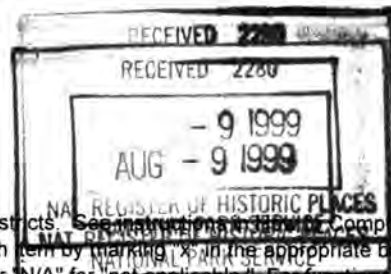


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1125



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on the back. Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name The Rosebud (The Diners of Massachusetts MPS)

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 381 Summer Street not for publication

city or town Somerville vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Middlesex code 027 zip code 02143

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Judith B. McDonough 7/29/99
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____
Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 9/22/99

The Rosebud
Name of Property

Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	building
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	1	objects
1	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Twentieth-Century Commercial Architecture:

The Diners of Massachusetts

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Semi-Streamliner Diner

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls porcelain enamel

roof metal

other steel

wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

The Rosebud
Name of Property

Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Commerce

Period of Significance

1941-1949

Significant Dates

1941

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Worcester Lunch Car Company

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

The Diners of Massachusetts MPS
The Rosebud
Somerville (Middlesex Co.), MA

Section number 7 Page 1

7. Description

The Rosebud, 381 Summer Street, Somerville (1941, MHC #209) is a fine example of a semi-streamliner diner produced by Worcester Lunch Car Company. The diner is located at the southern end of Davis Square, a neighborhood business district in the western part of the city. Situated directly at the sidewalk, the diner fronts a small park at the junction of Summer Street and Elm Street. The immediate area is known as Cutter Square. There is no on-site customer parking for the diner.

Eight bays wide and three to four bays deep, the Rosebud at first suggests a traditional rail car diner form with its monitor roof and long band of clerestory windows. The canted end walls, however, are character-defining features of the more modern semi-streamliner form. The Rosebud has a steel frame, a brick foundation, black porcelain enamel wall panels, and a metal roof. Entries are located in the narrow ends of the diner. Windows have leaded glass in the transoms above the single-hung steel sash. There are fluted stainless steel jambs between the windows and at the rounded corners. The clerestory windows incorporate some colored glass, mostly visible on the interior.

The prefabricated diner is attached at the rear to a one-story, side-gabled building (constructed mid- to late 1930s) with brick veneer walls and two exterior end-wall chimneys. For the purpose of this nomination, the brick building, which preceded the diner on this site, is a noncontributing building. A much larger one-story, flat-roofed rear addition (ca. 1960s), constructed of concrete block with brick veneer, occupies most of the remaining building lot behind the diner. Both the side-gabled building and the rear addition are unobtrusive and do not compromise the integrity of the 1941 diner.

Signage for the diner takes several forms. The porcelain enamel panels read *Rosebud* in Gothic lettering and *Booth Service* at either end. Somerville artist Albert Lenoir may have executed the pink roses painted onto the panels. Mounted on the roof is a pink neon sign bearing the diner name in cursive lettering, resting on an internally lit box sign that reads *Est. 1941 – Food & Spirits – Est. 1941*. There also is a noncontributing standing sign (ca. 1960s) on the sidewalk, consisting of a box sign in a neo-colonial frame and an arrow pointing to the entrance of the former alehouse and grill in the rear addition.

On the interior, the Rosebud displays the combination of wood and tile finishes that characterize diners built by the Worcester Lunch Car Company. The slants of the end walls that help define a Worcester semi-streamliner from the exterior are barely discernable on the interior. A largely historic plan has been modified to accommodate contemporary uses. There is a full-length counter with a staff entrance at the northwestern (left) end, sixteen steel counter stools, and six booths along the southwestern (facade) wall. Booths and tables are wood. The historic back bar and food preparation area has been converted for use as a bar and displays wood and mirrored walls. The counter apron is tiled in blue with accents executed in black tile and stainless steel; a similar finish appears on the walls below the windows. Above the tile, the walls are wood. The floor displays a complex geometric pattern in blue, pale blue, and yellow tiles. The monitor ceiling incorporates colored glass in some of the clerestory windows and heating, ventilating, and cooling vents in others. The kitchen remains in its historic location at the rear of the prefabricated diner, though the kitchen entrance is now located off a hallway that extends off the northeast corner of the diner.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetThe Diners of Massachusetts MPS
The Rosebud
Somerville (Middlesex Co.), MA

Section number 7/8 Page 2/1

Through a four-year restoration project, still ongoing, repairs have been made to the Rosebud and unsympathetic alterations of recent decades have been reversed. Asphalt shingles covering the band of clerestory windows on the monitor roof have been removed. The diner's porcelain enamel panels have been repaired and replaced as necessary, and the neon sign rejuvenated. Inside, the tile floor has been repaired, and the historic back bar area behind the counter now incorporates a bar for alcoholic beverages. Renovation of the former club space to the rear of the diner is underway, and is expected to expand capacity by 250 seats. In this space will be a modern alehouse and restaurant with a microbrew bar, offering a menu different from that of the diner.

Archaeological Description

No prehistoric sites are known on the property or in the general area (within one mile). In general, environmental characteristics of the property, especially its location on a level plain over 1000 feet from wetland resources, are not locationally favorable for most types of prehistoric sites. Given the above information, the small size of the parcel (3994 square feet) and the installation of the diner, a 1930's addition, a 1960's addition, associated utilities and a previous hamburger restaurant on the property, a low potential exists for the recovery of prehistoric resources. There is also a low potential for locating historic archaeological resources on the Rosebud Diner property. Jaunty Jack's, a hamburger restaurant, is the only historic land use identified for the property prior to the installation of the Rosebud Diner. Any archaeological survivals of that resource that remain after the installation of the Rosebud Diner and its two later additions has limited research potential because of its recent age and probable loss of integrity.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

The Rosebud is unique in Somerville and uncommon in Massachusetts as one of very few surviving examples of the semi-streamliner diner form. The manufacturer, Worcester Lunch Car Company, was the state's premier diner builder and introduced the semi-streamliner form as an alternative to the streamliner diner designs that debuted in the late 1930s. Worcester Lunch Car Company was a major force in the design and construction of Massachusetts diners before World War II. In its form and finishes, the Rosebud combines traditional and modern features of diner design in the early 1940s. The Rosebud also is significant for its historic associations with Davis Square, a neighborhood business district in Somerville, and is an important survival of the city's pre-World War II development. Retaining integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, the Rosebud meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places at the state and local levels.

The first owner of the Rosebud was Charles Peveloris. Peveloris named his 1941 diner after the sled in the movie *Citizen Kane*, which was released the same year the diner opened. [Hodges] Previously, a hamburger restaurant known as Jaunty Jack's operated on the site. The 1940 Somerville directory shows Charles Gow as the proprietor. The restaurant occupied the one-story block that now houses the kitchen attached to the rear of the diner [Nanian]. According to Sanborn fire insurance maps, this building was constructed in the mid- to late 1930s. The 1940 Somerville directory shows there were about one hundred twenty-five eating establishments in the city at that time. They included restaurants, grills, lunchrooms, luncheonettes, spas, cafés, and tearooms, as well as eight diners.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**The Diners of Massachusetts MPS
The Rosebud
Somerville (Middlesex Co.), MA**

Section number 8 **Page** 2

In 1958, Peveloris sold the Rosebud to Evangelos "Galley" Nichols. Nichols initially maintained the Rosebud as a bar, then reopened the kitchen in 1964. He later built a club at the rear of the diner. This club, originally known as the Surrey Room, offered lounge jazz and later disco dancing. Eventually the diner and adjoining club housed a Mexican restaurant when Nichols leased the property to another enterprise. In 1991, Nichols assumed control of the business again, and embarked on four years of renovation and interior restoration work on the diner. The diner re-opened in 1995. Exterior restoration is ongoing. Bill Nichols, son of Galley Nichols, and Bill's wife, Helen, now manage the diner. Diner historian and consultant Daniel Zilka worked with the diner's proprietors on the most recent restoration.

The Rosebud is located in Cutter Square, at the southern end of the neighborhood business district in the western part of Somerville known as Davis Square. An important transportation and commercial center since the third quarter of the 19th century, Davis Square was principally developed by the late 1930s. About the time the Rosebud opened, Cutter Square in the immediate vicinity of the diner encompassed a mix of residential and commercial uses. Among the businesses here were a furniture shop, curtain shop, bakeries, a shoe repair shop, and clothing stores.

One of only seven semi-streamliner diners still in existence [Hodges], the Rosebud illustrates a form of diner that is rare in Massachusetts today. Worcester Lunch Car Company introduced the semi-streamliner model as an alternative to the streamliner diners that were built beginning in 1939 by J. B. Judkins Company and others. The semi-streamliners reportedly were more popular among prospective diner purchasers than the streamliners [Gutman, 115], which were aerodynamically contoured diners that featured curved, "shovel-nosed" ends. In building the semi-streamliner, the Worcester Lunch Car Company combined the full-length monitor roof seen on the earlier streetcar-inspired diners with canted end walls, a new design feature that reflected the impact of, and offered a more conservative alternative to, the streamliner design.

The Rosebud is one of the best examples of a semi-streamliner remaining in Massachusetts. The best preserved semi-streamliner in the state is Four Sisters Owl Diner, 246 Appleton Street, Lowell (1940, Worcester Lunch Car Company #759, MHC #1014), originally the Monarch Diner in Waltham. In recent years, three other Worcester semi-streamliners have been moved out of state: the Hudson Diner (1946, originally known as Lamy's), moved in 1984 from Hudson to the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan; the Peerless Diner, formerly located in Lowell and moved in 1987 to Florida; and the Ross Diner (1946), formerly located in Holyoke and moved in 1992 to Quechee, Vermont. [Gutman interview; Cultrera]

In addition to the Rosebud, there are only two prefabricated diners in Somerville today. Like the Rosebud, Buddy's Truck Stop, 113 Washington Street (1920s, MHC #303), was built by Worcester Lunch Car Company. This small 10-stooler diner displays an earlier barrel-roofed diner form and stainless steel exterior panels added in the 1970s. Kelly's Diner, Broadway and Rogers Avenue, Ball Square (ca. 1947, O'Mahony) was moved to Somerville in 1996. This stainless steel diner is the former Frank's Place from Hares Corner, Delaware. [Cultrera; Gutman]

The Rosebud is one of several single-building local historic districts in the City of Somerville.

(end)

The Rosebud
Name of Property

Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3994 square feet

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19	325400	4695540	3.		
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
2.			4.		
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
			_ See continuation sheet		

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathleen Kelly Broomer, consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July, 1999

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Evangelos Nichols

street & number 381 Summer Street telephone 617-666-6015

city or town Somerville state MA zip code 02143

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503. NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

The Diners of Massachusetts MPS
The Rosebud
Somerville (Middlesex Co.), MA

Section number 9/10 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Interviews with John Nanian, author of a historic structure report on the Rosebud, December 9, 1998 and January 1999.
Interview with diner historian Richard Gutman (see also below), November 23, 1998.
Information on Somerville diners provided by Michael Steinitz, Survey Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission, January 1999.
Hodges, Jane. "Sentiment, with a side of bacon [Rosebud Diner]." *The Boston Phoenix*. January 30, 1998, pp. 4-5.
Norman, Marjorie. "This 'Bud's for food!" *Roadside Magazine*, November 1998.
Gutman, Richard J. S. *American Diner Then and Now*. New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1993.
-----, "The restoration of Lamy's Diner at Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, Michigan." *Roadside Magazine*, Spring 1991.
Cultrera, Larry. "Diner hotline [re: Ross Diner]." *Society for Commercial Archeology NewsJournal*, Fall 1992, p. 17.
-----, "Diner hotline [re: Kelly's Diner]." *Society for Commercial Archeology NewsJournal*, Spring 1996, p. 19.
Diner Finder Deluxe: Massachusetts. Watertown, MA: Coffee Cup Publications, 1991.
Manning's Somerville Directory: 1940.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Somerville: 1933, 1934 (corrected to 1950), 1989.
MHC Inventory Form, Rosebud Diner (recorded by Carole Zellie, Gretchen Schuler) for Somerville Historic Preservation Commission, March 1988.

(end)

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown on the accompanying detail of the City of Somerville's assessors' map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire parcel that has been historically associated with the diner.

(end)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Rosebud, The

MULTIPLE NAME: Diners of Massachusetts MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/09/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/24/99
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/09/99 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/23/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 99001125

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9/22/99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in the
National Register**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

Rosebud

FOOD & SPIRITS

EST. 1941

EST. 1941

BOOTH
SERVICE

Rosebud

BOOTH
SERVICE

ALEHOUSE & GRILLE

The
Brewery
Club

Rosebud Diner
381 Summer Street
Somerville, Middlesex County, Mass.

View N
1998

Photo: KK Broomer

Neg: MHC



Rosebud Diner
381 Summer Street
Somerville, Middlesex County, Mass.

Interior view NW

1998

Photo: KK Broomer

Neg: MHC

1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



1985

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies
 Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1985. Supersedes Boston North and Lexington 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1971.
 Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS chart 13272 (1982). This information is not intended for navigational purposes. Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19. 18,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 6 meters south and 41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks. There may be private landholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
 NATIONAL GEODESIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 1.5 METER DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS
 DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
 SOUNDINGS SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
 THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.9 METERS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

CONVERSION TABLE	DECLINATION DIAGRAM	ADJOINING MAPS
Meters		1 Billerica
Feet		2 Reading
1 3,280		3 Salem
2 6,561		4 Maynard
3 9,842		5 Framingham
4 13,123		6 Boston South
5 16,404		7 Hull
6 19,685		
7 22,966		
8 26,247		
9 29,528		
10 32,809		

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
 To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048
 UTM grid convergence (G90 and 1983 magnetic) at center of map. Diagram is approximate.

ISBN 0-607-23443-1
 9 780607 234435

Topographic Map Symbols

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road, trail
- Route marker: Interstate; U. S. State
- Railroad: standard gauge; narrow gauge
- Bridge: drawbridge
- Footbridge; overpass; underpass
- Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House; barn; church; school; large structure
- Boundary:
 - National, with monument
 - State
 - County; parish
 - Civil township; precinct; district
 - Incorporated city, village, town
 - National or State reservation; small park
 - Land grant with monument; found section center
 - U. S. public lands survey; range; township; section
 - Range, township; section line; location approximate
 - Fence or field line
 - Power transmission line, located tower
 - Dam; dam with lock
 - Cemetery; grave
 - Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument
 - Well; water well; spring
 - Mine shaft; prospect; shaft or core
 - Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
 - Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary
 - Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand
 - Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
 - Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
 - Rapid; large and small; falls; large and small
 - Submerged marsh; marsh; swamp
 - Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland
 - Scrub; mangrove
 - Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request



