



SILVER BOW COUNTY

Matt's Place Drive-In

Listed on March 29, 2001

Matt's Place Drive-In is historically significant and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its historic association with the commercial and transportation development of early 20th century Butte, Montana. Established in 1930, Matt's Place was among the first (if not THE first) drive-in restaurants in Montana. The design of the building reflects its purpose, and is an excellent early example of a drive-in restaurant in Montana. Like its counterparts throughout the United States in the late 1920s and early 1930s, its primary focus was on quality and service – not architectural distinctiveness. Consequently, it is a relatively small, architecturally non-descript building that retains and makes maximum use of its environment to provide a service to its automobile-bound customers. It retains architectural detailing distinctive to its function, including the original drive-up windows, protective wheel guards, menu boards, and neon signing. Its interior, moreover, is intact, displaying its original 1936 horseshoe counter and chrome fixtures from 1950.