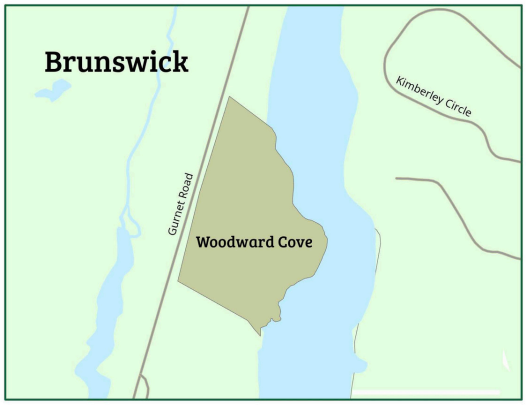
WOODWARD COVE

This 24-acre preserve has 1,500 feet of tidal frontage on Woodward Cove, which drains into the New Meadows River. Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust purchased the property from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick in 2016 to protect its ecological and recreational value and, most importantly, to preserve access to the productive mudflats for shellfish and baitworm harvesters. In 2019, William Robitzek and Barbara Raimondi donated an adjacent strip of land that had long served as an informal access trail. Their gift ensured the continued use of this traditional route, which provides safer, more functional access to the flats than building a new trail elsewhere.

Visitors will find a short out-and-back trail beginning at the parking area and leading to a ledge outcrop with views of Woodward Cove. A 600-foot water access trail connects the parking area directly to the mudflats, offering access for harvesters and hand-carry boats. The preserve itself is largely forested upland, interspersed with gullied wetlands, old apple trees, and remnants of its agricultural past, including an orchard and a stone wall running parallel to Gurnet Road.

The head of the cove contains the third largest salt-hay marsh in Brunswick, as mapped by the Maine Natural Areas Program. This habitat supports breeding saltmarsh sparrows (a species of special concern), as well as rare saltmarsh false-foxglove and native wild honeysuckle. Within a mile of the marsh are an active heron colony and a bald eagle nest. Woodward Cove also provides critical habitat for 22 “Species of Special Concern in Maine” and 33 “Species of Greatest Conservation Need,” making it a vital refuge for wildlife.



DIRECTIONS TO PROPERTY

From Maine Street in Brunswick, driving north, turn right just before the river and onto the Coastal Connector/US Route 1 N. Take the exit\ for Cooks Corner/Gurnet Rd/ME-24 S. Go straight at the light after the off ramp, staying on Gurnet Rd/ME-24 S. Continue south on Route 24 for 2.2 miles. Turn left into gravel parking area on the left side of the road.

TRAIL USE RESTRICTIONS

- Open dawn to dusk.
- On-leash dogs permitted (waste removal required).
- No off-road vehicles, bicycles, snowmobiles, or horses.
- No fires or camping.
- Stay on marked trails.
- Bow hunting by permission only.

BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM LAND TRUST

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(207)729-7694 | www.btlt.org

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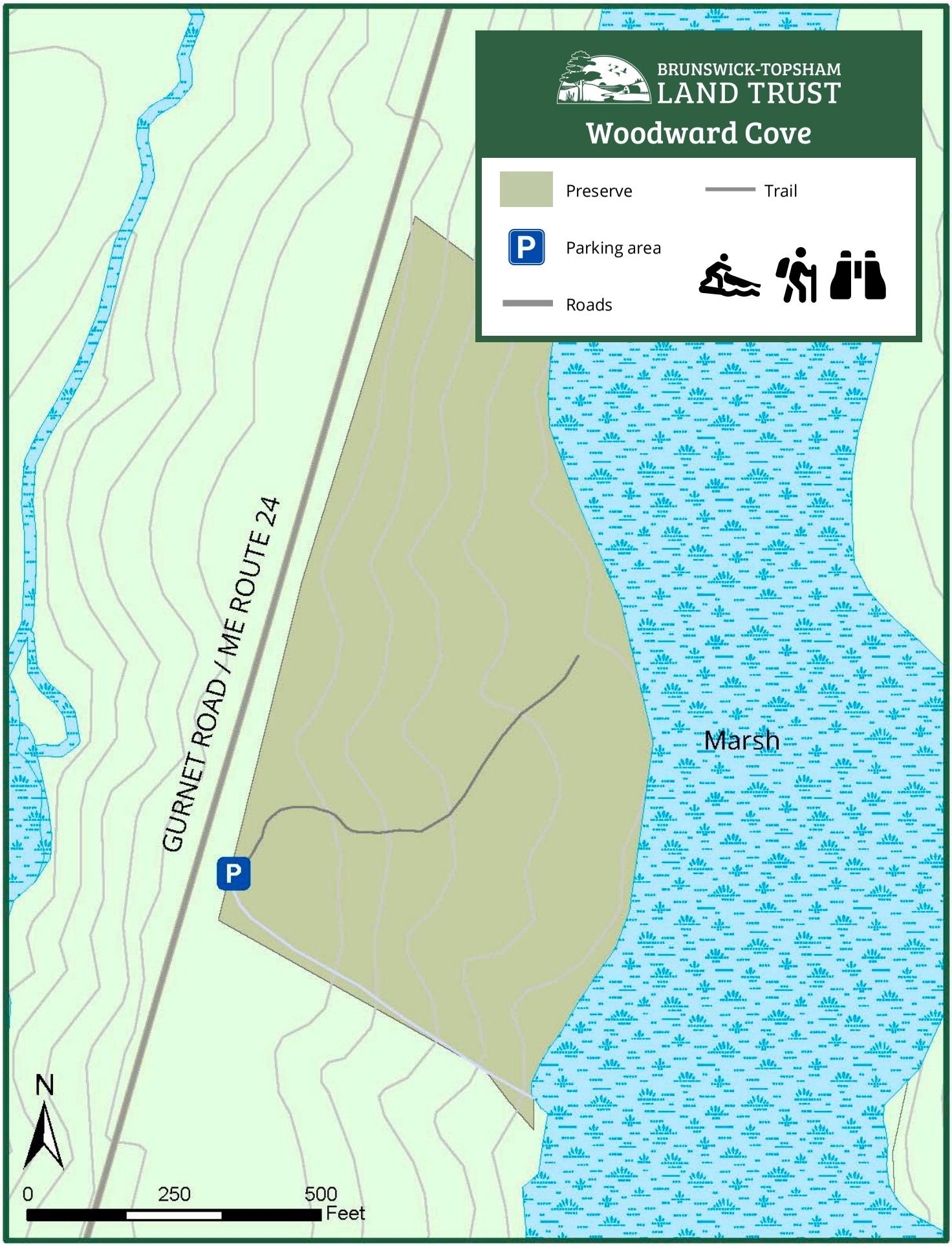
Woodward Cove

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
Woodward Cove
Preserve
Trail
Parking area
Roads
GURNET ROAD / ME ROUTE 24
Marsh
P
N
0
250
500
Feet