

COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS:

Coe Hall

Surrounded by beautifully landscaped grounds on a 409-acre estate, Coe Hall is a grand manor house in the Tudor Revival style. William Robertson Coe and his wife, Mai Huttleston Rogers Coe, presided over its development and spared no expense.

Designed by the architectural firm of Walker and Gillette, the 65-room home was constructed between 1918 and 1921 with the finest materials and craftsmanship, then decorated and furnished with fine art and antiques collected by the Coe family.

Today, Planting Fields Foundation is charged with preserving the Coe family legacy. It is a challenge we embrace with enthusiasm.

About the Archives

Currently housed in Coe Hall, the Planting Fields Foundation archives consist of five major collections:

- Coe family personal correspondence and belongings, including newspaper clippings, sheet music, photographs, and magazines
- Business correspondence, including ledgers and invoices
- Estate materials, including architectural plans of buildings and gardens
- Records and materials related to the transition of Planting Fields, as part of the State University of New York
- Records and materials related to the evolution of Planting Fields, as part of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Other collections encompass materials and records related to:

- The development of the Planting Fields Foundation
- The history of the Coe Foundation and William Robertson Coe's commitment to the development and endowment of American Studies programs in universities throughout the United States
- The history of the *Friends of Planting Fields*
- Various horticultural societies and organizations.

Thanks to Our Donors

Our important and painstaking work would not be possible without the generous support of our donors:

Anonymous
Mrs. William P.O. Clarke
Professor Michael D. Coe
Mr. Roland Cotter-Kroboth
Ms. Dian Dunn

Mrs. Lawrence Kryle
Mr. William Navin
Mr. Samuel Mitchell for the Estate of Saidie E. Scudder
Mrs. Alfred Urban

Here are some highlights of our efforts in 2001 to help preserve one of Long Island's few remaining mansions of the Gold Coast era.

Acquisitions

In 1914, Mrs. Coe commissioned artist Everett Shinn to decorate the interior of the Tea House overlooking the Blue Pool Garden. His work includes two murals and a suite of furniture. Ten years later, Shinn created a series of eight oil-on-canvas panels for her bath to match those in the Tea House. The Foundation acquired the main panel, *Ladies On A Swing*, in 2000 through an anonymous donor and a second panel at auction in 2001.

Forty-one pieces of silver, including Mrs. Coe's Tiffany tea service, were donated to the Foundation by her grandson, Michael D. Coe.

Items from the estate of Saidie E. Scudder will be used to interpret the planned restoration of the Governess' room and recreation of a typical servant's room. Other donations will be incorporated into the Museum's collections.

Collections Care Projects

- Conservation of the 17th century frame and oil-on-canvas *Portrait of an Elizabethan Lady* by Geerhardtts the Younger
- Conservation of Everitt Shinn's 20th century oil-on-canvas panel
- Environmental monitoring and treatment of Robert Chanler's 1922 imaginative *buffalo murals* in the Breakfast Room
- Preparation of a conditions report for the natural specimens collection of trophy heads
- Stabilization of a 19th century terra cotta incense burner.

Collections Management Projects

- Creation of collections storage space
- Formation of a trained volunteer *White Gloves Brigade*, to assist with collections care
- Completion of a Disaster Recovery Plan for Coe Hall collections
- Continued refinement of Planting Fields Foundation archives.