

Historic “Firsts” for Seneca County, New York

1800—The Cayuga Lake Bridge was the longest bridge in the Northern Hemisphere.

1830—The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon Church) was organized in Fayette.

1835—The first use of farm field drainage tile in the United States was made in Fayette.

1848—The first women’s rights convention was held in Seneca Falls.

1860—The first state agricultural college was opened in Ovid.

1866—The first Memorial Day celebration took place in Waterloo.

1869—The former Willard State Hospital for the Insane was opened. It was the first state hospital for the poor insane. It became the largest state mental institution in the nation.

1960’s-1970’s-early 1980’s—The former Seneca Army Depot was the largest storage site for nuclear weapons of the U.S. Department of Defense.