

## The Carillon Bell Tower

In memory of their late mother, Lady Arma Sifton, two sons donated a set of 14 chimes to the First United Church in Brandon. For 42 years, the beautiful resonant tones sounded from First United Church's tower. In 1969, the First United and St. Paul's United amalgamated to form Central United Church. The church offered the bells to International Peace Garden, upon learning of a contemplated bell tower in the garden. In November 1972 during a meeting in Brandon, The International Peace Garden Board Members, expressing their gratitude for this very magnificent gift, formally accepted.

The mellifluous chimes of the Carillon Bell Tower sound out the Westminster chimes at each quarter and on the hour. Erected in 1976 by the North Dakota Veterans Organization as a bi-centennial project, the Carillon Bell Tower is located halfway up the cascade. The tower is dedicated to war veterans. The bells range in size from 250 to 2,000 lbs. Cast in Croydon, England by Gillet and Johnston, the chimes weigh a total of more than 20 tons. Without any plans, chief engineer Henry James, a machinist at the William Langer Jewell Bearing plant, Rolla, ND, was able to adjust the mechanism and made the bells operable. The mechanism resembled musical chimes mechanisms found in small music boxes.