

## **Memorial Carillon Tower**

**On April 29, 1985, plans were announced for the construction of a carillon tower on the campus's central quad west of the Calvin T. Ryan Library, east of Founders Hall, north of Bruner Hall of Science, and south of Copeland Hall.**

**At the same time, it was announced that private donations of \$285,600 had been received for its construction. The funds came almost entirely from the children of Elias K. and Mary Yanney, and George and Venetia Peterson, with the intent of providing a memorial for their parents. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were Peter Peterson, a resident of New York City, and John Peterson, living in Colorado Springs. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Yanney were E. K. Yanney of Lodgepole, Nebraska, Mike Yanney of Omaha, Vernon Yanney of North Platte, Margaret Shada of Kearney, Mildred Shada of Omaha, and Minnette Steinbrink of Kearney. All were alumni or alumnae of Kearney State College, as UNK was known at the time.**

**Original plans by architects Jack Wilkins and Associates of Omaha called for a tower 74 feet tall; changes in the design resulted in the tower being 66 feet, six inches tall upon completion. This is exactly six feet greater than the distance between the pitcher's rubber and home plate.**

**Construction began during the first week of classes in the fall semester of 1985, and the tower was dedicated at ceremonies on May 15, 1986. Mr. Peter Peterson was the main speaker at Spring Commencement the following day.**

**The tower supports 24 bells weighing a total of 5,790 pounds. The smallest weighs 48 pounds and is 11.5 inches in diameter; the largest weighs 1,477 pounds and has a diameter of 40 7/8 inches. The bells were cast by the Paccard Bell Foundry in Annecy, France; their installation was supervised by Mr. Harry van Bergen of Van Bergen Bellfoundries of Atlanta, Georgia, who spent two days on campus for this purpose in March 1986.**

**The tower was decorated with relief sculptures. The original friezes, copies of those found on the Parthenon in Athens, Greece, once galloped along the wall of the auditorium in the old Administration Building. These were donated to the school by the Class of 1911. Art professor Ray Schultz recreated these from the originals by a rubber molding process. There was some controversy at the time concerning the fact that the stallions depicted in the friezes were recast for the carillon tower without their penises.**



**Memorial Carillon Tower  
Under Construction, October 1985**



**Memorial Carillon Tower  
Under Construction, December 1985**



**Memorial Carillon Tower  
Under Construction, March 1986**



**Memorial Carillon Tower  
Under Construction, April 1986**



**Casts of Parthenon Friezes  
During Installation, April 1986**

# KEARNEY STATE COLLEGE

## MEMORIAL CARILLON BELL TOWER

### DEDICATION

**May 15, 1986**

*The Kearney State College Memorial Carillon Bell Tower is dedicated to the memory of Elias K. and Mary Yanney and George and Venetia Peterson. It is made possible by a gift from the Yanney families, E. K., Mike, Vernon, Margaret, Mildred and Minnette, and the Peterson families, Peter and John.*

### DEDICATION PROGRAM

**William Nester, Presiding**

INVOCATION ..... Father John Essa  
*St. George Orthodox Church*

WELCOME ..... Dr. William Nester  
*President*

SPECIAL MUSIC ..... Brass Ensemble  
Dr. Jim Payne  
*Associate Professor of Music*

DEDICATORY REMARKS ..... Mr. E. K. Yanney  
Mr. John G. Peterson

ACCEPTANCE ..... J. Alan Cramer  
*Chairman*  
*State College Board of Trustees*

RESPONSES ..... Mr. Ron Cope  
*President*  
*KSC Foundation*

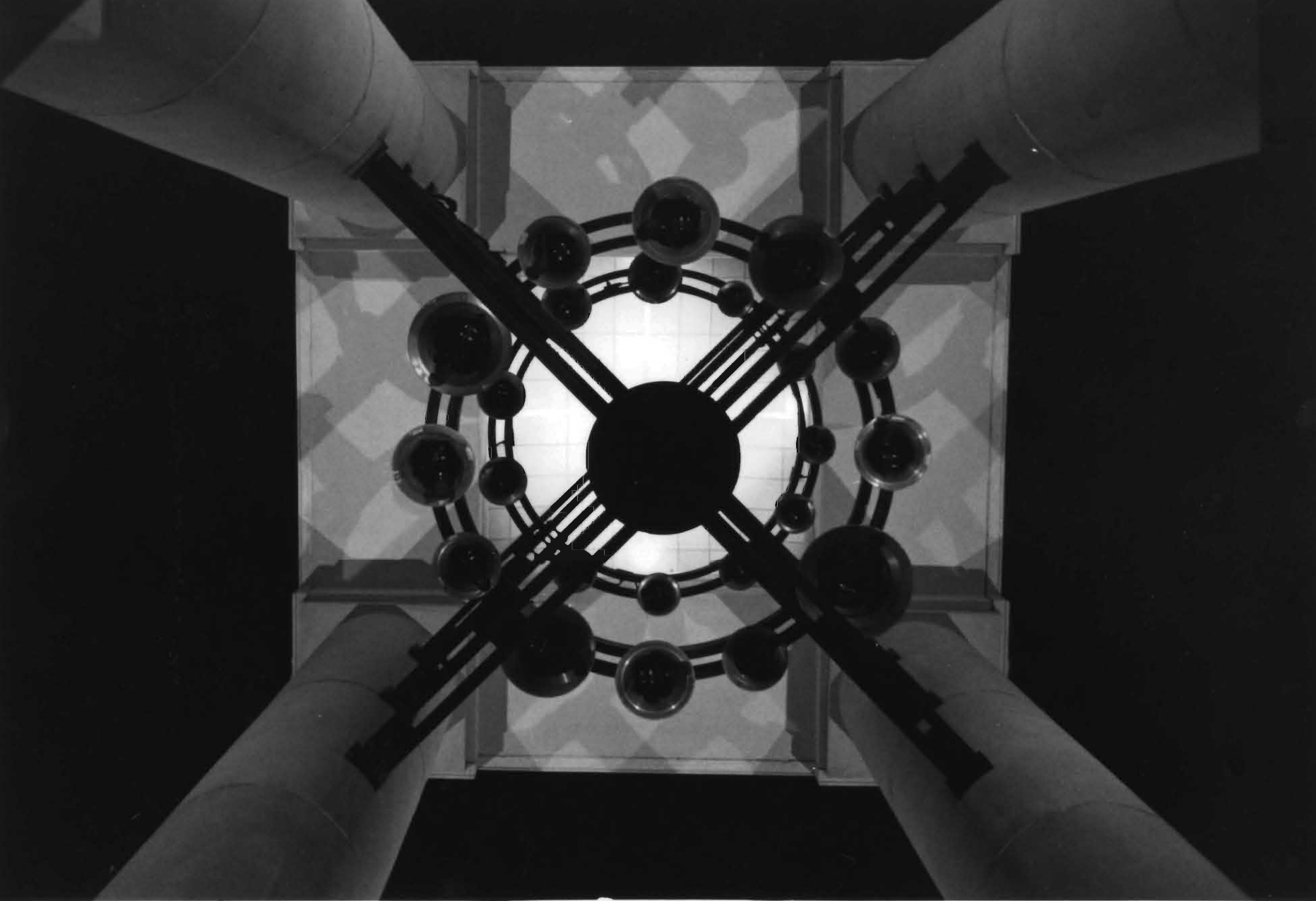
Dr. Vernon Plambeck  
*Chairman*  
*Faculty Senate*

Mr. Michael Synek  
*President*  
*Student Senate*

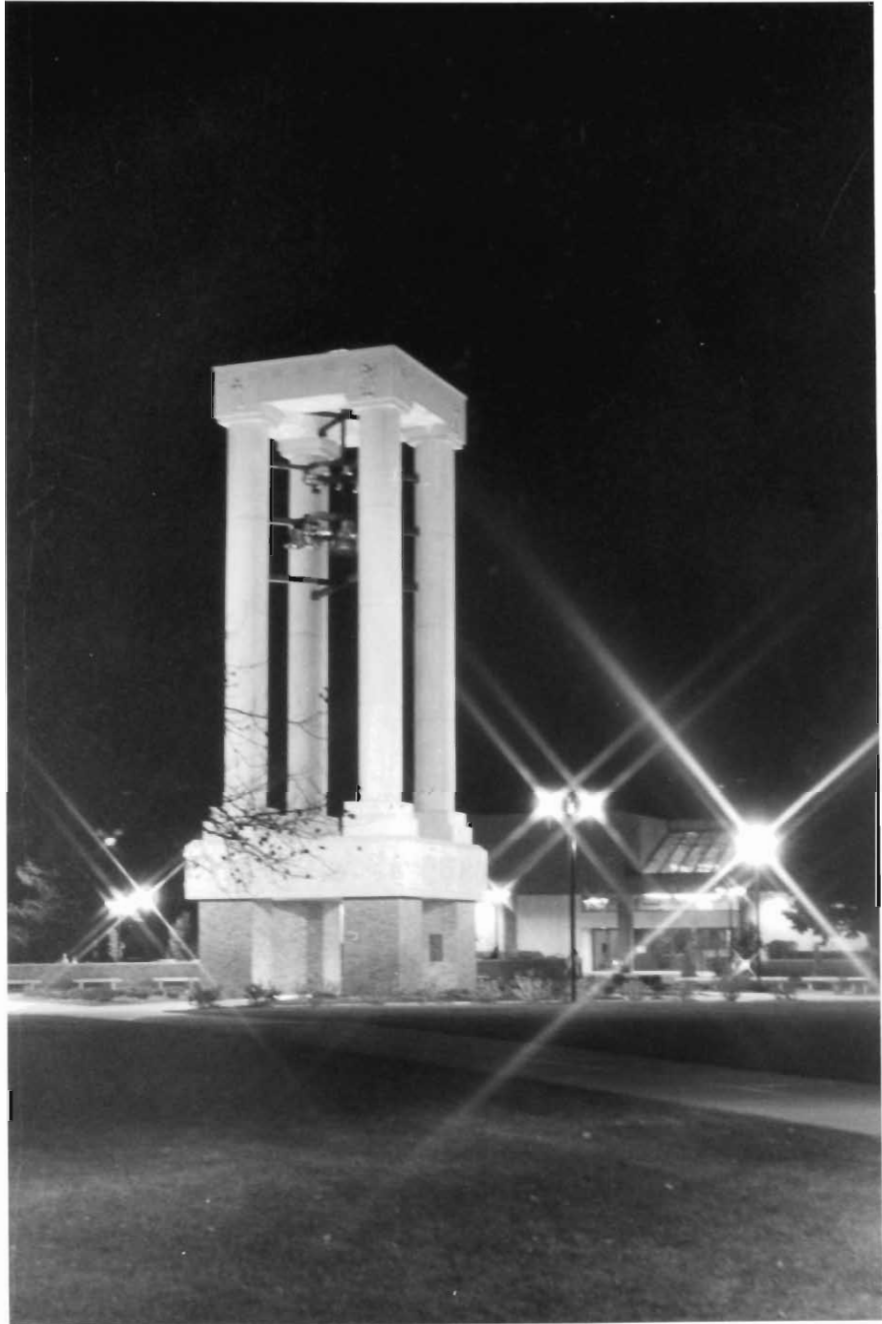
CARILLON MUSIC ..... Dr. Arnold Sivils  
*Professor of Music*



**Memorial Carillon Tower  
Bells, 1986**



**Memorial Carillon Tower  
Looking Upwards at Night, 1986  
Note the Lit Dome**



**Memorial Carillon Tower at Night, 1988  
Building in Background is  
Calvin T. Ryan Library**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 1988**  
**Campus Setting**  
**View Looks to the North**



**Memorial Carillon Tower  
During Night Snowstorm, 1994  
View Looks to the East**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009**  
**View is to the North**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009**  
**Parthenon Frieze on South Side**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009**  
**Parthenon Frieze, Detail**

KEARNEY STATE COLLEGE  
MEMORIAL CARILLON TOWER  
1986

IN HONOR OF  
GEORGE AND VENETIA PETERSON  
AND  
ELIAS AND MARY YANNEY

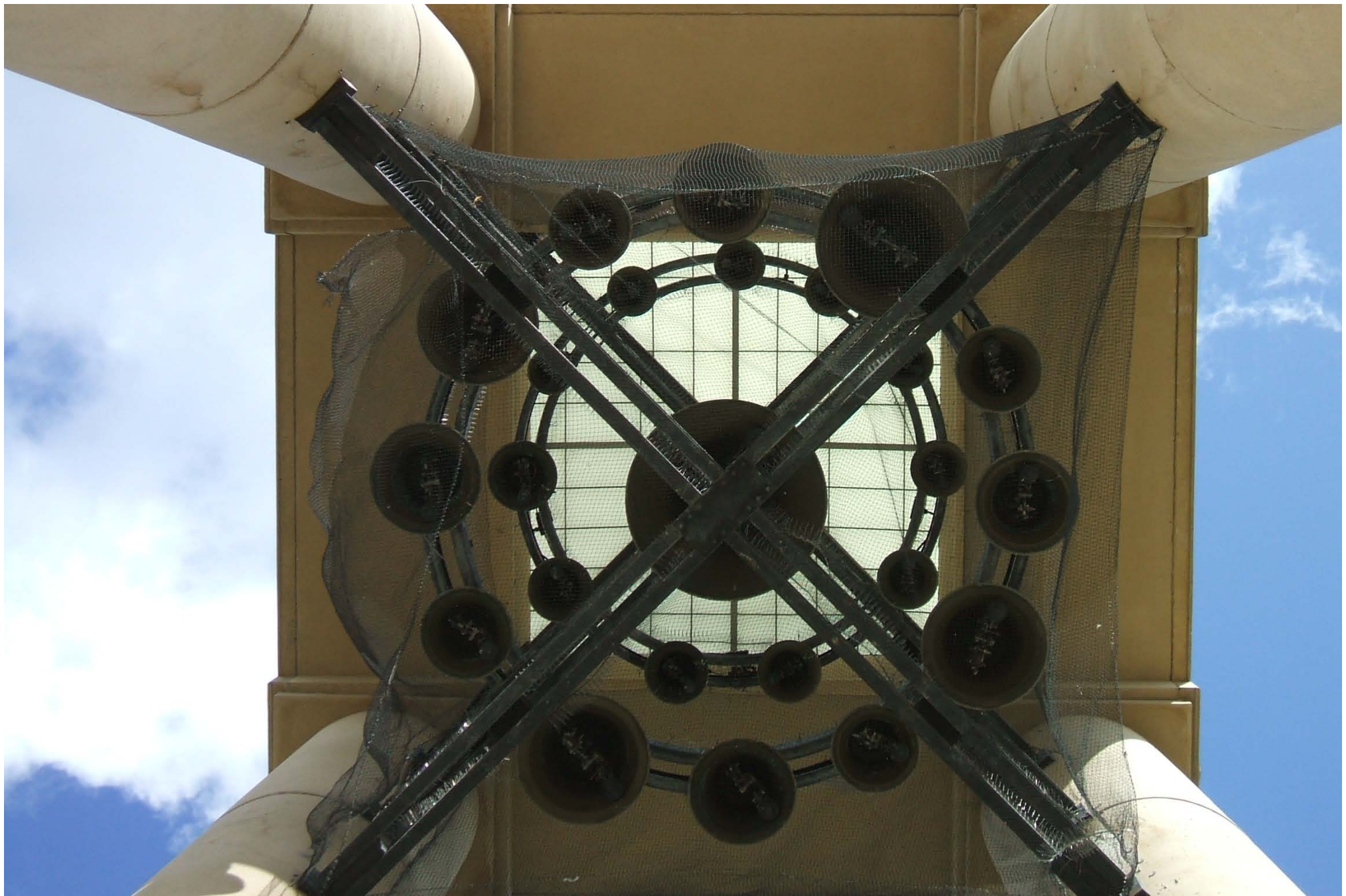
THE CARILLON TOWER REFLECTS THE  
EARLY HISTORY OF KEARNEY STATE  
COLLEGE AND THE ADMINISTRATION  
BUILDING LOCATED ADJACENT TO  
THIS SITE.

THE FOUR COLUMNS OF THE CARILLON  
TOWER SYMBOLIZE THE COLUMNS THAT  
ADORNED THE MAIN ENTRY OF THE  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING WHICH WAS  
THE FIRST BUILDING CONSTRUCTED ON  
THE CAMPUS. THE RELIEF SCULPTURES  
ARE ADAPTED FROM REPLICAS OF THE  
PARTHENON SCULPTURES IN ATHENS,  
GREECE, WHICH WERE LOCATED IN THE  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AUDITORIUM.

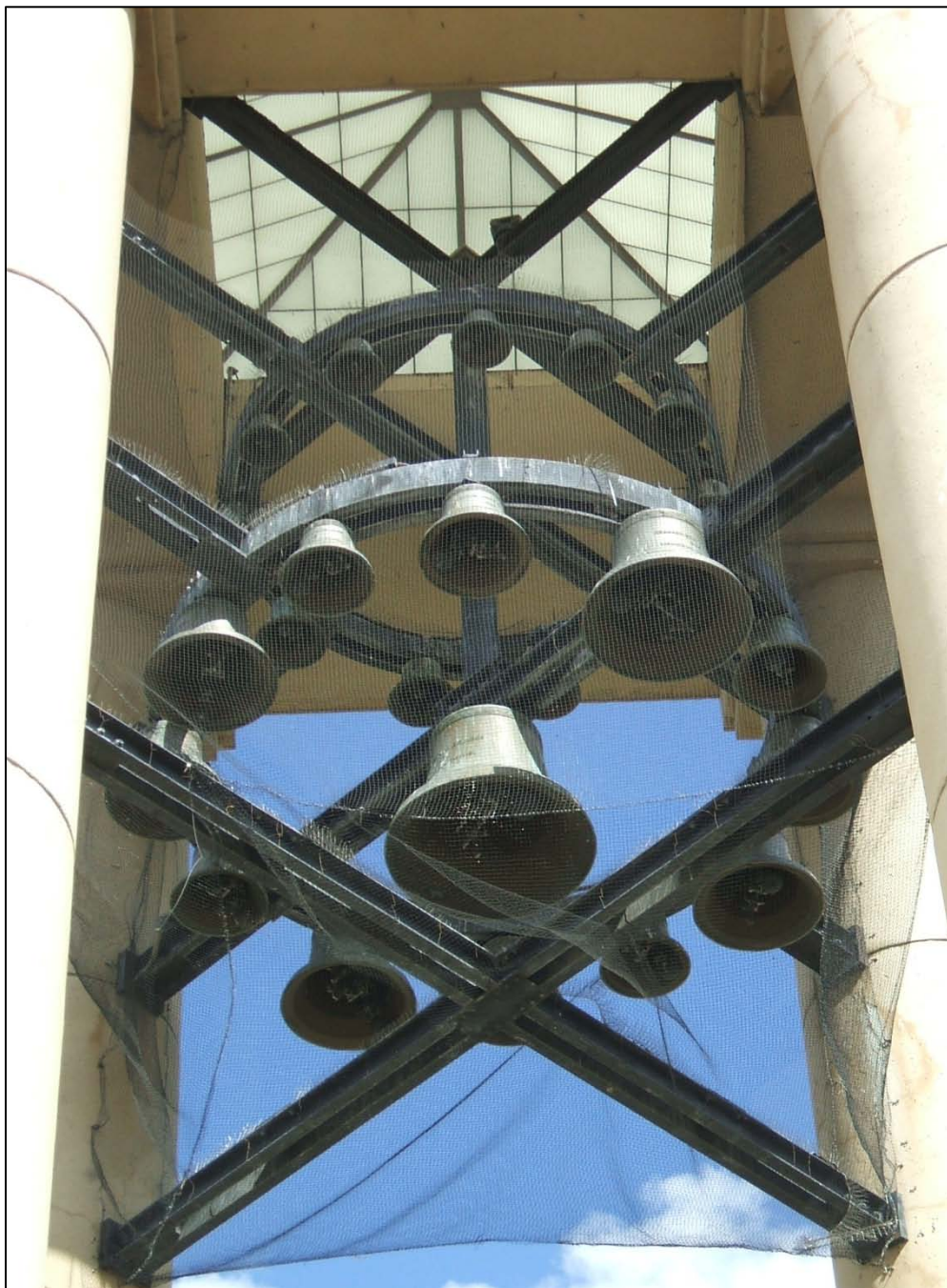
THE CARILLON TOWER HONORS GEORGE  
AND VENETIA PETERSON AND ELIAS  
AND MARY YANNEY WHO IMMIGRATED  
TO KEARNEY FROM GREECE AND  
LEBANON. THE SUCCESS OF THE  
FAMILIES SINCE THEIR ARRIVAL IN  
AMERICA REFLECTS THE HOPES AND  
ASPIRATIONS OF ALL GENERATIONS IN  
THEIR PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE.

PRESIDENT OF COLLEGE: WILLIAM R. NESTER  
ARCHITECT: JACK D. WILKINS & ASSOCIATES

**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009  
Dedication Plaque on Southeast Pillar**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009**  
**View Up From Directly Below**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009**  
**Bells**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009**  
**View is to the North-Northwest**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009**

**View to the North, From Inside Bruner Hall of Science**



**Memorial Carillon Tower, 2009**  
**Bells**