THE SILVER FRACTION
A Weathered Inebriation

Plans, Elevations, Sections, Details, Models, and Texts for a
Brewery and Biergarten
on the bank of the Potomac River, Alexandria, Virginia

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The drunken consciousness is one bit of the mystic consciousness, and our total opinion of it must find its place in our opinion of that larger whole.

William James
_The Varieties of Religious Experience_, 1902
Architecture is an exhaustive act. With the Herculean efforts of the patron, the architect and the builder, a building comes into being. Materials are collected and transformed in order to create a place for Man to dwell. That is, materials occurring in their natural state are transformed by the Hand of Man and thereby enter into His realm. In turn, the Manmade becomes situated in and a part of the natural world. This relationship is a material reciprocity. In the Timaeus, a concept of a world soul is outlined in which all elements that compose the physical world (the “ten-thou-
sand things” of the Tao-Te Ching) are endowed with consciousness: the Anima Mundi.

How does architecture become part of Place?

What role does Weathering play in this act?

How does Man’s understanding of Weathering’s accretions enable architecture?

Sun

Moon

Earth

BREW

ABSTRACT
The inspiration to express is all art.
Art is the language of God.
Art is the making of life.

Louis I. Kahn

As they fell from heaven, the plants said,
"Whichever living soul we pervade, that man will suffer no harm."

Rig-Veda

For art to exist, for any sort of aesthetic activity to exist, a certain psychological precondition is indispensable: intoxication.

Friedrich Nietzsche
it’s all about the flow......and the dynaflo.....

For Jorge Otero

1943-2003
Thanks be to God, who created
the Sun
the Moon
and the sacred Earth from which comes forth
the Water
the Grain
the Yeast
for Our Drink.

Thank you John and Maureen Zellweger, my parents.
For always allowing the path to remain clear to pass.

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For offering up the time and space in which to (begin to)
discover the soul of Architecture.

And for the splendour of Inebriation.
**THE SILVER FRACTION**

The secret relation between the Sun and the Moon is found within the 11-day mismatch of the Lunar (12 lunations) and the Solar (12.368 lunations) Calendars. Known as the Silver Fraction, a Solar year is actually 10.875 days longer or exactly 0.368 lunations: a ratio of 7:19. In other words, a solar year is comprised of 12.368 lunations. At Stonehenge, the Aubrey Circle (283 feet) and the Sarsen Circle (104 feet) of stones are in the ratio of 7:19 to each other. Geometrically, a pentagram drawn inside a circle with a diameter of 13 units has star arms that are 12.364. All five arms added together are equal to 100/phi, or the Golden Proportion (1.6186). In accordance with heavenly influence, Beer has a long and rich Mythological heritage. As the heavenly bodies have their influence upon the Earth, the Gods have been gracious in providing man with the secrets of making beer.
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