

## Brighton Coastal Trail

The Halls Bay area has a strong Beothuck presence with a number of artifacts having been recovered over the years. A small collection is displayed at the Mainmast Museum in Springdale.

The three salmon brooks that flow into Halls Bay and the Tommyns Arm River were important food sources for native peoples. Indian Brook was the first leg of a cross island canoe route to the S.W. coast. Seasonal trips were made to the area to harvest shoreline crustaceans, blue mussels, crab, lobster and scallops are still abundant today.

Some of the last members of their tribe were killed by trappers while collecting mussels in Badger Bay during the early 1800's. This part of the NE coast had served has a final retreat from the encroaching settlement that gradually made its way up the coast.

Halls Bay

The lookout on Cobbler Island



The lookout on Cobbler Island



The final stop on the beothuck trail is the small town of Brighton, where two islands linked by a causeway form a sheltered harbour. First settled by Dorset and Palaeo-Eskimos 2000 years ago it has been inhabited by english settlers since the 1800's.



After crossing the bridge over Brighton Tickle, the first trail begins, following the ridge above the tickle before branching to a lookout over the town. The terrain is rugged and forested with balsam fir and mixed hardwoods growing on well drained slopes. A second lookout has been constructed on Cobbler Island above the causeway just a few metres from the parking lot.

A rough trail crosses the hill to a third lookout giving a more open view of the ocean. The trail is cut through a previously impenetrable barrier of stunted wind blown spruce tuckamore and jagged rock. It climbs to a 50m elevation and descends over a distance of less than 1/2 Km. It offers hikers a strenuous but brief workout. Alternatively a branch road gives quicker access to the lookout from behind the hill.