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**NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATORS CONTINUE
 PRESERVATION WORK OF ROBERT WINTHROP CHANLER'S
 BUFFALO ROOM IN COE HALL**

Oyster Bay, New York – September 12, 2019 – Planting Fields Foundation (“Planting Fields” or “the Foundation”) announced today that conservators from New York State Parks will return to Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park from Tuesday, September 17 until Thursday, September 19 to continue a multiyear project to treat the Robert Winthrop Chanler mural in the Breakfast Room, also known as The Buffalo Room, of Coe Hall. Completed in 1920, the mural depicts the Wyoming landscape with a hunt scene in the foreground. Chanler’s unconventional techniques and material choices have challenged conservators for the last decade and a half, as they did the Coes who also endeavored to maintain it in the years following the mural’s completion. The in-painting process used by the conservators to restore and protect the mural is labor intensive and requires meticulous precision. With Planting Fields’ mural being one of only two Chanler works on view to the public (the other being the swimming pool grotto at Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami, FL), Planting Fields Foundation and New York State are deeply committed to ensuring its preservation. This project concludes the last phase of treatment of the room, however ongoing maintenance will be needed. Visitors of Coe Hall may be able to see the conservators at work next week.

History of the Buffalo Room

In 1918 W.R. and Mai Coe engaged Robert Winthrop Chanler, a New York City-based artist, and one of the famed Astor orphans, to create an homage to Wyoming, a place that they, their children and grandchildren spent many happy summers. The Buffalo Room at Coe Hall is a representation of W.R. Coe’s love of the west. In the mural of this family breakfast room, the buffalo and deer are painted on thickly layered plaster to stand out in slight relief. Many are made with metallic powders for an additional decorative effect. In 1921, Chanler was also invited to create the wall and ceiling murals of Mai Coe’s bedroom, which was designed by Elsie de Wolfe. Chanler decorated rooms of some of the finest interiors at the time, including studios of Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, the Park Avenue Colony Club and several private estates

throughout the country. Only a handful of Chanler's works survive today and most are owned by private collectors.

About Planting Fields Foundation

Planting Fields Foundation preserves and interprets Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park as the premier public garden and Gold Coast estate for today and tomorrow while creating enriching experiences for the visiting public. Founded in 1952 by William R. Coe, the Foundation is a not for profit public educational foundation chartered by the New York State Board of Regents and tax exempt under the status for a 501C3 organization.

Located in Oyster Bay, New York and originally landscaped by the Olmstead Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts, the Arboretum grounds feature 409 acres of greenhouses, rolling lawns, formal gardens, woodland paths and outstanding plant collections. The original historic estate buildings remain intact including Coe Hall, a 65-room Tudor Revival mansion designed by Walker & Gillette. The interior of the house is a showcase of artistry and craftsmanship and features a distinctly American aesthetic through original ironwork commissions by Samuel Yellin and murals painted by artists Robert W. Chanler and Everett Shinn. Planting Fields is included in the National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the Nation's historic sites worthy of preservation.

To learn more about Planting Fields Foundation, please visit the website at www.plantingfields.org.
