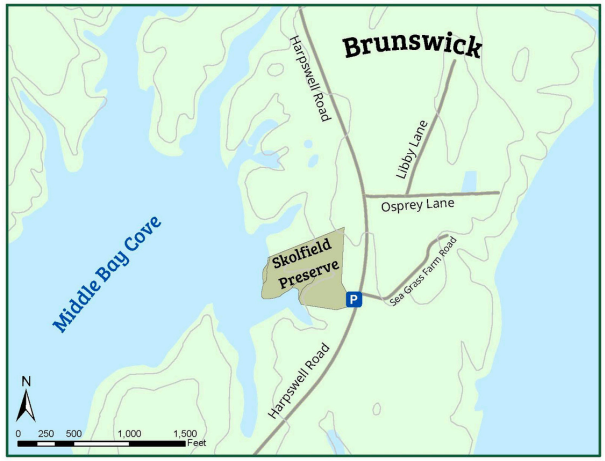
SKOLFIELD PRESERVE

Captain Alfred Skolfield Nature Preserve includes 8.4-acres on Middle Bay, adjacent to the historic Merriconeag Farm. Skolfield Preserve was donated to Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust (BTLT) in 1990 by Dr. Alice Whittier, greatgranddaughter of the sea captain Alfred Skolfield, for use as a nature preserve. The land is adjacent to a traditional portage site called a merriconeag ("quick carrying place") by the indigenous Abenaki people. The portage is at the narrowest part of the peninsula - allowing for an easy carry between Middle Bay and Harpswell Cove. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, this area was the site of the Skolfield shipbuilding yard.

Skolfield Preserve consists of tall, mature woodland-some of the oldest stands on the Harpswell peninsula. The western edge of the property includes salt marsh along Middle Bay. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that Middle Bay provides habitat for over half of the 64 species of migratory birds, anadromous fish, and other animals that are declining, threatened, or endangered in the Gulf of Maine. More than 150 bird species have been observed in and around BTLT's Skolfield Preserve. Walking through the woods, one can see large oval holes in standing deadwood - the work of crow-sized Pileated Woodpeckers, the largest North American woodpecker.



DIRECTIONS TO PROPERTY

Just across from Sea Grass Farm Rd on Route 123/Harpswell Rd, Brunswick. The Preserve is located just before the Harpswell town line. Look for a drainage culvert and narrow gravel access driveway, leading to a brown wooden sign with white lettering on the edge of the woods. Park in the small gravel area near the sign.

TRAIL USE RESTRICTIONS

- Open dawn to dusk.
- No dogs.
- No off-road vehicles, bicycles, snowmobiles, or horses.
- No fires or camping.
- Stay on marked trails.
- No hunting or trapping.

BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM LAND TRUST

179 Neptune Drive Brunswick, ME 04011
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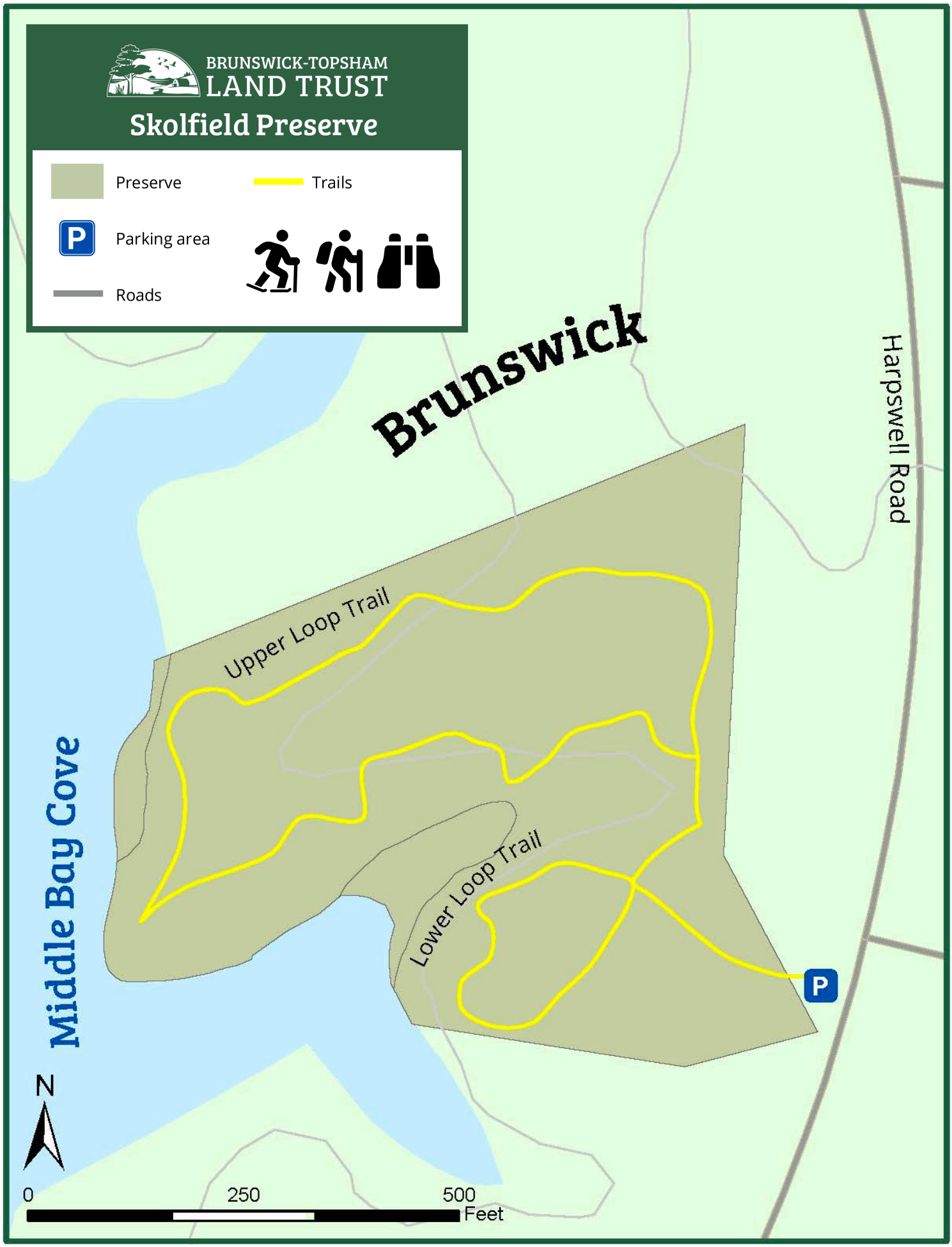
Skolfield Preserve TRAILS

Online maps available at www.BTLT.org/trailmap

Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust's mission is to conserve and steward vital natural areas, support a vibrant local food system, and connect people with the natural world through inclusive education and recreation programs.


BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM
LAND TRUST
Skolfield Preserve
Preserve
Trails
Parking area
Roads
Brunswick
Harpswell Road
Upper Loop Trail
Lower Loop Trail
Middle Bay Cove
P
N
0
250
500
Feet