The site makes a beautiful setting for outdoor parties, weddings, reunions, and meetings throughout the year. For more information about renting the house or gardens for your next event, call 620-342-2800.
William Allen and Sallie White were known for their hospitality and often entertained guests from around the world in their home and gardens.

Gardens are an evolving, always changing element that can represent the past, embrace the present, and welcome the future with each new season. The gardens at Red Rocks have undergone many changes in the past decade. Gardeners have transformed overgrown beds and a shady yard to the colorful gardens and sunny lawn visitors see today.

Careful planning went into the changes that took place in the gardens prior to the house becoming a state historic site in 2005. The landscape design was researched through collaboration with master gardeners, the Kansas Historical Society, and community members. Landscape design students at Kansas State University worked on individual designs as a semester project, and many of their ideas were incorporated into the final design. An article in a 1927 issue of Better Homes and Gardens was also an inspiration for the design. Pictures and plants mentioned by William Allen White in that article were an inspiration for the current gardens.

The renovation of the gardens included restoring the fish pond, ridding the grounds of overgrown trees, shrubs, and wisteria. Garden beds were planned to remain true to the original plantings, yet incorporate modern varieties more resistant to disease and pests.

The landscape includes collections of hosta, daylilies, and iris, many of which are labeled by variety. The lily pond contains aquatic plants that serve as habitat for goldfish that keep mosquito larvae in check. Other plantings include “Knock-out” and “The Fairy” roses, Dwarf Korean lilac, viburnums, hydrangeas, arborvitae, phlox, peonies, and honeysuckle.

Scheller’s Lawn and Landscape was instrumental in carrying out the plan with planting, tilling, and installation of a watering system. Lyon County Extension Master Gardener volunteers weed, water, prune, rake, and monitor the garden. They are also present at events to conduct garden tours and answer questions about specific plantings.

The pool and gardens as they appeared in a 1927 issue of Better Homes and Gardens and after the most recent rehabilitation of the site.