Authorial History — Orientation

Purpose

This document orients the reader to the contents of the **Authorial History** folder.

It exists to prevent a specific and predictable misreading: treating records of development, discovery, or revision as *justification*, *validation*, or *explanatory grounding* for the corpus itself.

The materials in this folder document **how the work came to be articulated**, not **why it should be accepted**.

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1. What This Folder Contains

The Authorial History folder contains documents produced during the exploration, articulation, and clarification of the corpus over time.

These materials may include:

- early formulations and partial framings
- abandoned or superseded language
- exploratory attempts that preceded later stabilization
- reflections written before downstream structure was fully visible
- local insights that were later integrated elsewhere

They record *process*, not *principle*.

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2. What This Folder Does Not Do

The documents in this folder do **not**:

- justify the correctness of the corpus
- provide evidence for its claims
- ground its ontology
- function as axioms or premises
- establish priority or authority
- imply that later work is an improvement in truth

Reading these documents is not required to understand the corpus, nor does familiarity with them confer privileged interpretive access.

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3. Relationship to the Corpus Proper

The corpus is structurally complete without reference to its authorial history.

All invariants, frameworks, and downstream works stand on their own internal coherence. Nothing in the Authorial History folder is needed to:

- interpret core documents
- resolve ambiguity
- refute or defend the framework
- apply or extend the work

Accordingly, no document in this folder should be cited as explanatory of the corpus's validity.

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4. Why This Folder Is Preserved

The Authorial History folder is preserved for reasons of transparency, not authority.

It allows interested readers to:

- trace how certain formulations emerged
- see where language shifted or stabilized
- distinguish discovery from presentation
- observe abandoned paths and resolved confusions

It exists as a record, not as an argument.

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5. On Development and Truth

Developmental sequence should not be mistaken for logical dependency.

Earlier documents are not more foundational because they came first. Later documents are not more correct because they came later. Ordering here reflects time, not necessity.

The corpus does not become true by having developed historically, and it does not lose coherence if that history is ignored.

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6. How to Read (If You Choose To)

If you read materials in this folder, a coherent posture is to treat them as:

- field notes

- drafts
- exploratory essays
- context for authorial decisions

They are best read *after* engaging the corpus proper, if at all.

Closing Note

This folder exists so that the work's history does not have to be hidden — and so that it does not have to be mistaken for structure.

Nothing here binds the reader. Nothing here completes the corpus. It records how articulation unfolded, and nothing more.