The Royal Observatory is a virtual palimpsest of architecture. Many buildings have come and gone. For example, the main Magnetic Observatory burned down in 1852. Some other buildings were of wood and simply reached the ends of their lives.

Disappeared Buildings of the Royal Observatory

Franklin-Adams telescope 1901

7-inch dome (1849) with battery house

40-inch (1964-1971)

Main Building (1825)

Chase (closed ~1950)

Time Ball (dem. 1933)

Coronagraph (ca 1885)

Photoheliograph (~1876)

Front lawn ca 1960

Wind Tower (1842)

Indian Theod, Zenith Tel ca 1880s

Photo Tel Hut

Great Indian Theodolite

Settlers’ Hut ca 1820s

Workmans’ cottages on SE boundary ~1842