-center-springfield). If you would like more information, please contact us at springfield@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Cowan Family Papers* (SP0007); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Donna Cowan Atkinson on July 23, 2015 (Accession number SPA0009). An addition was made on August 7, 2020, by Donna Cowan Atkinson (Accession No. SPA0085).

Processed by: Processed by Erin Smither, July 29, 2015. Revised by Haley Frizzle-Green, September 21, 2021.

Biographical Note:

Frank Oral Cowan was born June 11, 1913, in Stockton, Missouri, to Lemuel Lewis Cowan and Fannie May *Abbott* Cowan. In 1933, Frank graduated from Golden City High School and in 1934 he married Norma Rae *Ellis* Cowan. The couple lived in Golden City, Missouri, where they owned and maintained a farm. The couple had two children, Norma Lou Cowan and Donna Kay Cowan. Frank died January 28, 2004, in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Donna Kay *Cowan* Atkinson was born in 1940. She graduated from Golden City High School in 1958 and went on to attend the University of Missouri. She graduated from the university in 1962 with a degree in business. On June 23, 1962, Donna married Robert Donald Atkinson. The couple had two children, James Robert Atkinson and Philip Craig Atkinson. Donna worked at Septagon Construction from 1979 to 2005. In addition, Donna has worked as a genealogical researcher for the Missouri State Archives.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following four series:

Correspondence
Financial Records
Golden City High School
Miscellaneous

Scope and Content:**Correspondence**

This series contains letters, marriage and graduation announcements, and advertisements addressed to Frank Cowan and his wife, Norma. Most letters are in regard to financial statements. This series is arranged chronologically.

Financial Records

This series consists of financial records pertaining to Frank Cowan's property, including land, automobiles, farm equipment, animals, and related supplies. This series also contains insurance and mortgage records, checks and loans from local financial institutions, and receipts and invoices. The local financial institutions documented are Farmers State Bank of Lockwood, Missouri, Barton County State Bank, and Lamar Trust Company. This series is arranged by subject and then chronologically.

Golden City High School

This series contains pamphlets, booklets, and photographs pertaining to Golden City High School class of 1933 and 1958. This series also contains a collection of personal essays from

Golden City High School class of 1958. This series is arranged by subject and then chronologically.

Miscellaneous

This series includes materials such as newspaper clippings, pamphlets, farm supply tags from the Denver Alfalfa Milling and Products Company, a California road map, and a Democratic Party Preamble from 1960. This series is arranged by subject.

Container List:

f. 1	Correspondence
Box 001 f. 1	1936-1993
f. 2-12	Financial Records
f. 2-4	Checks, 1933-1946
f. 5	Insurance, 1936-1946
f. 6	Invoices, 1941-1942
f. 7	Loans, 1935-1945
f. 8-9	Mortgage, 1934-1945
f. 10	Property Abstract, 1855
f. 11	Property Abstract, 1857
f. 12	Receipts, 1934-1946
f. 13-17	Golden City High School
f. 13	Class of 1933 Reunion, 1982, 1986, 1988
f. 14	Class of 1933 Reunion, 1990, 1994
f. 15	Photographs, 1948-1954
f. 16	Programs, 1956-1978
f. 17	School Plays, 1940, 1948
f. 18	Miscellaneous, 1958-1972, no date

Index:

Index Term	folder	Image
Atkinson, Donna Kay Cowan, 1940-	15	Yes
Banks and banking--Missouri	2-12	
Barton County (Mo.)	1-9, 13-18	Yes
Cedar County (Mo.)	10	
Cowan, Frank Oral, 1913-2004	13-14	Yes
Cowan, Norma Rae, 1919-1980	1	
Dade County (Mo.)	3	
Democratic Party	18	
Farms and farming	2-12	
Golden City High School (Golden City, Mo.)	13-17	Yes