



**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 are composed of pamphlets, programs, photographs, and materials relating to the history of the Golden City High School, which was attended by Frank Cowan in the class of 1933 and his daughter, Donna Cowan, in the class of 1958.

**Collection Size:** .5 cubic feet  
(10 folders, approximately 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](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield). If you would like more information, please contact us at [springfield@shsmo.org](mailto: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).

**Processed by:** Processed by Erin Smither, July 29, 2015

**Historical Note:**

Frank Cowan was born June 11, 1913, the child of Lemuel Lewis Cowan and Fannie Abbott Cowan. In 1934 Frank married Norma Rae Ellis. In 1949 they moved to Golden City where they had two daughters Norma Lou (1935-2014) and Donna Kay (1940- ). Donna attended Golden City High School where she was active in drama and Future Homemakers of America. She graduated in 1958. After earning a business degree at the University of Missouri in 1962 Donna married Robert Donald Atkinson and they had two sons, James Robert Atkinson and Philip Craig Atkinson. Donna worked at Septagon Construction, a Butler Franchise General Contractor, from 1979 to 2005. She also worked nine years for the Missouri State Archives as a genealogical researcher.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into ten folders. The materials have been arranged topically and when possible chronologically.

**Scope and Content Note:**

The collection consists of pamphlets, booklets, photographs, and correspondence of the Cowan Family. Of particular note are materials pertaining to Golden City High School class of 1933 and 1958.

**Container List:**

Box 001	f. 1	School plays, 1957, 1958
	f. 2	Democratic Party Platform, 1960
	f. 3	Photographs, no date
	f. 4	Pamphlets, no date
	f. 5	Programs, 1957-1975
	f. 6	Newspaper Clippings, 1961-1980
	f. 7	Class of 1933 Reunion, 1982, 1986, 1988
	f. 8	Class of 1933 Reunion, 1990-1994
	f. 9	Property Abstract, 1855
	f. 10	Property Abstract, 1857

**Index:**

Index Term	folder	Image
Atkinson, Donna K. Cowan, 1940-	1, 3-6	Yes
Cowan, Frank, 1913-2004	7-8	Yes

<b>Index Term</b>	<b>folder</b>	<b>Image</b>
Democratic Party	2	No
Golden City High School	1, 3-8	Yes
Barton County (Mo.)	1-8, 10	Yes
Cedar County (Mo.)	9	No