



NEWS RELEASE

CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 20, 2026

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[Gettysburg Surgeons: Facing a Common Enemy](#)

Talk and Book Signing by Barbara Franco

Sunday, March 1 at 2:00 p.m.

Centre Furnace Mansion, State College, PA

[RSVP Required](#)

Visit CentreHistory.org or call 814-234-4779.

Barbara Franco will share her findings from a 10-year project to identify the surgeons who cared for the wounded at the battle of Gettysburg. A database of more than 1200 surgeons, both Union and Confederate, is the basis for her new book *Gettysburg Surgeons: Facing a Common Enemy in the Civil War's Deadliest Battle*. The study includes not only well-documented and prominent physicians who left written accounts, but also lesser-known surgeons, including some with Centre County connections.

As a public historian, curator, and museum director Barbara Franco has written and consulted about museum practice and historical interpretation. Her broad interest in the social, cultural, and intellectual history of the 19th century includes the decorative and fine arts, communal societies, fraternal organizations, the role of religion, and the Civil War era. She served as executive director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the Historical Society of Washington, D.C., and Assistant Director for Museums at the Minnesota Historical Society. She is Founding Executive Director Emerita of the Gettysburg Seminary Ridge Museum, President of the Advent Historical Society, and a board member of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.

This program is a part of Henszey-Pyle Distinguished Author Series underwritten by the Anne Hamilton Henszey Pyle and Kenneth B. Pyle Educational Fund for Regional Heritage Preservation (Henszey-Pyle Fund.) The Series is coordinated by CCHS Board of Governors member Dr. Ford Risley.

RSVPs are required and may be made by scanning QR Code below, or by calling 814-234-4779, or reserving online at CentreHistory.org under "Upcoming Events & Programs" on the home page.



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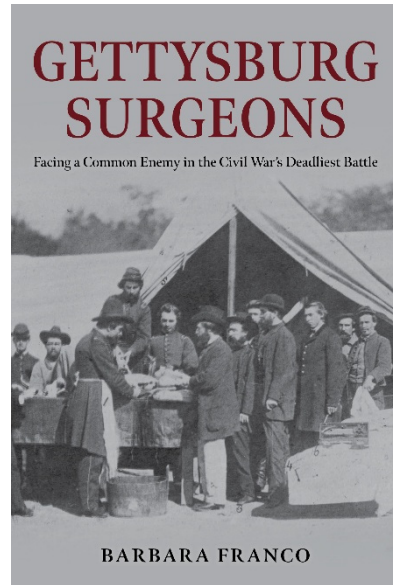
CENTRE FURNACE MANSION

1001 East College Avenue • State College, Pennsylvania 16801 • 814-234-4779 • centrehistory.org



Barbara Franco

Photos courtesy of Barbara Franco



Gettysburg Surgeons: Facing a Common Enemy

