

# West Texas Collection

## Atkins and Ryan Family Collection

5 linear inches

**Record ID:** 1994-2

**Donor:** A.C. Atkins

**Acquisition:** Gift

**Access:** Open

**Restrictions:** None

**Citation:** Atkins and Ryan Family Collection, West Texas Collection, Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas

### Administrative/Biographical History:

Mr. A.C. Atkins of Fort Stockton was very active in the collection of genealogy of the Atkins and Ryan families. Atkins wrote and sent out a family newsletter to a great number of people on his mailing list. Discussed in his newsletters are various topics, mainly genealogy with family stories, correspondence, and photocopies of family photographs.

### Scope and Content:

The collection contains family newsletters along with biographical information about interesting members of the family. There are also a number of photographs of the families (photocopies) and maps of adventures taken by Dave Atkins.

### Arrangement:

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1</b>	1	Biographical information of Benjamin H. Ryan
	2	The Baker Family (mainly Joseph M. Baker)
	3	“Kinfolks” and letters: Atkins relatives mailing list as of Feb. 9, 1993 “Kinfolks” June 21, 1993: Ryans and Bakers Orien H. and Martha M. Atkins Family Tree Tom Green County and its Communities Family Sketches “Kinfolks” August 31, 1993: Oops! Department (corrections of mistakes in previous mailings) Printout of the “Tree”

**Box File Description**

Recent contributions  
John Jefferson Atkins—newspaper account in 1938 (attached at back)  
Bonham, Fannin County, Texas  
Michael Polk Baze  
“The Indian Thing”  
Dave Atkins  
Mailing list additions  
“Kinfolks” November 15, 1993:  
Samuel J. Harkey  
Dave DeLong  
Ted Atkins  
Knickerbocker  
“The Indian Thing”  
“Dave Atkins’ Last Arrest”  
Elsie and Lloyd Alcorn  
David Davis Martin  
Lloyd Colfax Alcorn  
Trip to San Angelo, Texas  
Census 1860  
The Atkins File  
Dave Atkins  
Ruby Atkins  
Brand Records  
Fred Baker  
“The Tree”  
Mailing list  
Newspaper articles: “Lands Two in Jail”  
“First Whit Child Born in Tom Green is 80 Today”  
“He Weighs ‘Em Up”  
“West Texas Society of 50 and 25 Years Ago”  
“Frontier Days’ Knickerbocker Lives on in Memory of Remaining Settlers, Families”  
“Indian Claim to Texas Land near Decision”  
“Man Who Evaded Justice Twenty Years Held Here”  
Atkins Relatives Mailing List  
Letter to Mrs. Mildred Wickson November 29, 1993:  
Mrs. LaVonne Ketchum  
The “Menard Connection”  
“Kinfolks” December 16, 1993:  
Sarah’s Tunk  
The Menard Connection  
Ketchums  
Dave Atkins

**Box File Description**

The "Jap" Powers Killing  
The shooting of Tom Hardin in the Knickerbocker Saloon  
March 20, 1897  
Dave arrested and sent to prison in New Mexico in late 1897  
Census Record

Letter to Mrs. Lois Baygent January 4, 1994:  
Benjamin Ryan  
Virgil Ryan  
Merritt Edwin  
Mary "Sis"  
Garnett Ryan  
Mary D. "Sis" Tarver  
"Infant Daughter"  
Alice is buried  
Fred Baker  
My "Family Line"  
The Banners  
Cavenders  
Vicie Mary Cavender

"Kinfolks" May 5, 1994:  
"The Tree"  
Ben Ficklin  
Benjamin Franklin Ficklin  
George Edwin Atkins  
"Sad Times" (names of family members recently deceased):  
    Bessie Jo (Joan) Fry Bachman and G.F. Cavender  
Ben Ficklin (5 pgs about the town)  
Benjamin Franklin Ficklin (3 pg bio information)  
George Edwin Atkins (5 pg bio information)

Letter to Rex Mason August 5, 1994:  
Grannie Atkins  
Christoval House, Christoval, Texas  
Photocopied pictures of house and cars after snowstorm,  
children in yard

"Kinfolks" and letters:  
"Kinfolks" August 22, 1994:  
Rhonda S. Norris (professional genealogist)  
Letter to Rhonda S. Norris concerning researching genealogy  
of:  
    Orin Atkins  
    Martha Baker  
    Henry Burton  
    Sarah Frances Glover

Letter to Lurana Truesdell September 8, 1994:  
Letter to Lurana Truesdell September 8, 1994

**Box File Description**

Laura Bullion  
Picture of Sarah Elizabeth Baker Ryan  
Sabe Banner Atkins' marriage to William Green  
Prince Ryan  
Topsy Jones' grave  
Christoval history as told by the "old, old timers"  
"Kinfolks" September 27, 1994:  
Timeline of 1870  
1870 Census around Fort Concho  
Kickapoo Springs  
Lipan Springs  
Fort Chadbourne  
Jones Ranch on Colorado River  
Concho Mail Station  
Bismark Farms  
Hay contractor camp 6 mi. SW of Fort Concho  
Fort Concho Vicinity  
Fort Concho  
San Angela North of Fort Concho  
Hay contractor camp 22 mi. W of Fort Concho  
Hay contractor camp 12 mi. W of Fort Concho  
John Rutledge of San Angelo, Texas  
"Sad Times" (names of family members recently deceased)  
Cleo Margaret Atkins  
Dave Atkins  
Letter to Rhonda S. Norris November 16, 1994:  
Jacob Atkins  
J.M. Baker  
"Kinfolks" November 16, 1994:  
Polk Baze and Sarah Atkins photo (photocopied)  
"Kinfolks" December 12, 1994:  
Passing of A.C. Atkins' Wife, Patsy  
Jacob Atkins  
Pheba C. Atkins  
Edward Atkins  
Orrin Atkins and James Atkins  
Abigail Atkins  
Henry Atkins  
Lillie Angelena Atkins and David Davis Martin  
David Edward Atkins  
"Sad Times" (names of family members recently deceased)  
Patsy Moody Atkins  
Poem included in Patsy's obituary  
"Kinfolks" March 30, 1995:  
ID's for photos that are not attached to the letter

**Box File Description**

Ruby Atkins  
The Knickerbocker Connection  
Sarah Joesephine Atkins  
John Jefferson Atkins  
Mary Melissa Atkins  
Walter Edwin Atkins  
David Edwards Atkins  
Lillie Angelena Atkins  
“Sad Times” (manes of family members recently deceased)  
    Anise Elgia DeLong Smith  
Dave Atkins  
“Kinfolks” May 22, 1995:  
    The Old Family Bible of Orrin and Martha Baker  
    The Two Martha Baker Atkins Letters in 1922 and 1923  
    Sarah Atkins Baze  
    Lottie (a stillborn child in 1889)  
    John Atkins  
    Mary Atkins Ryan  
    Walter E. Atkins  
    David Edward Atkins  
    Lillie A. Atkins Martin  
    Letters:  
        From Martha Baker Atkins in Paint Rock 6-10-1922  
        to daughter Mary Atkins in Fort Stockton  
        From Martha Baker Atkins in Knickerbocker 5-17-  
        1923 to daughter Mary Atkins in Fort Stockton  
        From Pearl Gallemore Atkins in Paint Rock to  
        mother-in-law Martha Baker Atkins in Knickerbocker  
        From Martha Baker Atkins in reply to Pearl  
1880 Census  
1890 Census  
1900 Census  
1910 Census  
Obituary of Mrs. Martha M. Atkins August 19, 1923 Fort  
Stockton  
Photocopies of pages from family Bible  
“Kinfolks” November 16, 1995:  
    (Photocopied photos at back)  
    Family of John Jefferson Atkins and Edith Maude Duncan  
    Family of Mark Ryan and Mary Melissa Atkins  
    The hole diggers: George Gallemore; Oliver Baze & Walter  
    Atkins  
    The Picnickers  
    Two young cowboys  
    Florence Ryan Cavender and son Vance

**Box File Description**

- Poem to Mam' ma
- Song Ballad
- Update on Dave Atkins manuscript
- "The Diamond Ring"
- "The Automobile"
- "Looking Back to See Where We Are"
- "Sad Times" (names of family members recently deceased)
- Vera Lois Atkins White
  
- 5 Dave Atkins #1
  - Letter to LaVonne Ketchum:
    - Letter concerns Tom Ketchum and Dave Atkins
  - "Kinfolks" May 27, 1994:
    - Letter concerns the Dave Atkins narrative
  - "Kinfolks" July 19, 1994
    - Dave Atkins, the Boers, and the Boer War (with map)
  - "Kinfolks" January 17, 1995:
    - Dave Atkins narrative part one of three (May, 1874-Dec., 1900)
  
- 6 Dave Atkins #2
  - Dave Atkins narrative part two South Africa—Alias L.H. Drake
  - Dave Atkins narrative part three Dec., 1902 to mid 1911
  - Letter to John Ferguson March 28, 1995:
    - Letter concerns a newspaper clipping entitled "Dave Atkins Last Arrest"
  - "Kinfolks" September 15, 1995:
    - Dave Atkins in South America
    - Letter from Governor of Texas Pat M. Neff to James Tweedy declining pardon of Dave Atkins
    - photocopied picture of Dave Atkins
  - Map of South America (routes of Dave Atkins)
  - Letter to John Ferguson September 20, 1995:
    - Letter concerns sending a second copy of several documents about Dave Atkins
  
- 7 Family Photos (photocopied)
  - Family of Walter Edwin Atkins and Maudie Pearl Gallemore, 1910
  - Family of David Davis Martin and Lillie Angelena Atkins, 1909 or 1910
  - Claude Martin and Ida Martin
  - Ruby Atkins
  - Lillie Baze
  - Orrin Harrison Atkins
  - Martha Mary Baker Atkins
  - Benjamin H. Ryan and Sara Elizabeth
  - Ragsdale Photographers advertisement
  - Virgil Ryan and Lenny

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Description</b>
		Benjamin Harrison Ryan during WWI
		Mark Ryan; Mary Atkins Ryan; Frank Baze; and Sarah Alice Ryan
8		“The Great Hay Truck Controversy” Loading or Unloading? Article from <i>Wheels of Time</i> vol. 16, no. 2 1995