

This is how the place where the World Trade Center used to be changed in 20 years

The project required the capture of more than 13.3 million photos

By [Miguel Jorge](#) September 14, 2021



Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, that took place on the twin towers of the World Trade Center, New York City spent two decades rebuilding the area. An [amazing time lapse](#) for which 13.3 million photos were needed shows us the work that emerged after 20 years.

The visual piece has been made possible by EarthCam, one of the leaders in long-term timelapse camera systems. As can be seen in the video below, after the two hijacked planes crashed into the towers and finally collapsed, the city cleared the site completely to start a new project.

Of the dozens of ideas that emerged, a new World Trade Center tower was finally built on the same site as the original twin towers, one that opened on November 3, 2014. Let's watch the video: [Official 20 Year Time-Lapse - Rebuilding the World Trade Center](#)

The piece we see is the longest-running time-lapse project in Earthcam history and includes images that the company says have never been seen before and span the last two decades. Additionally, Earthcam previously released a 10-year timelapse showing the construction of the September 11 Memorial and Museum in 2014: [Official 9/11 Memorial Museum Tribute In Time-Lapse 2004-2014](#)

As for how the company began to record the day to day of what was happening in ground zero, they say that it all started when its CEO and founder, Brian Cury, installed a webcam a few days after the attacks to transmit over the Internet the rescue mission for the families of the disappeared.

As recovery turned into reconstruction, he worked on the development of new robotic camera technology that, they explain, was necessary to document the site in the highest resolution possible. As Cury explains:

This is an emotional milestone for EarthCam, as the history of the company has been so intertwined with this site. We are grateful to so many partners, friends, and the extraordinarily dedicated team at EarthCam whose innovation fueled this process for 20 years to achieve this historic world record.

Since then, the Earthcam systems regularly captured photos and panoramic images of the area and the transformation of downtown Manhattan from over 100 viewing angles. A project that required the capture of more than 13.3 million photos with a simply spectacular result.