

Cyprian Keyes Golf Club Temple Street

Original home built in 1734 was owned by Cyprian Keyes, a Deacon of the Shrewsbury Church who would become a Deacon in Shrewsbury North Parish and one of the founding members of the Town of Boylston, Massachusetts. The parcel of land on which the house was built had been a land grant to Gershom Keyes, dated 30 December 1718 which contained 52 acres, located on the southwest of Shrewsbury by Lot #28 (60 acres, land granted to John Wheeler) and northeasterly by the Lot #45, (70 acres, land granted to Thomas Keyes). Lot #35 was transferred to Thomas Keyes of Marlborough and in 1729 was acquired by his son, Cyprian Keyes. By 1729, the Lot #28 of John Wheeler would be owned by Thomas Keyes and eventually his son, Jonathan Keyes.

The Keyes family were leaders and individuals surviving what would seem insurmountable hardships. Lancaster, the first township formed in Worcester County, Massachusetts, was rebuilt about 1680 after the King Philip Wars, but in 1692 turmoil evolved between the indigenous people and the British settlers of Lancaster. One woman, Elizabeth Howe of Marlborough who was visiting her sister Mrs. Peter Joslin, was taken captive and brought to Canada where she remained until her brother Colonel Howe paid her ransom. It was this woman, Elizabeth, who returned to Massachusetts to become the wife of Deacon Thomas Keyes of Marlborough in 1698 and the mother of Cyprian Keyes.

On 7 September 1743, Cyprian Keyes and others petitioned the Mother Church in Shrewsbury to be allowed to separate and form a church of their own. The request was granted on 6 October 1743 and the Shrewsbury North Parish was formed. This area covered in the North Parish would later be incorporated in 1786 as the Town of Boylston, Massachusetts. Cyprian Keyes was one of the first Deacons of the Boylston Church, and also served as Selectman, Assessor and Town Clerk for the Town of Boylston

The Cyprian Keyes Lot #35 property transferred ownership over the years and George Summer Barton and his wife Elizabeth Trumbull Lincoln became its proprietors when it came to be called The Barton Estate. George and his wife coined a new name, Barlin Acres, which was a derivation of the beginning of each of their surnames: "Bar" and "Lin."



The Bartons had made several additions to the property including adding a music room in the twentieth century, which is the only remaining structure of Barlin Acres that remains where the Cyprian Keyes Golf Clubhouse now stands. As construction for the new Clubhouse began only the music room could be salvaged, but if you wish to take a peek into the past, the flooring from the original 1734 home of Cyprian Keyes was re-claimed in the foyer of the Clubhouse.