

Betsy Ross Chocolate Shoppe

25 Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

November, 1943

My mother, Helen Kelchner (1925-2014) collected menus from the lunch counters and restaurants she encountered in her travels in 1943.

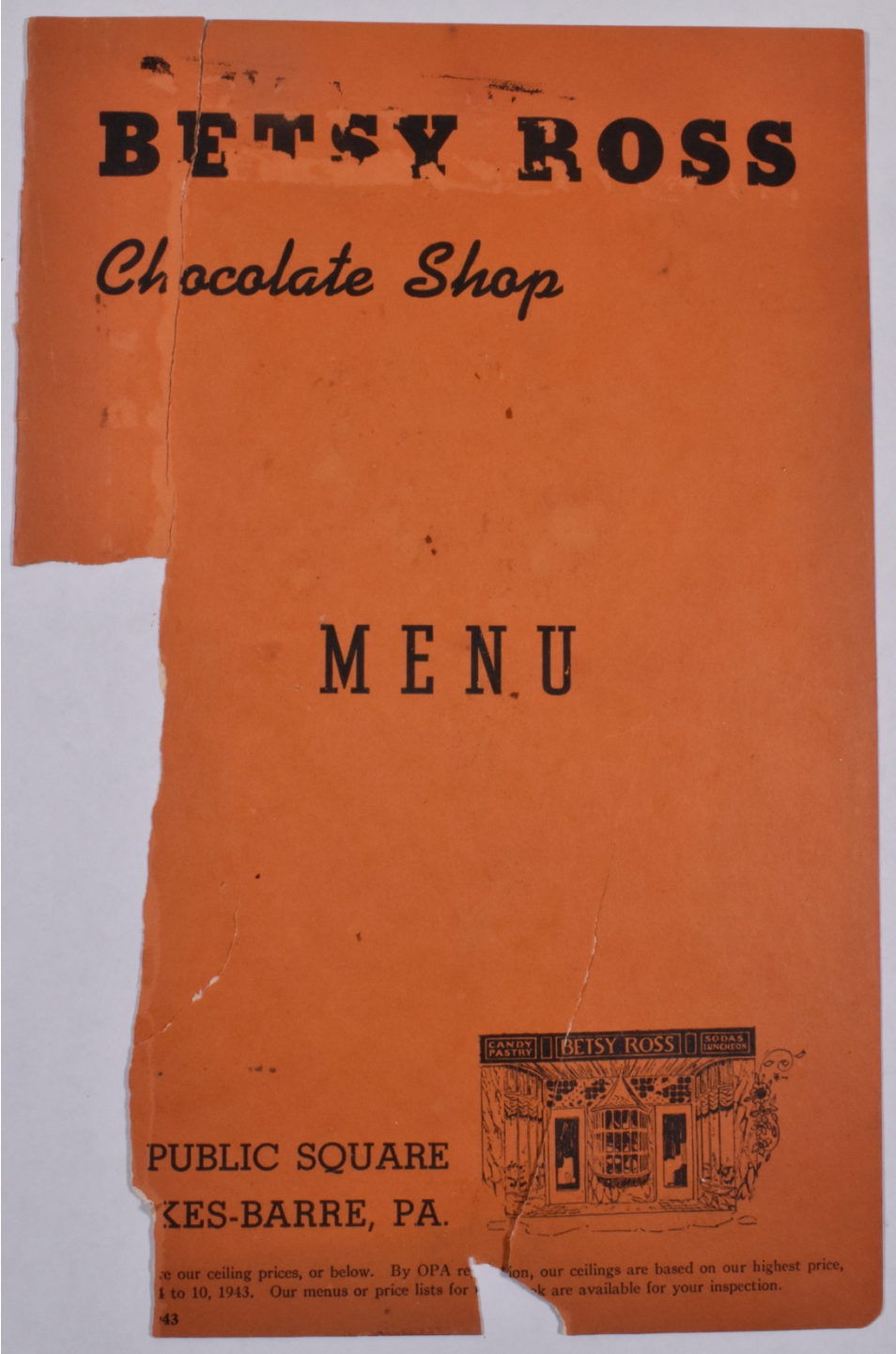
She had graduated from High School in Berwick, Pa., the previous year and lived in Philadelphia in the summer and fall of 1943 while she took a short course to be certified as a mortuary technician. Old letters suggest that she obtained the certification in order to take a job at her future father-in-law's Kelchner Funeral Home, in her home town 30 miles down-river from Wilkes-Barre.

Wilkes-Barre was the closest city to Berwick, that offered big-city shopping. It wasn't uncommon for Berwick residents to travel there several times every year, especially to buy fashionable clothing.

The menu from the Betsy Ross consists of two sides of a card-stock menu and an additional typewritten sheet with the restaurant's offerings. It contains the standard 1943 statement of compliance with Office of Price Administration regulations which enforced wartime price controls. It also has the date Nov. 27.

We found newspaper advertising in the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader for the Betsy Ross from August 1, 1922, through the 1960s. Apparently it didn't survive the devastating flooding of Wilkes-Barre by Tropical Storm Agnus in 1972.

A 1975 letter in the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader from former resident, Grace M. Ball of Endicott, N.Y., recalled the Betsy Ross among stores that had been on the Public Square in Wilkes-Barre before the flood.¹



¹ Wilkes-Barre Times Leader, March 1, 1975 pp 14

BETSY ROSS LEADS IN

SOUTHERN WAFFLES

Waffles, Maple Syrup.....	.25	Waffles, Sliced Chicken.....	.60
Waffles, Maple Syrup, Pecans.....	.30	Waffles, Crisp Bacon.....	.40

TOASTED SANDWICH SPECIALS

CLUB SPECIAL.....	.65	PENNSYLVANIA SPECIAL.....	.30
Breast of Chicken, Bacon, Tom- ato, Lettuce, Mayonnaise		Bacon, Tomato, Head Lettuce, Mayonnaise	
BETSY ROSS SPECIAL.....	.55	MANHATTAN BEACH.....	.40
Breast of Chicken, Bacon, Hard Boiled Eggs		Baked Sugar Cured Ham, Swi s	
COUNTRY CLUB.....	.50	Cheese, Lettuce, Mayonnaise	
Chicken Salad, Bacon, Tomato, Lettuce, Mayonnaise		COLLEGE SPECIAL.....	.30
HAWAIIAN SPECIAL.....	.40	Chopped Ham, Hard Boiled Eg s,	
Baked Ham, Sliced Pineapple, Tomato, Lettuce, Mayonnaise		Tomato, Mayonnaise	

GRILLED SANDWICHES

Hot Ham.....	.30	Toasted Cheese.....	
Bacon and Cheese.....	.30	Ham and Cheese.....	

SANDWICHES

Junior Club.....	.50	Philadelphia Cream Cheese.....	
Olive and Nut.....	.25	With Walnut Meats.....	
Chicken.....	.40	With Crushed Pineapple.....	
Virginia Ham.....	.30	Pimento Cheese.....	
Boiled Ham.....	.25	Tuna Fish.....	
Hard Boiled Egg.....	.15	Red Salmon.....	
Lettuce and Tomato.....	.20	Sardines.....	
Deviled Ham.....	.20	Liverwurst.....	
Deviled Egg.....	.15	Crab Meat Salad Sandwich	
Spiced Ham.....	.20	Shrimp Salad Sandwich.....	
Chicken Salad Sandwich.....	.30	Ham Salad Sandwich.....	
Pickle and Pimento Meat Loaf.....	.15	Fried Ham.....	
Fried Egg.....	.20	Egg and Celery Salad.....	
Western Egg.....	.25 30	American Cheese.....	
Ham and Cheese.....	.30	Swiss Cheese.....	

SALADS--(Individual)

Chicken Salad.....	.50	Shrimp Salad.....	
Large Fruit Salad.....	.35	Stuffed Tomatoe with Egg Salad	
Small Fruit Salad.....	.15	Tuna Fish Salad.....	
Crab Meat Salad45	Salmon Salad.....	
Stuffed Tomato, Chicken Salad.....	.55	Egg Salad, Mayonnaise.....	
Potato Salad .15 and.....	.25		

DESSERTS

French Pastries.....	.10	Pie ala Mode.....	
Home-Made Pies.....	.10	Small Cakes, Assorted.....	

TEA, COFFEE, ETC.

Coffee, per Cup .10--with Meal.....	.05	Iced Tea or Coffee.....	
Tea.....	.10--with Meal.....	Hot Chocolate with Cream.....	
Milk, per Bottle .10--with Meal.....	.08	Hot Malted Milk.....	

"Quality and Service"

Fancy Ice Cream and Water Ices

We Have Your Favorite Flavor

15c Per Portion

Only Pure Fresh Flavors Used in Our Ice Cream Sodas..... .15

We Have Your Favorite Flavor

Vanilla, Strawberry, Chocolate, Lemon, Orange, Pineapple, Raspberry, Cherry, Peach,
Coffee, Sarsaparilla and Root Beer

Specials

SUNDAES

Betsy Ross Special.....	.40	Mixed Nut.....	.30
Pineapple.....	.25	Maraschino Cherry.....	.25
Fresh Strawberry.....	.25	Black Walnut.....	.25
Fresh Raspberry.....	.25	Chocolate.....	.20
Fresh Peach.....	.25	Butter Scotch.....	.20
Chocolate Fudge.....	.20	C. M. P.....	.20
Nabisco.....	.25	Caramel.....	.20
Banana Split.....	.30	Marshmallow.....	.20
Maple Walnut.....	.25	Chocolate Marshmallow.....	.20
Caramel Nut.....	.25-30	C. M. W.....	.25
Cashew Nut.....	.25	Fruit Salad.....	.25
Banan Royal.....	.35	Chocolate Peanut.....	.20

PLAIN AND FANCY DRINKS

Orange Juice.....	.15-.25	Frozen Root Beer....	.20	Fresh Limeade.....	.15
Frozen Lemon.....	.20	Frozen Orange.....	.20	Cherry Smash.....	.10
Grape Lemonade.....	.20	Grape Orangeade....	.20	Cherry Phosphate....	.10
Grape Hi-Ball.....	.20	Grape Juice.....	.15	Ginger Ale.....	.10
Frosted Coffee.....	.20	Fresh Lemonade....	.15	Fresh Orangeade.....	.15
Fruited Orangeade....	.20	Coca-Cola.....	.10	Lemon Phosphate.....	.10
Lemonade.....	.20	Orange Phosphate... .	.10	Root Beer.....	.10
any flavor.....	.10	Egg Chocolate.....	.20		
any flavor.....	.20	Egg Frosted.....	.25		
any flavor.....	.20	Egg Malted Milk.....	.25		
ocolate.....	.20	Egg Phosphate.....	.20		

FRUITS AND SALADS

Salad.....	.15	Half Cantalope.....	.20
ge.....	.15	One-half Grapefruit..	.15

Our Ice Cream
is made with Pure Fresh Cream
and Contains No Substitutes



We Bake Our Own Cakes,
Pies, French Danish Pastry, Etc.



Take Home
some of our Candy, Ice Cream or
Pastry and Please the Folks at Home



"All prices are our ceiling prices, or below. By O.P.A. regulations our ceilings are based on our highest prices from April 4 to 10, 1943."

BETAY ROSS CHOCOLATE SHOPPE.

NOV. 27.

APPETIZERS

Chilled Tomato, Prune or Grape Fruit Juice 10¢
Grape Juice 15¢ Chilled Fruit Cup 15¢

SOUP

FRESH VEGETABLE FARMIERE 15¢

ALL CARTE ENTREES

(Includes Rolls, Butter & Vegetable)

BAKED TENDER-R-MILD HAM, PINEAPPLE SAUCE, Mashed Pot. 50¢
ROAST STUFFED YOUNG MARYLAND TURKEY, CRANBERRY SAUCE,
Mashed Potatoes 70¢
CHICKEN CROQUETTES, CREAMED CARROTS & PEAS, Mashed Pot. 40¢
BREADED VEAL CUTLET, TOMATO SAUCE, Mashed Potatoes 50¢
ROAST STUFFED YOUNG CHICKEN, APPLE SAUCE, Mashed Potatoes 65¢
BAKED PURE PORK SAUSAGE, APPLE SAUCE, Mashed Potatoes 45¢
ROAST LOIN OF PORK, APPLE SAUCE, Mashed Potatoes 50¢
ROAST SIRLOIN OF BEEF, PAN GRAVY, Mashed Potatoes 50¢
COLD PRESSED HAM, Potato Salad 45¢
SARDINES ON TOAST, Potato Salad, Sl. Onion & Tomatoes 50¢
FRIED HAM OR BACON, Mashed Potatoes 50¢
COB. EGG, SLICED TOMATOES, SWEITZER CHEESE, Potato Salad 45¢

VEGETABLES 15¢-10¢ With Sandwiches

Buttered String Beans Buttered Green Peas, Potato Salad,
Pickle Chips, Mashed Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Pickle Chips.

SPECIAL SANDWICHES

EGG SALAD ON TOAST, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad 35¢
CREAM CHEESE & JELLY ON TOAST, Potato Salad, Sliced
Tomatoes 40¢
HOT ROAST BEEF, Mashed Potatoes, String Beans 45¢
PICKLE & PIMENTOED MEAT LOAF ON TOAST, Cole Slaw 20¢
SAUSAGE & ONION WURST ON TOAST, Potato Salad 25¢

DESSERTS

PIES PER CUT--10¢-ALAMO 20¢-Apple, Raisin, Pumpkin,
Peach, C. Cream, Lemon Meringue, Graham Cracker, Boston Cream.
FRESH FROZEN CHERRY CREAM PIE 15¢ ICE CREAM 15¢

COFFEE 10¢-With Meals 05¢ MILK 10¢-With Meals 08¢