

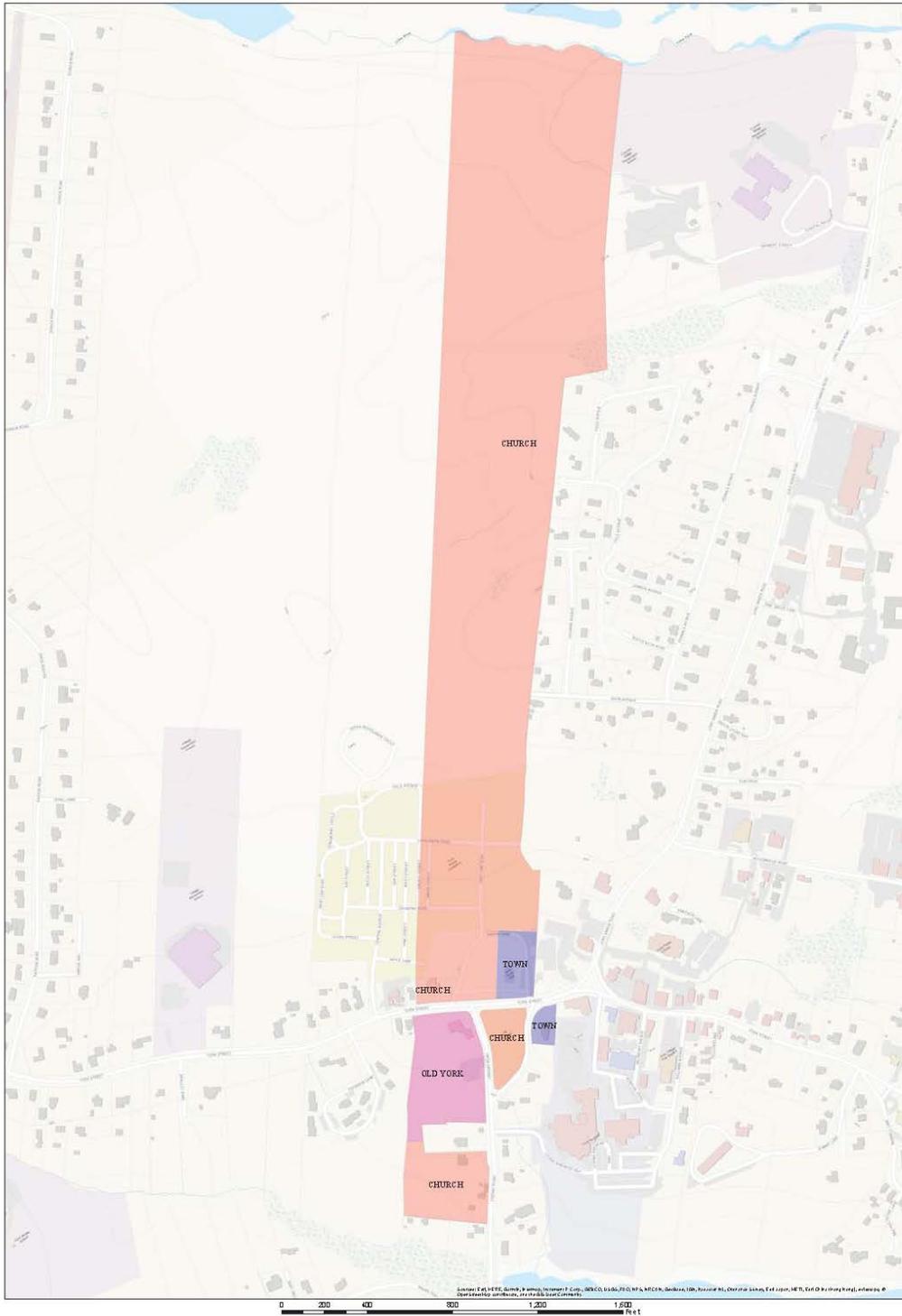
## **Press Release**

For Immediate Release – June 26, 2019

The First Parish Church Council & Board of Assessors, and the Town of York Board of Selectmen have agreed upon a proposed land settlement to establish clear ownership of the land around the First Parish Church and the Town Hall, in the heart of York Village. On this land are located three key institutions – First Parish Church, the Town Hall, and the Old York Historical Society Museums. Each of these institutions has a long history and contributes greatly to the vitality of the Village and to the quality of life in York.

Specifically, the Church would be granted deeds for the buildings and land including First Parish Church, the Church Offices (old Library building), the Parish Hall, the Parsonage, the First Parish Cemetery, the Parish Woods, the land under the Emerson-Wilcox House, the Old Burying Ground, and the land under and around the Ramsdell House. The Town would be granted deeds for the buildings and land including the Old Gaol and Town Hall, with enough room to expand Town Hall. The Old York Historical Society would be offered the land under the Remick Barn, Jefferds Tavern, the Old Schoolhouse, and the parking lot. A map showing proposed ownership is attached.

Both the First Parish Church and the Town have firmly held positions about ownership, yet both seek this mutually beneficial compromise to vitalize and enhance the community. The ability of the parties to reach a proposed settlement that benefits the life of First Parish and the Town of York truly honors the best of our local traditions. This proposal will be brought for consideration of the Church Congregation on July 28<sup>th</sup> and of the Town at the General Referendum of November 5<sup>th</sup>. Both parties must approve the settlement for it to take effect.



Proposed Parcels By Ownership	
<span style="color: orange;">■</span>	FIRST PARISH CHURCH
<span style="color: pink;">■</span>	OLD YORK
<span style="color: blue;">■</span>	TOWN

  
 Not to scale  
 For planning purposes only

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