

Church Bells Will Soon Be Ringing At St. Martin's

By Jacqui Willey
Neighbor Staff Writer

Saint Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church on Ashford-Dunwoody Road has installed the first swinging peal (set) of tuned bells in the state of Georgia. The enchanting sound of these bells will soon float across the north DeKalb area around Peachtree Country Club, Oglethorpe University Campus and Silver Lake.

In 1979 a bell was given to the church by H.H. (Harry) van Bergen. "This was the last bell cast by my father," the president of van Bergen Bellfoundries in Dunwoody stated. The family first started casting bells seven generations ago in Holland and brought the art to the

United States in 1939 for the World's Fair in New York. The war conditions in Europe turned the visit into a permanent move.

That bell was displayed in the church parrish hall by Rev. Martin Dewey Gable, who energetically supported the congregation's efforts to build a tower to hang the new acquisition.

The first bell given by the van Bergen family was followed by two others given to the church by Mr. and Mrs. R. William Lee.

With a complement of the three bells the congregation of Saint-Martin-in-the-Fields set out to raise the money for a separate tower known as a campanile. The construction cost of the completed tower reached \$82,000. The money

came from many people in the form of memorials and thank offerings.

After the completion of the tower, the job of hoisting of more than 1,500 pounds of metal required a crew of experienced workmen and close supervision by Harry van Bergen. The heavy metal, three-fourths pure copper and one-fourth Malaysian tin, was lifted to the top of the 67 foot tower by crane a week ago. The installation of the bells is an exacting process that van Bergen describes as individualized.

confidence in the part the bells will play in the liturgical quality of the services. "Bells have been part of peoples' lives for centuries. Their sounds have regulated the flow of community life all over the world. They help people share their joys and sorrows. Their reliable tolling can bring a sense of peace and security."

The initial donations of a 540 pound van Bergen bell was made by H. H. van Bergen in honor of his father. The 85-year-old Dutch native

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The tuning of the instruments is an extremely exacting mathematical process, an art practiced in Europe, involving the shaving of the inside of the bell, according to the head of van Bergen Bellfoundries.

Rev. Martin Gable, pastor of Saint Martin for the past 19 years, views the completion of the campanile with great enthusiasm. He described the purpose of the bells, "They will be used as a call to worship, for festive occasions such as weddings and for solemn times as for funerals.

A dedication service is planned for the 1,800 member congregation this spring.

Van Bergen expressed a profound

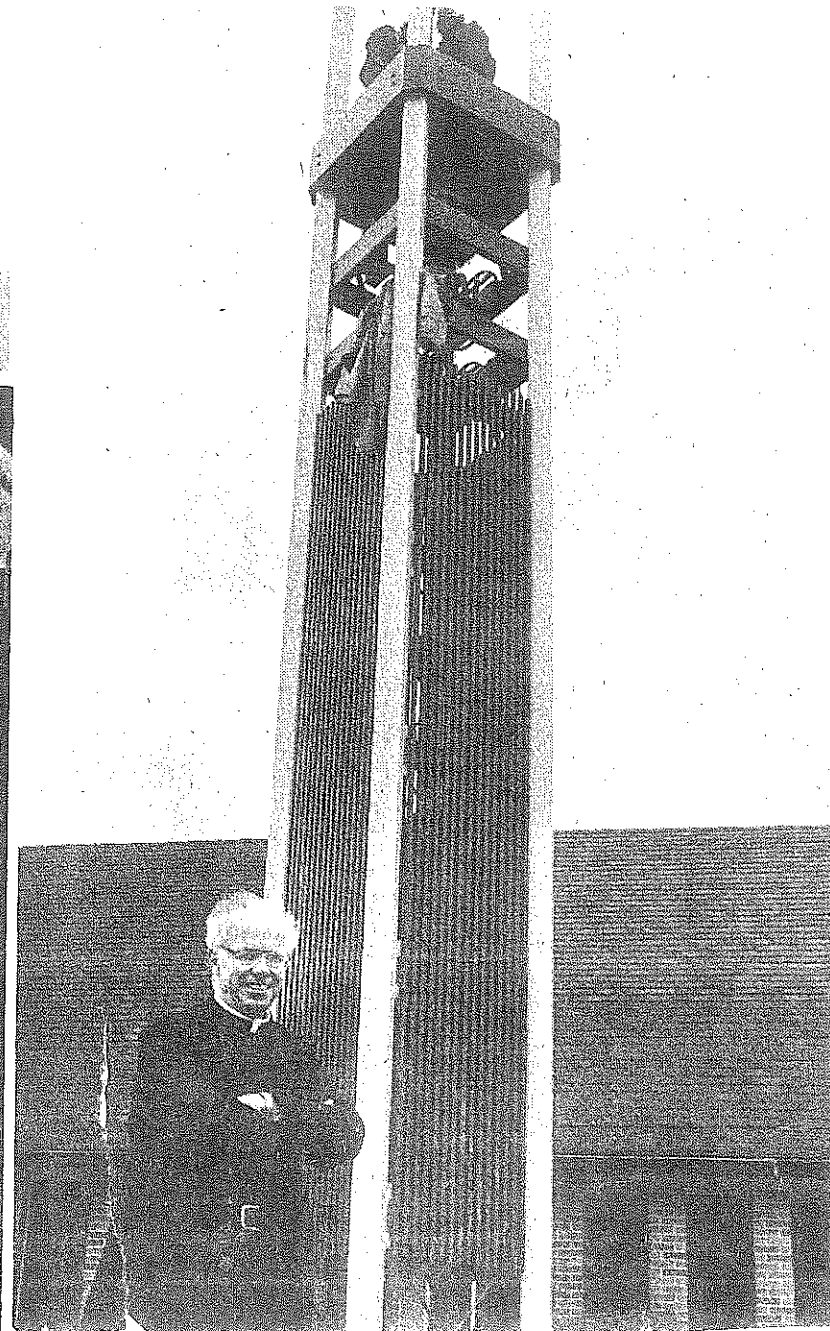
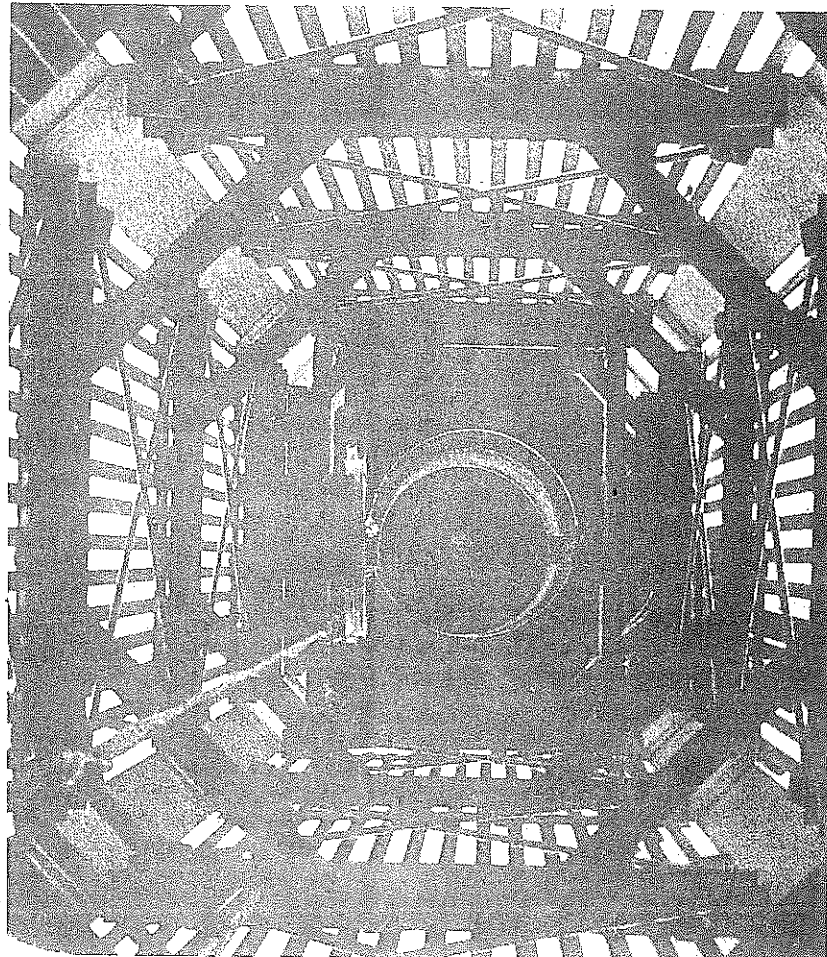
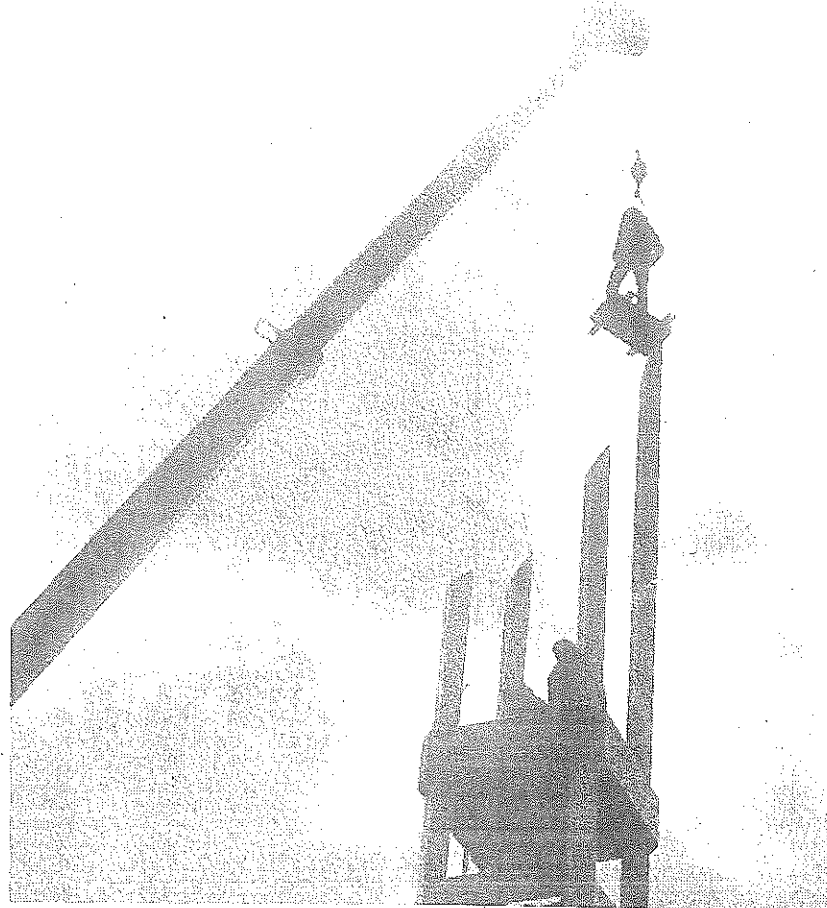
made Greenwood, S. C. his home during World War II and has remained there since.

That bell was also given in honor of Peggy van Bergen's mother and in memory of her father and Harry van Bergen's mother.

The other two bells were made in France at the Paccard Foundry in Annecy. The larger of the two, weighing 793 pounds, was given to the church in memory of the fathers of Mr. and Mrs. R. William Lee and in honor of their mothers.

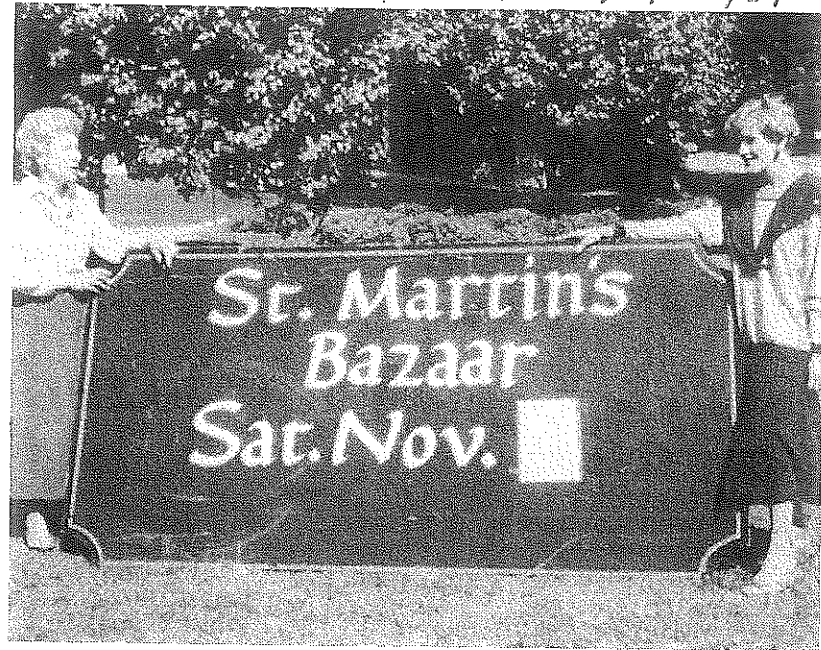
The Lee family donated the smaller bell, a 275 pound French bell, in honor of their children.

The cross on top of the tower was given in memory of John Frank Jr.



Workmen (top left) place the last of three swinging bells in the newly completed tower at St. Martin In The Fields Episcopal Church campanile. Inside the tower (bottom left) the bell, from Van Bergen Bellfoundries, is put in place as one of three bells at the church. St. Martin's Rev. Martin Gable checks the construction work on the tower which has been a four year project et bells in the structure. (Staff Photos By Mark

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EXPECTING CROWD AT ST. MARTIN'S

Joanne Hood, bazaar chairman; Joy Simms, manager of Electrical Engineer

St. Martin In The Fields Plans Traditional Bazaar

Bargain shopping, fun and games, and good food can be enjoyed Saturday at the annual bazaar at St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church, November 4. Traditionally held on the first Saturday in November, many out-of-towners make this all-day event a yearly pilgrimage.

The bazaar offers Christmas shopping in several of its booths, such as Deck The Halls (handmade Christmas decorations), Christmas Ornament Booth, Craft Corner and Handicraft Shop (handmade wooden toys and decorations).

The used (but still useful) can be found in the Flea Market, Bookstore and Collector's Corner which has collectable treasures in glass, silver or furniture, and Gently Worn, for the best bargains in worn children's clothing.

Cakes, cookies, pickles, pies, breads, jellies and other homemade-from-scratch goodies can be found in the Country Store. The Sugar Plum Shop is as sweet as it sounds.

There is a Garden Shop with many lovely plants ready for transplanting to spruce up home or patio.

The Gifts and Treasures booth is

an emporium of new religious books, cards, jewelry, gifts, Advent and Christmas merchandise, childrens books, baptismal items with a special section of Episcopal items.

A favorite of this annual bazaar is the Penny Social where new items donated from local merchants and professional services are prizes. Tickets are offered at a price of one dollar and three "big ticket" items will be up for grabs.

The childrens' choice is the Kid-die Karnival which provides games and activities, including face painting, to delight and amuse your children while parents browse.

Starting at 9 a.m., breakfast, lunch and snacks during the day will be available in the food tent. Tickets for a barbecue dinner that evening must be purchased in advance.

St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church is located at 3110 Ashford Dunwoody Road, just one block off Peachtree Road near Oglethorpe University. There will be free parking available at nearby Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church, with a shuttle running every five minutes.

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Services Slated For The Rev. Martin Gable Of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church

The Rev. Martin D. Gable, Jr., rector of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church in north DeKalb, died of heart failure June 29 in London.

Rev. Gable, who was 62 when he passed, served as rector of St. Martin-in-the-Fields since 1965, was senior priest of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta since January and was a past rector of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Stone Mountain.

He was also secretary of the Annual Council of the Diocese of Atlanta and a member of the diocese's Executive Board and Council, Examining Chaplains, and Standing Committee, and was on the board of governors of the Mikell Conference Center.

The reverend was born in Marietta and was a graduate of Mar-

rietta High School. He received a bachelor of arts degree in Greek and history from Emory University, a master of divinity degree from the University of the South, and completed graduate work at Oxford University and Salisbury-Wells Theological College in England.

Rev. Gable is survived by his wife, Anne; three sons, Howard C. Gable of Asheville, N.C., and Martin G. Gable and Thomas C. Gable of Atlanta; a daughter, Julia M. Gable of Atlanta; a brother, Joseph S. Gable of Marietta; and two grandchildren.

The memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. July 6 at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. In lieu of flowers, the family requested that donations be made to the St. Martin-in-the-Fields Memorial Fund, 3110 Ashford-Dunwoody Rd., Atlanta, Ga., 30319.