

**Technical Innovations
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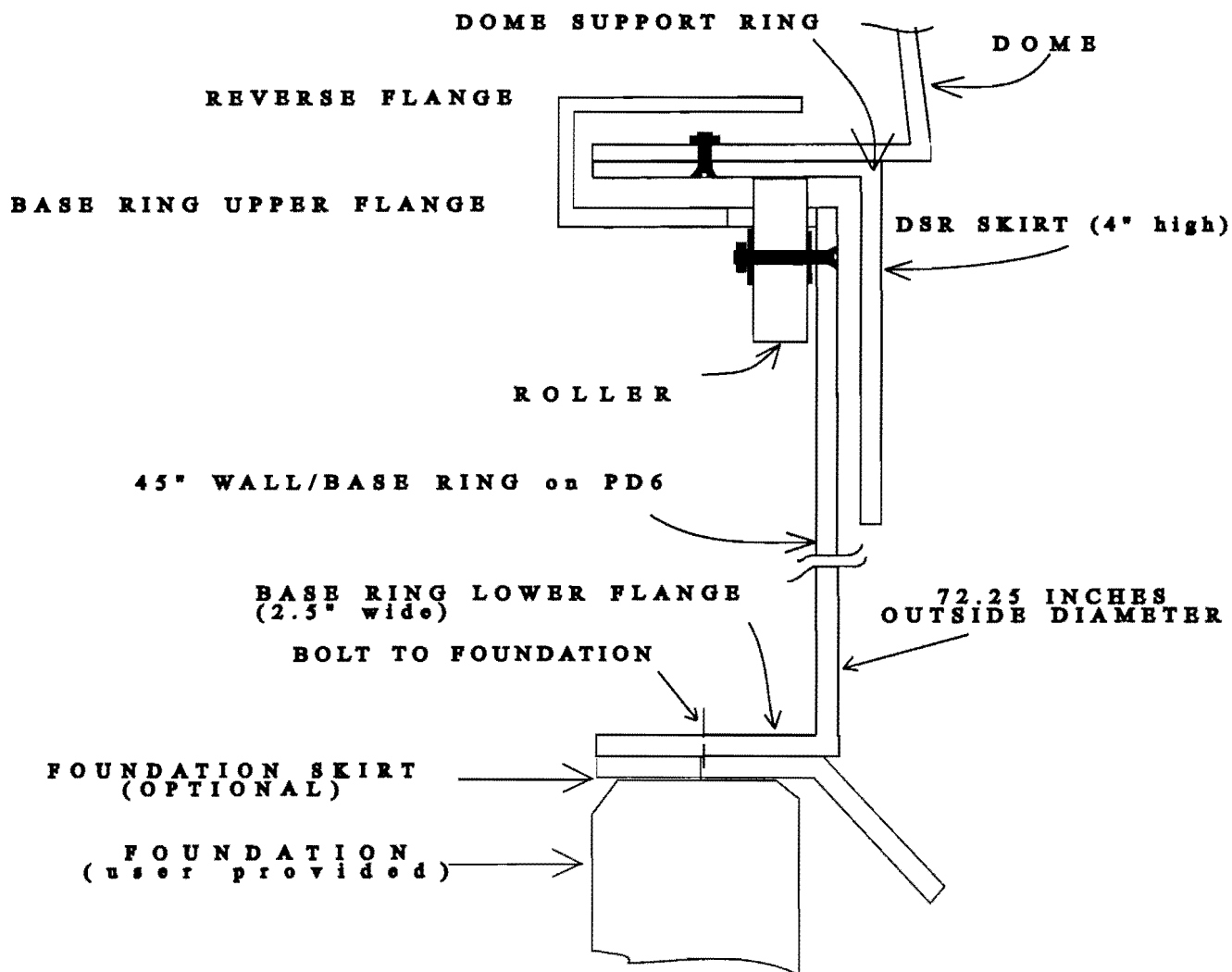
PD6 OBSERVATORY

The 6' diameter HOME-DOME observatory provides all the convenience and protection of large observatories, but in a limited space. Its small size allows installation on almost any building or structure and is less imposing in communities where neighbors have concerns about their view of your property. Though compact, the PD6 dome will easily accommodate a pier-mounted Schmidt-Cassegrain up to 12", or, depending on the mounting design a 6" Newtonian. There is space for you and a guest but for larger groups, a 10' dome is more appropriate. The 6' HOME-DOME observatory is available in two models. Each has the same 74" diameter dome with a 30" wide slot opening and two piece shutter system. The two shutters move up-and-over, automatically disengaging during opening to nest together at the rear of the dome when open. This patented design makes the full shutter opening available to the astronomer (and assists in sky orientation for students). The dome turns easily on hard rubber, sealed ball-bearing rollers mounted on the base ring portion of the wall. You can add motors to rotate the dome and move the shutters, and even fully automate and operate the dome remotely with our Digital Dome Works package.

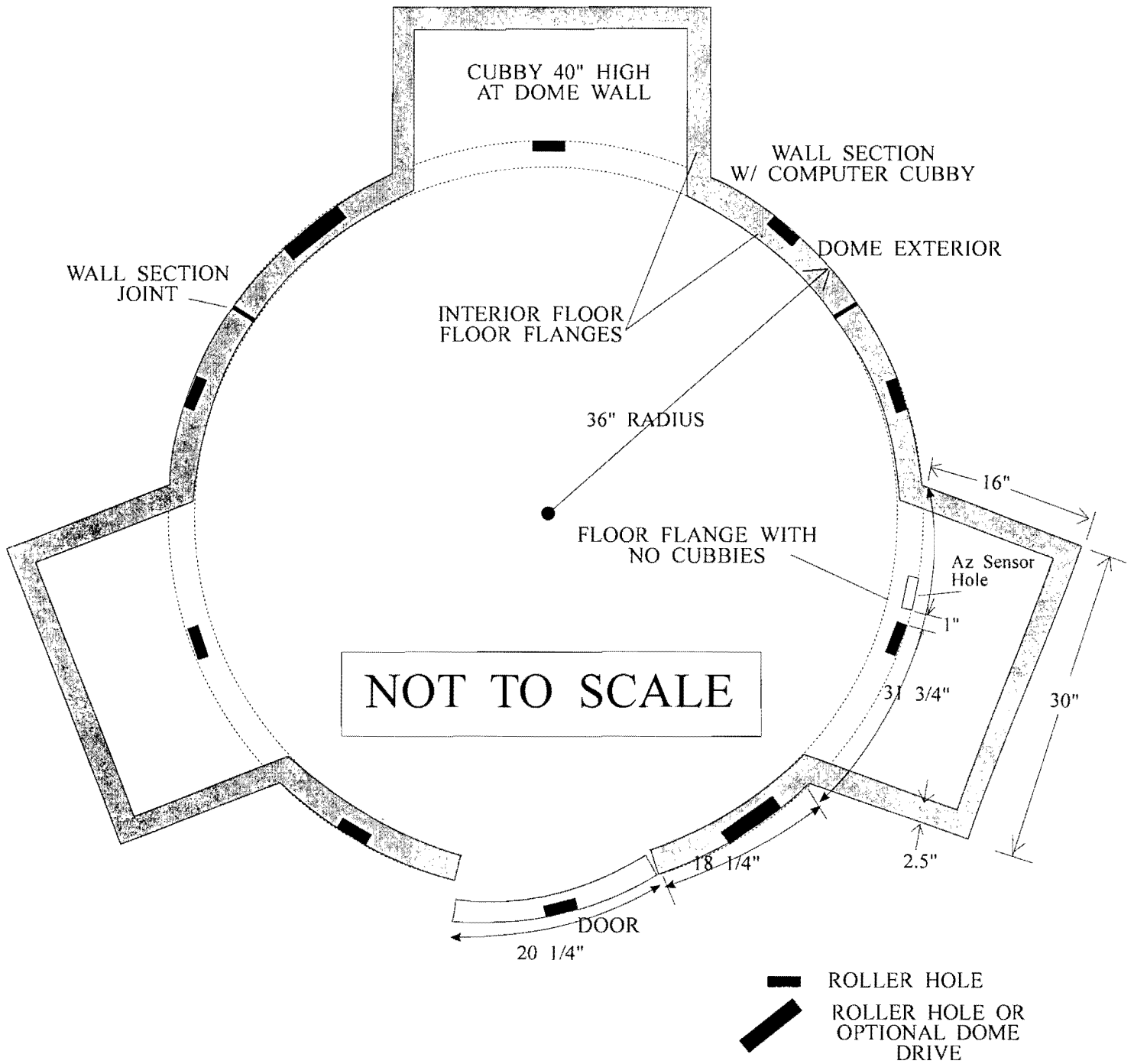
Weather protection is assured by overlapping flanges and baffling, not seals that will wear out or deteriorate. Temperature control is provided by a brilliant white exterior gel coat that normally keeps inside temperature within a few degrees of the shade temperature, so no cool-down period is required before your observing session begins. A dark blue interior helps preserve dark adaptation.

The domes use bolt-together construction. Assembly requires alignment of parts, measuring and drilling bolt holes, and use of common hand and power tools. Larger holes, for rollers and latches, are cut and finished at the factory. Typically, domes are assembled in place by two or three persons, without cranes or special equipment. The PD6 can typically be assembled in one day with two people

The PD6 is most commonly mounted directly onto a concrete pad or wooden deck. In some cases, the dome has been mounted onto a platform of flat roof of a building. The dome sits on a 45" high wall/base ring for a total internal height of 6'10". The PD6 is strong but very lightweight. The dome comes with 45" high, 19" wide, full height access door for un-hindered entry in the "Home" position with the shutter open. Moving equipment in and out of the observatory does not pose any problem. For added floor space, you can add one or more computer cubbies. Your dome must be bolted to a secure foundation. The base has an internal flange for mounting to your structure.



PD6 Wall/Base Ring Structure

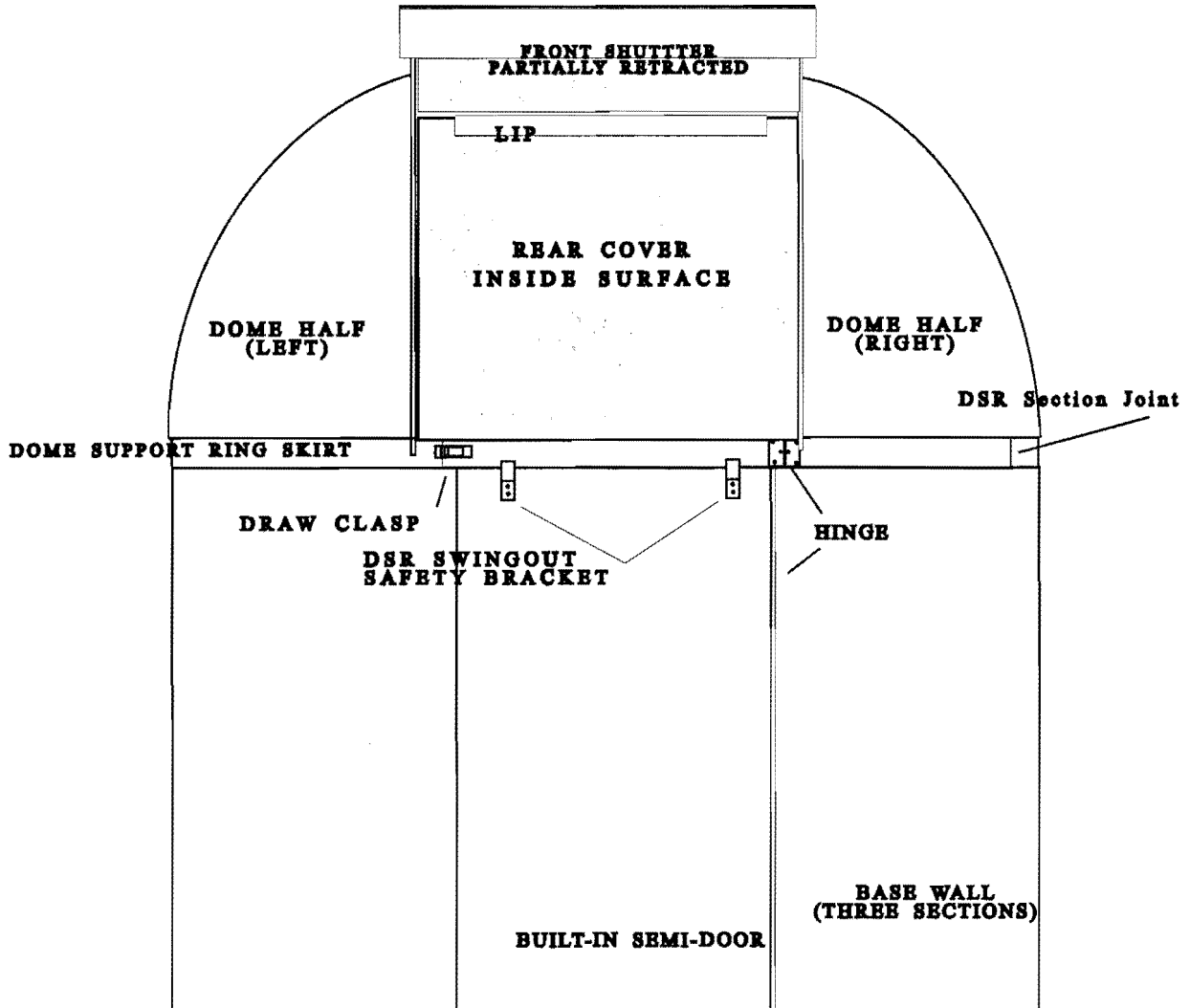


HORIZONTAL SECTION THROUGH WALL SHOWING FLOOR FLANGES AND ROLLER/ DOME DRIVE LOCATIONS IN UPPER FLANGE ABOVE FLOOR FLANGES

NOTE: OBSERVATORY CAN HAVE 0,1,2, OR 3 CUBBIES

Observatory foundation should be 2" larger than base.

PD6 with Computer Cubbies



PD6 - FRONT VIEW