



Somers Historical Society



The Somers Historical Society, founded in 1956, is located on the third floor of the circa 1825 Elephant Hotel. The Society houses permanent and changing exhibitions, a research facility, and a significant collection which includes paintings, prints, photographs, ephemera, advertisements, early documents, diaries, account books, furniture, textiles, and a miniature circus. The Society also oversees and interprets The Wright Reis Homestead, a Town-owned historic house museum.

The society also runs the Museum of the Early American Circus collection that contains materials relating to the earliest establishment of the circus and menageries in America in the late 18th century through the early 20th century. It includes artifacts from descendants of local menagerie and circus pioneers, and a large gift collected by Dr. Hugh Grant Rowell of photographs, broadsides, posters and ephemera from the American circus. The Society is located in the Elephant Hotel, designated a National Historic Landmark in 2005.

Visit Somers Historical Society on the web at

www.somershistoricalsoc.org , on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/somershistoricalsoc) or in person. The Museum is open to the public on Thursdays, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.