



## Twenty years in the making, EarthCam pays tribute to the World Trade Center site with an epic time-lapse video

By [Josh Niland](#) September 10, 2021



Twenty years after [9/11](#), the popular geographic livestream site EarthCam has revealed its commemoration of the tragedy using footage taken from two decades of loss and rebuilding.

EarthCam founder Brian Cury installed the camera in the days following the attacks to document the [monumental recovery effort](#) taking place in lower Tribeca. The twenty-five-year-old company, which is headquartered just across the Hudson in Upper Saddle River, NJ, has been continuously recording the site since then, making it the longest-running time-lapse project in EarthCam history.

Now, with unseen footage taken by cameras that captured every day of the past twenty years in thirteen million individual photographs, the interregnum has been reduced to a six-minute encapsulation of the transformation of the sixteen-acre site from an active crime scene to an eerie void and finally to its current form as a tourist destination and memory site visited by over 6.5 million people per year.

“This creative time-lapse both honors the legacy of those who were killed and embodies hope for the future, as we see these remarkable new structures that surround the Memorial as evidence of lower Manhattan’s resilience and renewal,” [9/11 Memorial](#) President Alice Greenwald said in a statement.

Technology evolved as an inevitable part of the project. The pixelation of the images alone increased from half a megapixel to 120,000 over the span of time. Advances in digital technology helped the company seamlessly integrate its lower-resolution images into the time-lapse. The final product can be viewed below.