Changing the LED of the Mintron Camera

I really like the Mintron video camera for deep-sky observations in conjunction with my N11GPS and the Hyperstar lens assembly very much. However I found the very bright green LED on the back, indicating that the camera is powered and thus active, very annoying. Thus I replaced it with a dimmed red LED and thus:

a) the dark adoption of the eye will no longer be disturbed
b) the likelihood, that the pictures are disturbed by stray light coming from the bright LED is reduced
c) the power consumption is reduced by approx. 150mW. This corresponds to approximately 7% of the whole camera. Thus also the heat generated in the camera and creating warm pixels at the CCD is reduced.

There are only two components to be replaced:
1) the green LED “D1” is replaced by a low current 3mm red LED. Don’t worry, if you mix up the two leads (Anode and Cathode) of the LED, nothing gets damaged. You just have to solder it in once more correctly.
2) the 820 Ohms resistor “R1” is replaced by a 100kOhm resistor

Here is the small schematic change. On the left you see the old, on the right the new schematic.

And here are two pictures to find the Resistor and the LED in the camera.

On the left you see the resistor “R1”  On the right you see the red LED “D1”

I hope you also have fun with this nice camera. Any hints on further improvements are always very welcome.

Best regards

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