

*From the
IHM Archives...
February 24,
2023*

*Celebrating the 110th
Death Anniversary of
Mother M. Camilla
Maloney, IHM*



Creative Hope...

*Mother Camilla's dream that Gradually
Evolved into What Some Now Call*

“THE CITY OF MARY”

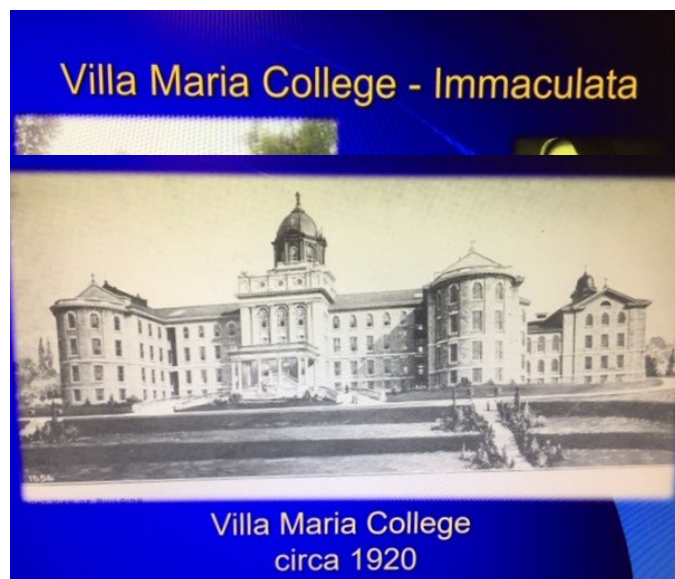
Mother Camilla Maloney (1904-1913)

Born at Susquehanna Depot, PA, November 10, 1852, on the Congregation's seventh birthday, she entered the Novitiate at Reading on September 1, 1870, at the age of 17. Sister Camilla was still a novice when the transfer of the motherhouse to West Chester occurred in 1872, and there she made her vows on October 16, 1872. On August 4, 1904, she, who as Sister Assistant, had guided the Community during the seven months' interim since the death of Mother de Chantal Hayes, was elected to succeed her as Mother General.

Mother Camilla Maloney, 1904-1913, had a great dream! She dreamt of a great day, when women would be ready for a college education, would want it, and prize it! More than a hundred years ago, a priest traveling west by train from Philadelphia, spotted a

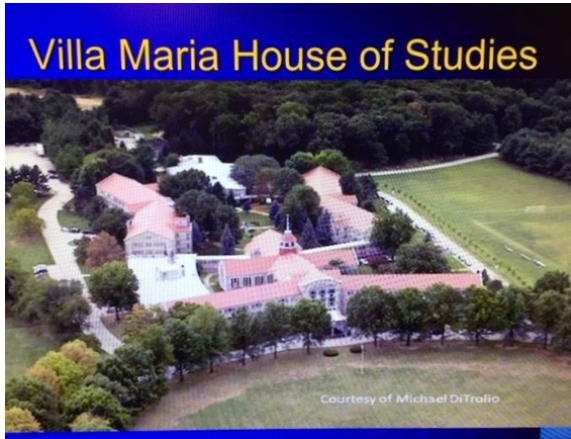
grassy hill from the window and had an idea...an academy dedicated to educating young women. He knew a sister who shared that same dream...Mother Camilla. Telling her about the land, he advised her “to rely on the power of PRAYER AND PROVIDENCE.”

Following his recommendation, Mother traveled with her first assistant by horse and buggy from West Chester to Frazer to survey the land, and visited the farmers and the PA Railroad, asking them to sell land to the community. Between 1906 and 1909 she was able to buy 198 acres for \$71,249.76. Additional acreage was bought later by future mothers general. Some sisters have told the story that Mother Camilla's purchase was sometimes referred to as “Camilla's Folly.”



And yet...Look at the results of Mother Camilla's dream...Miraculously, her dream began to become a reality.

Even after Mother Camilla's death, succeeding IHM General Superiors and their Administrations continued through the years to use the land for further expansion.



Yes, Mother Camilla's dream evolved into what some now call...

"The City of Mary"

Buildings now located on land that she purchased:

Immaculata University

Camilla Hall

Camilla Cemetery

Villa Maria House of Studies:

Generalate

Chapel

Archives

Villa Maria Academy Lower School

Office for IHM Companions in

Prayer and Ministry

IHM Spirituality Center

Formation Program and Vocations Office

IHM Office of Mission Advancement



Information from this article from: the IHM Menology of Mother M. Camilla Maloney, IHM.

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