

180 LICK OBSERVATORY 953 Light Building 121  
LICK OBSERVATORY  
MOUNT HAMILTON, CALIFORNIA

BASIC DIMENSIONS AND INFORMATION REGARDING 120-INCH TELESCOPE

1. BUILDING

- a. Base structure reinforced concrete; 99 ft. outside diameter with 18 inch walls.
- b. Base structure 35 ft. high from grade 0.0 ft.
- c. Height of dome from top of concrete to top of shutter 60 ft.
- d. Total height of building from grade 0.0 ft. = 95 ft.

2. DOME

- a. Outside diameter of dome 96 ft. 6 in.
- b. Outside dome cover 1/4-inch steel spherically shaped plates.
- c. Thickness of dome shell 3 ft. with 2 ft. 9 in. air space for insulation.
- d. Inner finish of dome corrugated aluminum shaped sheet with 3 inches of aluminum foil for insulation.
- e. Dome supported on thirty (30) 2-wheeled trucks.
- f. Main arch girders 5 ft. deep with 18 inch channels for top and bottom flanges and a 3/4-inch web plate.
- g. Weight of dome, approximately 200 tons.

3. TELESCOPE

- a. Diameter of main mirror 120 in. = 10 ft. *# 50000 -*
- b. Focal length 600 in. = 50 ft.
- c. Camera speed =  $f/5$ .
- d. Auxiliary equipment:
  - (1) Prime focus camera for 5" x 7" plates.
  - (2) Prime focus spectrograph with 4-inch square gratings.
  - (3) Prime focus photometer.
- e. Cassegrain spectrograph  $f/15$  (future).
- f. Coude Spectrograph:
  - (1) 3-mirror system  $f/36$
  - (2) 5-mirror system  $f/38.7$
- g. Mirrors:
  - (1) 1st mirror 120" diameter x 16" thick (concave) 7740 lbs. weight.
  - (2) 2nd mirror 31" diameter x 4" thick (convex) 240 lbs. weight.
  - (3) 3rd mirror 24" wide x 50" long x 9" thick (flat) 1000 lbs. weight.
  - (4) 4th mirror 31" diameter x 5-1/2" thick (flat) 326 lbs. weight.
  - (5) 5th mirror 4 1/4" diameter x 6" thick (flat) 560 lbs. weight.

4. TELESCOPE TUBE

- a. Length 51 ft. 6 in., including prime focus cage.
- b. Prime focus cage 12 ft. O.D. x 8 ft. high, 5000 lbs. weight.
- c. Total weight 45 tons = 90,000 lbs., includes 12,000 lb. mirror cell and 7740 lb. mirror.
- d. Tubes upper truss 8" O.D. x 6-5/8" I.D., seamless tubes,  
lower truss 8" O.D. x 7-1/2" I.D., seamless tubes.
- e. Balance weights - 5 tons - 10,000 lbs. (in 4 units).

5. FORK

- a. Two fork arms - 12 tons each (24,000 lbs.).
- b. One yoke - 33 tons (66,000 lbs.).
- c. Total weight - 57 tons (114,000 lbs.).  
Plate thickness varies from 1-1/2" at center of yoke to 5/8" at arm tips.  
Bolted joints between fork arms and yoke, and yoke and polar axle are with pre-stressed bolts at approximately 70,000 psi.

6. POLAR AXLE (all cast steel)

- a. North journal section - 54" O.D. - 4" wall thickness x 33" long.
- b. North center section - 52-3/4" O.D. - 2-1/2" wall thickness x 89" long.
- c. South center section - 52" O.D. - 1-3/4" wall thickness x 95" long.
- d. South journal section - 48" O.D. - 2-1/2" wall thickness x 62" long.  
This section includes south journal and carries thrust pad flange and right ascension gear journal.
- e. Total weight - 34 tons (68,000 lbs.).
- f. Total length - 23 ft. 3 in. (279 inches).

7. OIL PAD BEARINGS

- a. Oil film thickness - .002 to .003 inches.
- b. Oil pressure - approximately 800 to 850 psi.
- c. Pad diameters:
  - (1) North (2-pads) 25-3/4" O.D. - 24" diameter.
  - (2) South (2-pads) 16-3/4" O.D. - 15" effective diameter.
  - (3) Thrust (1-pad) 24" O.D. - 22-1/4" effective diameter.
- d. O.D. includes oil recovery channel.
- e. Oil flow per pad - approximately 1 gallon per minute.
- f. Oil viscosity approximately SAE 10 with high viscosity index.

8. RIGHT ASCENSION WORM GEAR

- a. Consists of two steel gears on single hub.
  - (1) One gear for fast setting of telescope (slew speed).
  - (2) One gear for celestial drive of telescope (tracking speed).
- b. Each gear has 720 teeth; 143" outside diameter; .625 circular pitch.
- c. Worms 5-1/2" outside diameter, single thread, nickel bronze.

9. DECLINATION SPUR GEAR

- a. A weldment with 605 teeth.
- b. 121" pitch diameter and a 5 diametral pitch, 4" face width.
- c. Pinion 60 teeth with a 12" pitch diameter.

## 10. DRIVES

- a. Right ascension
- (1) slewing -  $1\frac{1}{2}$  HP - speed  $45^\circ$  per minute.
  - (2) set rate -  $\frac{1}{4}$  HP - 77 seconds of arc per second of time (adjustable).
  - (3) guide rate -  $\frac{1}{15}$  HP -  $2\frac{1}{4}$  seconds of arc per second of time (adjustable).
  - (4) tracking rate -  $\frac{1}{25}$  HP - 15 seconds of arc per second of time (adjustable).
- b. Declination
- (1) slewing -  $\frac{3}{4}$  HP - speed  $45^\circ$  per minute.
  - (2) set rate -  $\frac{1}{4}$  HP - 77 seconds of arc per second of time (adjustable).
  - (3) guide rate -  $\frac{1}{15}$  HP -  $2\frac{1}{4}$  seconds of arc per second of time (adjustable).
  - (4) lunar rate -  $\frac{1}{25}$  HP - .33 seconds of arc per second of time (adjustable).
- c. All rates except tracking and slewing drive through Graham variable speed reducers giving remotely controlled rate adjustments.

## 11. COUDE SPECTROGRAPH

- a. Collimating mirrors 12" diameter x 2" thick, and 15" diameter x 3" thick (future).
- b. Collimated beam 6" diameter in one position and 9" diameter in extended position.
- c. Gratings - approximately 8" x 10" - 15,000 and 22,500 lines/inch.
- d. Dispersion range 32.8  $\text{\AA}/\text{mm}$  to .35  $\text{\AA}/\text{mm}$ .
- e. Cameras:
- (1) 20" focal length mirror dia. 29- $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 7" - Plate holder size 1" x 6".
  - (2) 40" focal length mirror dia. 31- $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5" - Plate holder size 1- $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 8".
  - (3) 80" focal length mirror dia. 36" x 3" - Plate holder size 2" x 12".
  - (4) 160" focal length mirror dia. 50" x 91" - Plate holder size 2" x 24".