

**Public Program—“Setting the Scene: Seneca Falls in the 1840s”**

**Friday, July 17, 2015 at 7:00 pm  
Seneca Museum of Waterways and Industry  
89 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148**

If you want to learn why the first woman’s rights convention was held in Seneca Falls in 1848, then come to a program on Friday, July 17, 2015 at 7 pm at the Seneca Museum of Waterways and Industry, 89 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, NY. Seneca County Historian Walter Gable will provide some insights into the various factors in the 1840s that “set the scene” for the July 1848 woman’s rights convention.

This presentation launches the “historical” parts of the annual Convention Days weekend held in Seneca Falls to celebrate the first woman’s rights convention. Convention Days Inc. has planned a series of meaningful historical programs for the weekend.

In his power point presentation, Gable will first show how Seneca Falls in the 1840s became a thriving industrial town with many businesses located on the Flats, making use of water power and canals on the Seneca Falls. He will then cover the central role that Seneca Falls residents played in much of the reforming zeal arising in the “burned-over district” as an outgrowth of the Second Great Awakening. This will include key developments in the anti-slavery, temperance and women’s rights reform movements. He will also show how the issues raised in the Rhoda Bement incident in 1843-44 was a precursor of the July 1848 woman’s rights convention.

For further information, visit the website [www.conventiondays.com](http://www.conventiondays.com) or contact Seneca County Historian Walter Gable ([wgable@co.seneca.ny.us](mailto:wgable@co.seneca.ny.us))(315-729-6211).