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Waiting for another centennial: first ideas for Astrophysics at the Arcetri Astronomical Observatory (1872-1921)

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In 2025 we will celebrate 100 years from the inauguration of the Solar Tower, a landmark of the Arcetri Observatory and the symbol of its full dedication to Astrophysics. Yet ideas to dedicate Arcetri, in full or in part, to the new science have been expressed already since its foundation in 1872 as an Astronomical Observatory. I will review these earlier suggestions and highlight the role of the director Antonio Abetti in setting the new course.

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