



Arecibo radiotelescope collapses, Puerto Rico

Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 27 February 2020 at 15:07:19 UTC

Sentinel-1 CSAR IW acquired on 03 December 2020 at 10:23:02 UTC Sentinel-1 CSAR IW acquired on 05 December 2020 at 22:36:44 UTC Sentinel-2 MSI acquired on 08 December 2020 at 15:07:21 UTC

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2D view

Fig. 1 - S2 (27.02.2020) - Lying in Puerto Rico, the Arecibo Telescope was a 305m radiotelescope built into a natural sinkhole.



Fig. 2 - S2 (08.12.2020) - Completed in November 1963, the Arecibo Telescope was the world's largest single-aperture telescope until 2016. 2D view



Fig. 3 - S1 (21.11.2020) - The Arecibo Telescope was primarily used for research in radio astronomy, atmospheric science & radar astronomy. 2D view



It was also used for the Search for ExtraTerrestrial Intelligence (SETI) program.

Fig. 4 - S1 (03.12.2020) - The telescope appeared in films such as for the climactic fight scene in the James Bond film GoldenEye (1995).

<u>2D view</u>



The telescope was damaged by Hurricane Maria in 2017 and was affected by earthquakes in 2019 and 2020. Two cable breaks, one in August 2020 and a second in November 2020, prompted to announce that the telescope would be decommissioned and dismantled.



Fig. 6 - S1 (05.12.2020) - The support structure, antenna, and dome assembly all fell into the dish on December 1, 2020.



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