

UNDERTOW

A site-specific installation by Anna Hepler

July 29 - September 30, 2016

Slowly and quietly, with few observers, a current guides the hull of an empty ship into the nave of an empty church. It floats up to rest momentarily in a mooring, or a mirroring. You are the new crew called to its watch, a temporary congregation gathered to absorb the moment. You may go above or below. The light underwater is dappled, and altered by the color of the stained glass panes, which have their own stories to tell.

This skeleton is made from a sampling of cardboard recycled by the City of Eastport. If all available recycled cardboard had been used, a fleet of 5 vessels would have sailed forth, towing the North Church out into Friar Roads with them, perhaps. These cardboard boxes are retired from carrying tissue, brushes, light bulbs, apples, vinyl siding, washing machines, and candy. Throwaway, but resurrected. Flat and flimsy, but forming a rigid volume. Controlled and smooth, but warped and rough. Mechanical and mathematical, but hand made. Empty, but full of questions.

Fun Facts:

Undertow is composed of 15 composite ribs held by 33 runners, forming 495 intersections. The cardboard pieces, laid end to end, would stretch more than half a mile. The surface area of the sculpture is roughly equal to the floor of this church. It was built from scratch in five days, with a primary crew of three people.

Thanks to: Jon Calame, Allison Osberg, Harper Keehn, Kiel Moe and Ben Peek, Lindy, Heron, and Kieran Weston, The Eastport Recycling Center, Molly MacDonald, David Gholson Reggie Drew, Devon Newell, Lanie, Kristin McKinlay and Hugh French & TIMA