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Subject of Square: The Gundalow

Quilter's Name: Paula Amazeen

Background on subject: A gundalow is a shallow drafted type of cargo barge, once common in the Gulf of Maine's rivers and estuaries and along the New Hampshire coast. The gundalow began as a simple undecked barge in the mid-1600s, and it was poled or rowed with long oars. From the 1700s into the 1900s gundalows evolved into fully decked flat-bottomed cargo carriers with a cabin and lateen sail that could be lowered to "shoot" under bridges. The sail acted as an 'auxiliary engine' since gundalows depended on the tides to take them upriver on the rising tide and downriver on the falling tide.

Why you chose this subject: I chose this subject because I enjoyed a trip on the gundalow out of Portsmouth. It was interesting to see how it was powered and maneuvered, and it was easy to appreciate its use in colonial days.



Thoughts on your representation/design/color choices/etc.:

I wanted to capture the blues of the sky and the ocean, and I particularly wanted to emphasize the sail and its position on the boat itself.

What you hope this quilt will mean for the people who see it:

I hope that the quilt will encourage people to visit the Hampton

Historical Society especially to see the Charles Henry Turner painting, "Gundalow Near Hampton Landing" painted in 1889.