Built in 1907 as the home of banker and papermaker, Isaac P. Witter and his wife, Charlotte, the museum is situated on a hill overlooking the Wisconsin River. A private home until 1947, Isaac's brother-in-law, George W. Mead, purchased the home and grounds for \$15,000.00 and presented it to the city to house the T.B. Scott Public Library, which opened in 1948.

After the McMillan Memorial Library was built and opened in 1970, the building and land were deeded to the South Wood County Historical Corporation for the museum, which opened in 1972.

A dozen garden beds surround this historic building, with changing vistas and mood depending on the interplay of sun and shade. Since 1996's master landscaping plan, Wood County Master Gardeners have designed and maintained these gardens. This site is a good example of the layering effect of trees, large shrubs, small shrubs, herbaceous perennials, bulbs, and annuals. Educational signage related to gardening and plants help the visitors identify plants of interest.