



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Oral History Collection

## OH116: ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW WITH ALFRED P. GALE AND LEONA R. GALE.

### OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

**Title:** Oral history interview with Alfred P. Gale and Leona R. Gale.  
**Dates:** 2008.  
**Quantity:** 5 master and 5 user sound cassettes; 1 transcript in 1 folder.  
**Location:** OH116.

### SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

Alfred Pillsbury Gale is the son of Richard Pillsbury and Isobel Rising Gale. He was born in Minnesota and raised in Minneapolis and on the family's farm near Maple Plain. He built and managed a large farming operation in North Dakota from 1947 – 1970 when he and his wife moved to Maple Plain. Leona Rowe Gale was born in North Dakota and married Alfred Gale in 1948. She worked with him in their farming operation, raised two sons, and was active in a variety of civic and community activities for many years, both in North Dakota and in Minnesota.

Alfred Gale discusses his childhood and life as an itinerant teenager who traveled the American west working on ranches, farms, and other temporary positions while attending school between these adventures. He talks of his years in the Merchant Marine, his love for the land and development of the North Dakota farms, and his later return to Minnesota and life there as an investor and land owner. Leona Gale discusses her early life in North Dakota, the hard work of developing a farm and managing a home and family, and her involvement in a variety of civic and community activities.

### 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:**

Agriculture – Minnesota.  
Agriculture – North Dakota.  
Family farms – Minnesota.  
Family farms – North Dakota.  
Farm life – Minnesota.

Farm life – North Dakota.  
Farmers – Minnesota.  
Farmers – North Dakota.  
Merchant marine – United States.  
Voyages and travels.

**Persons:**

Fogerty, James E., 1945-, interviewer.  
Gale, Alfred P., interviewee.  
Gale, Leona R., interviewee.

**Types of Documents:**

Interviews.  
Oral histories.

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Preferred Citation:**

*[Indicate the cited transcript and page or sound recording here].* Oral History Interview with Alfred P. Gale and Leona R. Gale. Minnesota Historical Society. *See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.*

**Accession Information:**

Accession number(s): AV2009.63

**Processing Information:**

Processed by: Oral History Office  
Catalog ID No.: 006929875

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION**

*Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note the format (sound recording or transcript) and location shown below.*

**Sound recordings. 5 cassettes.**

**Location**

OH116                      Gale, Alfred P. & Leona R., January 31, February 20, & July 31,  
2008.

**Transcript. 1 folder.**

**Location**

OH116                      Gale, Alfred P. & Leona R., January 31, February 20, & July 31,  
2008.