



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Minnesota State Archives

## HUMANE SOCIETY

### An Inventory of Its Complaint Records

#### OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

**Agency:** Minnesota Humane Society.  
**Series Title:** Complaint records,  
**Dates:** 1942-1980.  
**Quantity:** 1.6 cu. ft. (1 box and 2 partial boxes).  
**Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

The complaint files (1942-1958), arranged alphabetically, contain both general correspondence, filed by correspondent's surname, and individual subject files. Mainly letters requesting information or registering abuse complaints, there are also materials dealing with dog and pigeon poisoning, riding stables, and rodeos.

The daily log (March 1, 1944 - September 13, 1945) begins as a simple record of office activities but beginning with the November 19, 1944 entry, it becomes mainly a very detailed record of complaints received and actions taken in response. The complaint register (1944-1945) records offender's name (if known), location of incident, nature of offense, complainant's name, and action taken by the society. There is some duplication between these two records.

The complaint/investigation files (1970-1980) are filed alphabetically by either the name of the person the complaint was filed against or by topic and include complaint forms, investigation reports, photographs, correspondence, and notes. General topics covered include the hearing ear dog program, zoos, and two 1975 abuse cases, one involving a lion abandoned near Hinckley; the other, over 100 horses found abused on the Gilbert Menkvold farm near Aitkin.

#### ARRANGEMENT OF THE RECORDS

Divided into four sections: Complaint files (1942-1958), daily log (1944-1945), complaint register (1944-1945), and complaint/investigation files (1970-1980).

#### INDEX TERMS

*This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.*

**Topics:**

Animal rescue--Minnesota--Photographs.  
Animal welfare--Minnesota--Investigation--Photographs.  
Animal welfare--Minnesota--Societies, etc  
Dogs--Minnesota.  
Hearing ear dogs--Minnesota.  
Horses--Minnesota--Photographs.  
Humane education--Minnesota.  
Lions--Minnesota--Photographs.  
Pigeons--Minnesota.  
Poisoning in animals--Minnesota.  
Rodeos--Minnesota.  
Stables--Minnesota.  
Zoos--Minnesota.

**Persons:**

Menkvold, Gilbert.

**Organizations**

Minnesota Society for Prevention of Cruelty.  
Minnesota Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

**Types of Documents:**

Photographs.

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Preferred Citation:**

*[Indicate the cited item and folder title here].* Minnesota Humane Society. Complaint records. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.  
*See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.*

**Accession Information:**

Accession number(s): None            987-58

**Processing Information:**

Processed by: Cheri Thies, May 1989 and April 2001.  
PALS ID No.: 0800001861            RLIN ID No.: MNHV2355-A

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS**

*Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.*

**Location            Box**

- 115.L.13.8F      1      Complaint files, 1942-1958:
- A.
  - B.  
Blue Earth County--Eagle Lake, MN.  
Branch humane societies.
  - C.  
Clay County—Moorhead, MN.
  - D.  
Dog poisoning.  
Dogs, killing, poisoning, shooting, general cruelty.
  - E.
  - F.  
Faulkner, E. C., Milaca case.  
Fillmore County—Lanesboro, MN.
  - G.
  - H.
  - I.
  - J.  
Jones, William, Stillwater case.
  - K.  
Keller, Leo and William.  
Klammer, Leonard.
  - L.  
Livestock information.
  - Mc.
  - M.  
Modjeski, Valentine (Winona).
  - N.  
NYA dog case.
  - O.
  - P.  
Pigeon poisoning.
  - Q.
  - R.  
Riding stables.  
Rodeo (material and complaints).  
Rogowski, Mrs. Alex., South St. Paul.
  - S.  
St. Louis County—Duluth, MN.  
Starling bird case.  
Sullivan, Bert, Pelican Rapids.  
Swift & Armour.
  - T.
  - U.
  - V.
  - W.

Waseca County—Waseca, MN.  
XYZ.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
108.J.12.8F-1	2	Daily log, March 1, 1944 – September 13, 1945. 1 volume. Pages 1–164 list times when various staff are in and out of the office; which staff is out on complaints, at lunch, or gone home; and phone calls and visitors to the office and how they were handled by the staff. Beginning with November 19, 1944, it becomes mainly just a record of complaints received and actions taken in response, many of them in outstate Minnesota. The information is very detailed. Complaint register, 1944-1945. 1 oversize folder. Register of complaints of cruelty to animals including offender's name (if known), location of incident, nature of offense, complainant's name, and action taken by the society.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	
115.L.14.5B	3	Complaint/investigation files, 1970-1980: Include complaint forms, investigation reports, photographs, correspondence, and notes. Filed alphabetically by either the name of the person the complaint was filed against or by topic. Blaine Midway All Pets, Inc. (Glen Wax), 1977-1980. Brown, Kay, 1975. Burgie, Edward, 1976. Chickens, 1975. Como Zoo, 1976. Dally Bros. Circus (Gopher Davenport), 1976-1977. Drude, Richard, 1974-1975. Fahrenkamp, Willard, 1974-1975. Gallivan, Pat, 1974-1975. Haines, Bob, 1975-1976. Hanson, June, 1974. Hearing ear dog, 1973-1980. Huckabee, Robert, 1975-1976. Lelm, Roger, 1974-1977. Lion, 1975-1976. Documents the rescue of a lion abandoned in an unheated cabin near Hinckley in January 1975 and its subsequent placement. Maple Grove (Great Dane), 1976-1978. Menkvold, Gilbert, 1975-1978. 2 folders. Concerns an abuse case in Aitkin involving over 100 horses. Minder, Vivian, 1972-1975. Police departments, 1975.

Research Center, University of Minnesota, 1973.

Stillwater Prison, 1973.

Wells, Robert, 1974-1975.

Whaley, Ervin, 1977.

Wilen, Marg, 1975-1977.

Wise, Neil, 1979.

Wright, Lorraine, 1976.

Zoos, 1970.