

Fort Hays State University

FHSU Scholars Repository

Buildings & Facilities

Campus History Collections

July 2022

Gift of Beauty Brochure

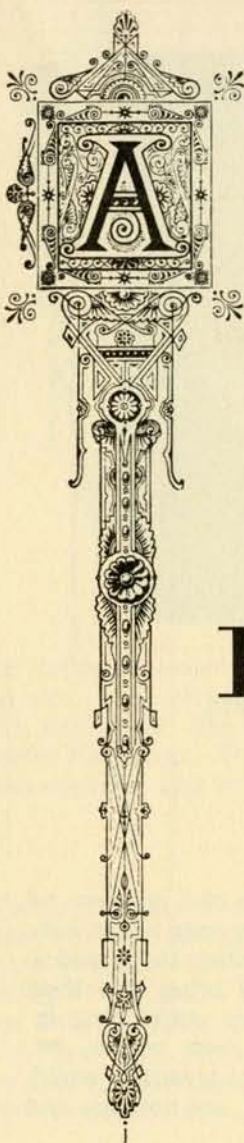
Fort Hays Kansas State College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholars.fhsu.edu/buildings>

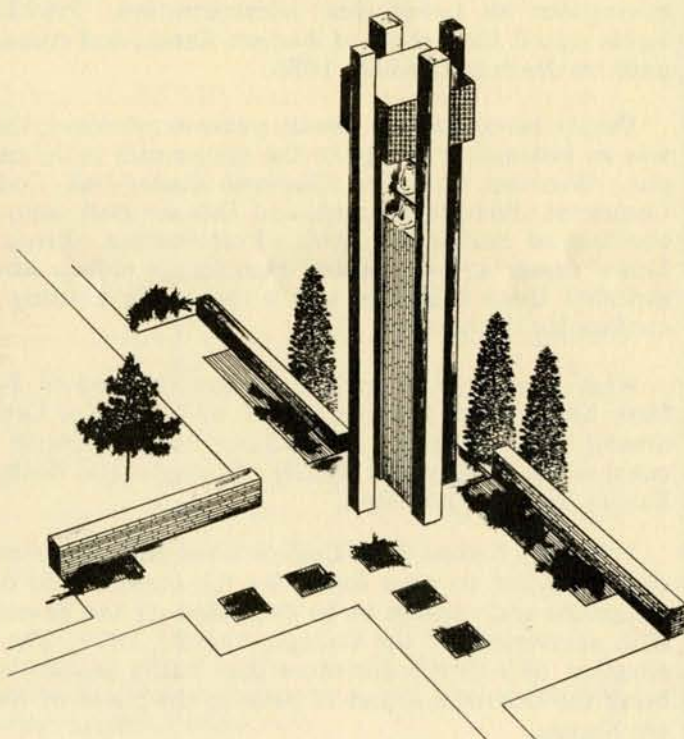
Recommended Citation

Fort Hays Kansas State College, "Gift of Beauty Brochure" (2022). *Buildings & Facilities*. 69.
<https://scholars.fhsu.edu/buildings/69>

This Brochure is brought to you for free and open access by the Campus History Collections at FHSU Scholars Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Buildings & Facilities by an authorized administrator of FHSU Scholars Repository. For more information, please contact ScholarsRepository@fhsu.edu.



Gift of Beauty





WILLIAM A. LEWIS

"The school which educates the children of Western Kansas must bring into their consciousness facilities for matching the practical problems of home life, and bring into their souls a joy in relaxation by developing in them an acquaintanceship with music, art, good literature and the social pleasures which are a part of a well-rounded, and a happy and hopeful citizen."

It was with this statement that William A. Lewis, second president of the Western Branch Normal School, began his administration in 1914. This deep regard for the needs of Western Kansas and its future was carried throughout his twenty-year administration. President Lewis served the people of Western Kansas and students until his death in October, 1933.

During his more than twenty years as president, there was an interesting change in the appearance in the campus. Sheridan Coliseum, Elizabeth Custer Hall, Cody Commons, Forsyth Library, and Science Hall were all constructed during the Lewis administration. President Lewis' dream was a complete plan for the college which included these buildings and a campanile housing a carillon for the campus.

When the name of the school was changed to Fort Hays Kansas State College in 1931, all but one of Lewis' dreams were realized. The addition of a campanile to enhance the beauty and sounds of campus and Western Kansas was never achieved.

Fort Hays Kansas State College takes pride in announcing a project to raise funds for the construction of a campanile and carillon to be dedicated on the Seventy-fifth anniversary of the College, June 23, 1977. The realization of a dream for more than half a century will bring the beautiful sound of bells to the plains of Western Kansas.



BELLS

The carillon is a musical instrument of bells, consisting of a minimum of 25 chromatically tuned cast bells playable from a keyboard. The history of the carillon is long and primarily European. There are currently only 123 of them in this country, and 67 of those have been built since 1945.

A carillon is probably the most expensive musical instrument in the world. Exclusive of the bell tower, a carillon may average \$90,000. One reason for the expense is the actual casting of the bells. Using old craft methods, each bell is cast over its own mold, using no mass production. Each bell is then hand tuned to produce five major tones, called partials, and a theoretically limitless number of minor ones and overtones.

Fort Hays Kansas State College has chosen the Centennial II Carillon for installation in a limestone and steel campanile. It would provide 25 notes in range of two full chromatic octaves. This compact unit has the tonal equivalent of 68,827 pounds of cast bronze bells.

The system would also feature a calendared program clock that can automatically strike the hour, class changes, and Westminster Chimes. Also included in the system is a keyboard for manual and concert playing. A special electronic playback unit is also provided to automatically ring selections performed earlier.

The campanile itself will house the electronic speakers needed to reproduce the sounds for all to enjoy. Designed by Dr. John Thorns, Chairman of the Fort Hays State Art Department, the structure is to be built of steel and limestone to blend gracefully with the present architecture of the campus. Four vertical steel columns will support the speaker housing 68 feet above the ground. As indicated in the drawing, two bell housings will enhance the appearance of the campanile.

Placed near the center of the campus, the carillon—campanile will be landscaped to provide a beautiful and restful stop for students and visitors alike.



MEMORIAL

A wonderful opportunity exists for all graduates and friends of Fort Hays Kansas State College. A Carillon would become a community voice for the College and its daily playing will make it an integral part of campus life at Fort Hays State. The bells would be used regularly for the ringing of students to class, the pleasure of the faculty and students, as well as the people of the community and visitors to the campus.

The estimated cost of the carillon—campanile outlined in this brochure is just over \$80,000.

Century II Carillon	\$16,140.00
Campanile	<u>64,000.00</u>
TOTAL COST	\$80,140.00

With the generous help of alumni and friends of the college, construction can begin soon to have the entire project completed for dedication on June 23, 1977, the seventy-fifth anniversary of Fort Hays Kansas State College.

The carillon could be given as a memorial to a departed one or simply in the spirit of admiration for the future of the College. For more information, please contact Kent Collier, Executive Secretary, FHS Endowment Assn., or any member of the Half Century Club.

