



Richard Call – Richard H. Call was born February 28, 1922 to migrants following World War I. In 1938, at the age of 16, he bought the old Hartsville Schoolhouse, District Number 7. A member of Future Farmers of American (FFA), in 1940, he earned the Empire Farmers' Degree and the following year he went on to earn the American Farmer Degree; the highest honor at the National Convention of FFA. He graduated from Canisteo Central School in 1941 and received an F.A. Degree with high honors from Cornell University. In 1944 Richard entered the Army and became Sergeant Major of the Seventh Infantry Division. He served his country in both World War II and Korea, receiving five battle stars. Following his military service, he worked twenty years at the Veterans Administration in Bath and Canandaigua, where he oversaw the Prosthetics & Sensor Aids Services (PSAS). Richard was also a past President of the New York State Historical Society. At the time of his retirement in 1976, he was the historian for the Town of Hartsville. At this time a group of local people organized the Hartsville Historical Society and Richard was elected president. Along with Richard's lifelong collection as well as household antiques from a cousin, that formed the foundation of "The Call Homestead Museum". The Museum property had been in the Call family since 1822. In 1982 Richard formally transferred "The Call Homestead Museum" to the Hartsville Historical Society, Inc. to become the Hartsville Museum. In 2016, the Steuben County Historical Society received the assets of the Hartsville Museum. With this acquisition, the local history that Richard Call loved, and devoted much of his life to preserving lives on; it lives on in the artifacts that were distributed to Historical Society's in the region and the financial stability it provides for the Steuben County Historical Society, most notably with the sale of artifacts and the 106-acre Call Family Homestead.