

# EARLY SOLAR PHOTOGRAPHY AT VILNIUS OBSERVATORY

THE SURVIVING DALLMEYER  
PHOTOHELIOGRAPH IMAGES

- More than **150 years ago**, Vilnius astronomers were already photographing the Sun.
- Installed in **1864**, the Vilnius Dallmeyer photoheliograph was one of the **earliest instruments of its kind in the world**.
- The project was soon marked by tragedy: the first two directors died in **1865** and **1866**.
- Regular solar imaging continued from **1868 to 1876**, producing **~900 photographs**.
- The programme ended tragically in **1876**, when a devastating fire destroyed the instrument.
- Yet **283 solar images survived** through fires, wars, and lootings.
- Our study brings this forgotten chapter back to light, a unique legacy of **early solar physics and solar astrophotography**.



See more in:  
**Viscasillas Vázquez et al. (2026)**  
or visit our poster