

Kohl Farmstead, Cabbage Barn
Approximately 250 Feet South Southeast of the Farmhouse
Appleton Vicinity
Outagamie County
Wisconsin

HABS No. WI-348-I

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Rocky Mountain System Support Office
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KOHL FARMSTEAD, CABBAGE BARN

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Location: Approximately 250 Feet South Southeast of the Farmhouse
Appleton Vicinity, Outagamie County, Wisconsin

Significance: The cabbage barn was built by Michael Kohl to store and preserve cabbage for his family's own use and that of his neighbors.¹ The building's construction is unique in that its walls were layered to permit ventilation. In addition to its distinctive use, the structure is significant as an element that contributes to the overall integrity of the early twentieth-century Kohl Farmstead.

History: In 1894, Michael Kohl acquired the land upon which the farmstead complex was developed. Improvements to the property began with the construction of a new barn in 1898 and were likely completed by 1920. One of the crops Kohl cultivated was cabbage, large scale production of which occurred in the region encompassing Outagamie County through Milwaukee County. Cooperative warehouses were characteristic of the activity. Apparently, the Kohl cabbage barn was such a warehouse.²

Description:

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This distinctive, one-and-one-half story, front gable structure is notable for a door centered in each end wall and the resultant "drive-through," as well as for two symmetrically placed, gabled cupolas that straddle the roof ridge.
2. Condition of fabric: The integrity of this structure is generally good.

B. Exterior Description:

1. General description: Sheathed with shiplap siding, this simple, gabled structure has a large door centered in the east and west gabled end walls

¹Determination of Eligibility for the Michael and Elizabeth Weiland Kohl Residence, Case #93-1177/OU. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.

²Barbara Wyatt, ed., *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*, Vol. 2 (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Historic Preservation Division, 1986), Agriculture, 6-6.

through which wagons could drive. Above each door is a small, rectangular window. Four ventilation windows are situated in the north and south walls of the building. Two are at ground level, while the remaining two are about midway between the ground and the roof eave. A door is placed at the far west end of the south wall. The roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. A brick chimney projects from the north roof plane and two symmetrically placed, gabled cupolas straddle the roof ridge.

2. Overall dimensions: 34'-5 ½" x 40'-0".
3. Openings:
 - a. Doorway and Doors: The two large openings in the gabled end walls are 9'-0" high by 9'-5" wide. The door in the south wall is 79" high by 28.5" wide.
 - b. Windows: All ventilation windows in the north and south walls are 39" high by 24" wide.

C. Setting:

Oriented on an east/west axis, the cabbage barn is the southern-most structure on the Kohl Farmstead complex. Other structures in the complex include the house (HABS No. WI-348-A), garage (HABS No. WI-348-B), small machine shed (HABS No. WI-348-C), silo (HABS No. WI-348-D), pumphouse (HABS No. WI-348-E), large machine shed (HABS No. 348-F), garage/workshop (HABS No. WI-348-G), original residence (HABS No. WI-348-H) and smokehouse (HABS No. WI-348-J).

Sources: Determination of Eligibility for the Michael and Elizabeth Weiland Kohl Residence, Case #93-1177/OU. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.

Wyatt, Barbara, ed. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*. Vol 2. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Historic Preservation Division, 1986.

No other bibliographic resources unique to this document were used. Citations for all sources used are provided in PART III (SOURCES OF INFORMATION) of the complex's overview document (HABS No. WI-348).

Historian: Traci Schnell, Architectural Historian, Heritage Research, 1996.