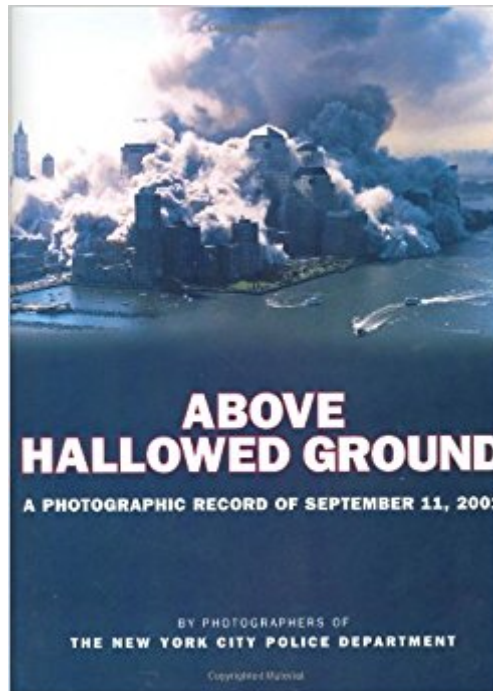


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# Above Hallowed Ground: A Photographic Record Of September 11, 2001



## Synopsis

On the morning of September 11th, a new kind of horror shook the world. Terrorists crashed two passenger airliners into the World Trade Center in the worst attack on U.S. soil in the nation's history. But at the same time a new generation of heroes rose up to fight it. This book chronicles not only the devastation of that day, but also the valor and heroism of those who saved thousands of lives. Not one of these photographs has been published before. On top of that, these images offer a vantage point no ordinary photographers could obtain: They were taken by members of the New York City Police Department, uniformed and civilian, who were on the scene moments after the first plane hit and who were behind the scenes during the entire rescue and recovery effort. Many officers took pictures during the course of their duties. Some were inside the lobbies of the World Trade Center before they collapsed. Some were in helicopters hovering near the burning towers. Some were trapped in the dust cloud after the buildings fell. They took pictures of the pandemonium around them, the fear, the effort, the exasperation. This collection portrays the courage of those who rushed into the danger so that others could escape it. One of the featured photographers, Detective Dave Fitzpatrick, was off duty when he heard a report of the attack over his radio. He immediately went to an NYPD airfield, joined a crew boarding a police helicopter, and flew to the World Trade Center. They arrived right after the second plane hit and were instructed to observe the scene and watch for any other incoming aircraft. Over the course of three flights that day, Fitzpatrick shot thousands of photographs that became the only aerial views of the devastation and early rescue efforts downtown. He also covered all Ground Zero operations for the next two months. His best photos, along with those of numerous other members of the NYPD, have been collected in this book. Together they make up the most in-depth visual document of the September 11th tragedy and its aftermath.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Absolutely breathtaking and even though the events have been well-recorded and replayed ad nauseum, you will gain a new, harrowing, touching, moving perspective on the events at Ground Zero over the past year. The book contains previously unpublished photographs taken by members of the New York City Police Department during the attacks on the twin towers and during the excavation of Ground Zero. Many photographs in the beginning of the book were taken from the air in NYPD helicopters assigned to circle over the city from the air in search of additional rogue airplanes, providing images from angles yet etched into memory. Imagine viewing the smoke and fire billowing from the towers against a clear, cerulean blue, cloudless sky. Words do not do this book justice. The pictures are absolutely moving and of superior technical quality. Captions are succinct yet factual so even those not familiar with the city can get their bearings by well-known landmarks. I plan to add this book to my collection of journalistic records of life as a baby-boomer to be passed down throughout the generations as a transcript of the various historical events that have changed and continue to change the world in which we live.

If you live or used to live somewhere in the New York area, you might have a grim desire for a book that shows exactly how the WTC attacks affected specific shops, buildings, blocks, etc. that you knew and loved, not just how terrible the effects were in general. The NYPD book shows how the attacks affected the little sailboats in the marinas near the WTC, what the attacks did to the daycare center, what the "bad side" of the Winter Garden looked like, etc.

The photos are the best on the area. The one that scared me was the one where Dave takes a picture of himself in the glass and then a few seconds later a beam falls where he was just standing. The photos of the jet pieces all over the ground and the thick dust that was everywhere makes it all real and all the more haunting and terrible. But we must have these in front of us, because what happens, we forget. Let's not forget. Those people don't deserve that.

Many of the photos in this book were taken from police helicopters; the rest were obtained on-scene during and shortly after the 9/11 tragedy. Photos of the moment the second airplane hit, airplane parts on the ground, thousands walking home across bridges that day, rescue medical personnel ready to attend to the last rescued person from the wreckage, the WTC day-care center, nearby office building interiors and exteriors, etc. all bring 9/11 back to life. "Above Hallowed Ground" also shows crews at the Fresh Kills Island landfill searching through the debris for body parts and personal memorabilia, search dogs, memorial services, volunteers, and the evening light memorial simulating the collapsed WTC towers.

For those of us who experienced this day either close up or from afar, this book captures the horror, the power and the humanity of the response perfectly. While it was a day in infamy, it was a day never to be forgotten and perfectly captured in these photos. Five stars! I review it again every September 11th.

The title explains quite obviously the content of this book. Not just above NY, but below it and within it also...the photos are unmatched for the historical record because of the access that the NYPD photographers had. For comparison, take a look at Robert Cameron's "Above New York"--then you have a before-, during-, and after experience.

This is a must-have book for people who are interested in pictures from 9/11/2001. The images are none like you have ever seen before. The NYPD took the pictures appearing in the book.

Excellent collection of finely done photographs documenting a day I hate to remember but must. Looking at the photos in this book is kind of like studying the dagger that seriously injured you under a microscope - the perspective is unique, and unequalled in detail and quality. These photos not only document the death of two beloved landmarks, but they convey the totality of the horror, as it encroached on the NYC environment of which they were the pinnacle - Lower Manhattan. An added incentive is that buying the book certainly must help the NYPD and other heroes of that day, God bless and keep them all!

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