

Spring 2020

# KING OF PRUSSIA NEWS

Information for  
the Community



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See details on page 11.



*Yours Truly,  
Anna M. Holstein.*

## ANNA M. HOLSTEIN

April 9, 1825 - December 31, 1900

One of Upper Merion's most notable residents was Anna Morris Holstein. Anna was born in Upper Merion. She married William Holstein whose family were early Swedish settlers in the area. Their home on Henderson Road still stands. The Holsteins were a wealthy family with land that included a quarry, lime kilns and brickyards. Yet, the Holstein's had a strong sense of duty.

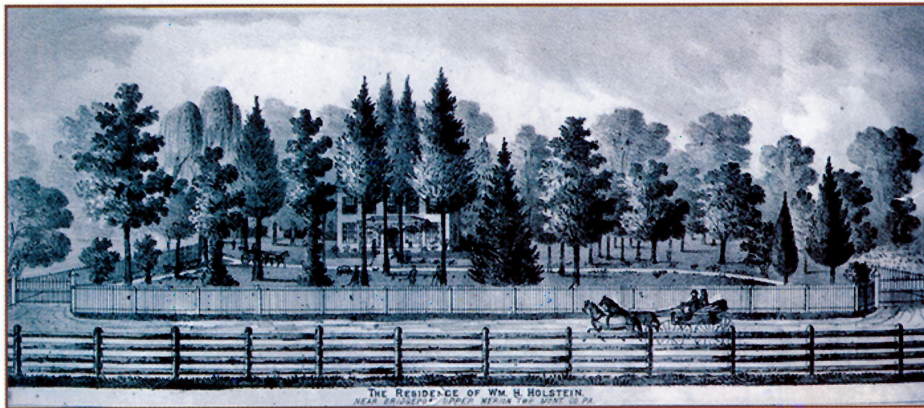
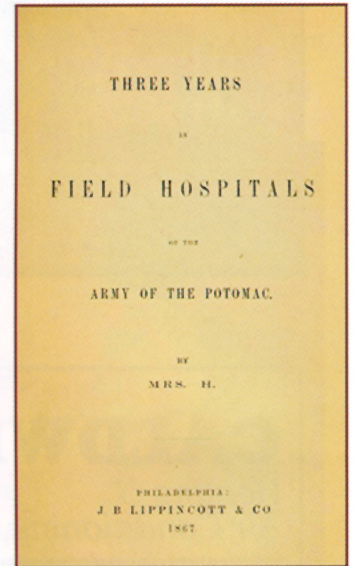
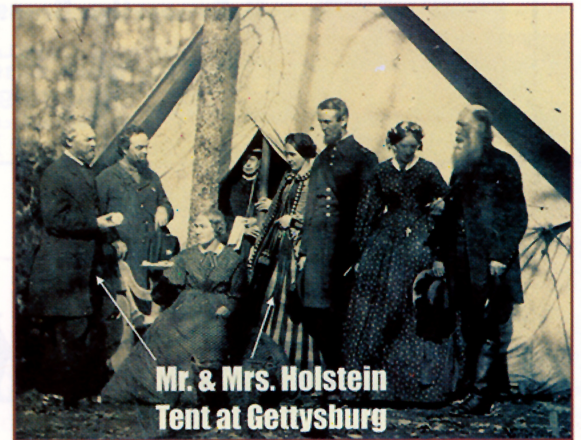


Illustration of the Holstein home on Henderson Road.

At the end of the 19th century, with the Valley Forge Centennial Association, Anna became instrumental in the ultimate purchase of the Isaac Potts House (Washington's headquarters) to mark the 100th anniversary of the encampment. The event was attended by over well 20,000 people who paid 10 cents admission to visit the "national shrine." This eventually led to the movement to create the Valley Forge State Park. The Prayer Desk in the choir area of the Washington Memorial Chapel honors Anna M. Holstein.

When the Civil War broke out, Anna accompanied her husband, Major Holstein, to help care for the the sick and wounded at many battlefields. Anna wrote about her harrowing experiences in her book, "Three Years in Field Hospitals of the Army of the Potomac."



Mr. & Mrs. Holstein  
Tent at Gettysburg



1976 photo of the Holstein House (211 S Henderson Rd). It was converted to apartments years later and still stands.

Anna also founded the Valley Forge chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and served as its president. She died in 1900 and was buried in the Christ Church, Old Swedes, cemetery.

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**KING OF PRUSSIA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

*Preserving Upper Merion's Past  
To Enlighten Its Future*



The grave of Anna Holstein located in the cemetery at Christ Church, Old Swedes, in Swedesburg.

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