

Chronological History of Zen Center

		Source
1959	May 23 - Shunryu Suzuki's arrival in America & Sokoji	CC
1961	"Shunryu Suzuki suggested that his zazen students form a nonprofit corporation..." Zen Center is born	CC p216
1961	August - 1st President of Zen Center elected	CC p216
1961	December, first Windbell published	CC p220
1962	May 20, Suzuki Roshi installed as abbot of Sokoji in Mountain Seat Ceremony	CC p222
1962	August - 3rd annual 7 day sesshin, 15 people receive Jukai	CC p226
1962	Zen Center receives non-profit status	CC p226
1967	Suzuki Roshi & Mel Weitsman start Berkeley Zen Center	Windbell XIX 85
1967	Tassajara purchased - first training temple outside of Asia	Windbell XXVII Spring 93
1967	July 3 - opening ceremony for Zenshinji, Zen Mountain Center	CC p281
????	for the first time in Buddhism's 2500 year history, Zen priests & monks were ordained in the west	SOTD
1969	Zen Center moves from Sokoji to 300 Page Street, Beginners Mind Temple, formerly Emanuel Residence Club for young Jewish women	
1969	Alaya Stitchery created	SOTD p203
1969?	Zenefit - Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, Big Brother & The Holding Company	StreetZen 94
1970	Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind published	
1970	Tassajara Bread Book published	Windbell XXVII Spring 93
1971	November - Richard Baker becomes 2nd Abbot of SFZC	Windbell XI 72
1971	December 4 - Suzuki Roshi dies	
1972	December - Minnesota Zen Center officially began (Katagiri-Roshi)	Windbell XII 73
1972	March - Green Gulch purchased from George Wheelwright for \$325,000.00	SOTD p
1972	The Work Company started	Windbell XI 72
1972	Children's Center (in SF) started	Windbell XI 72
1972	1st City practice period	Windbell XI 72
1973	October 12 - Koshland Park	
1973	Tassajara Cooking published	SOTD p207
1975	July 4 - Green Gulch Greengrocer (below 293 Page) opens,	SOTD p 207
1974	Zen Center creates The Neighborhood Foundation (20 block radius of City Center)	Windbell XVI 78-79
1976	Tassajara Bread Bakery opens @ Cole & Parnassus	SOTD p 212
1977	340 Page purchased	
1977	Forest fire - Big Sur-Marble Cone fire - 2nd largest fire in the history of California	Windbell XVI 78-79
1978	Flood	Windbell XVI 78-79
1978	Tassajara Zendo fire	Windbell XVI 78-79
1978	Cole Valley Press purchased by Zen Center (small job printing business)	Windbell XVI 78-79
1978	Community Recycling Center (by City Center)	Windbell XVI 78-79
1978	Whole Earth House Hold Store started - ecologically sound, economically efficient household & gardening equipment	Windbell XVI 78-79
1979	July - Greens opens	SOTD p273
1980	Gay Buddhist Club formed, later became Maitri - Issan Dorsey	Street Zen 128
1983	Richard Baker resigns as Abbot	
1983	Lindisfarne Fellows House opens (Green Gulch Farm)	Windbell XVII 83
1983	first Buddhist Peace Conference with Thich Nhat Hanh, Gary Snyder, Robert Aitken	SOTD
1984	Dainin Katagiri Roshi becomes 3rd Abbot (interim for 1 year)	Windbell XVIII 84
1985	The Tassajara Recipe Book is published	
1986	Tenshin Reb Anderson becomes 4th Abbot - 400 people attend ceremony @ CC	
1986	Tassajara reunion - Zen Center Alumni Newsletter	
1986	Green Gulch Tea House completed	Windbell XIX 85
1986	Issan Dorsey starts to run Hartford Street Zen Center	Windbell XXIV Fall 90
1987	Issan Dorsey founds Maitri Hospice - the 1st hospice for AIDS patients	Windbell XXIV Fall 90

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1987	<i>The Greens Cookbook</i> published	Windbell XXI 87
1987	Horse Pasture property purchased	Windbell XXI 87
1987	Frank Ostaseski is hired as a half time hospice volunteer program director - Zen Center Hospice is born?	Windbell XXII 87
1987	Everyday formed	
1988	January 7 - Sojun Mei Weitsman becomes co-Abbott	Windbell XXXIII Spring 89
1988	Rev. Mel. & few Board members meet informally with Richard Baker (articles of incorporation)	
1989	November 4 - Issan Dorsey Mountain Seat Ceremony - Hartford Street	Windbell XXXIV Spring 90
1990	Dainin Katagiri Roshi dies (age 82)	Windbell XXXIV Spring 90
1990	September 6 - Issan Dorsey dies of AIDS (age 57)	Windbell XXIV Fall 90
1991	George Wheelwright dies - sold 120 acres of Green Gulch Valley to Zen Center	Windbell XXXV 2001
1992	Tassajara reunion - 25th Anniversary alumni reunion	Windbell XXXVI Fall 92
1992	Fall - "Hokubei "North American" Sesshin - this historic meeting was the 1st time Western representatives of Soto Zen lineages met officially with their Japanese counterparts outside of Japan."	Windbell Spring 1992
1992	newly renovated Green Gulch zendo reopens, also 20th Anniversary of Green Gulch Farm	Windbell XXVII Spring 93
1993	<i>Field of Greens</i> published	Windbell XXVII Spring 93
1995	February 5 - Zoketsu Norman Fischer becomes 6th Abbot	Windbell XXIX Summer 95
1996	February 4 - Zenkei Blanche Hartman becomes Zen Center's first Abbess	Windbell XXX Summer 96
1997	<i>Tomato Blessings & Radish Teachings</i> published	Windbell Vol 31 Summer 97
1997	April 16 - 18 retreat with Richard Baker (forgiveness)	Windbell Vol 31 Summer 97
1998	"The Life, Times and Teachings of Suzuki Roshi" conference in Palo Alto	Windbell XXXII Winter 98
2000	Linda Cutts becomes Abbess	
2003	Ryushin Paul Haller becomes Zen Center's 9th Abbot	
2004	May 21 - 23 Zen Center celebrates the 10th birthday of Suzuki Roshi	Windbell Vol 38 2004
2006	1st Shuso & Shuso Ceremony in San Quentin - BuddhaDharmaSangha Inmate Vince	
2007	January 2 - Priest brings Zen to S.F.'s neediest souls, front page article, San Francisco Chronicle	
2007	Myogen Steve Stucky becomes Zen Center's 10th Abbot	
2007	March 4 <i>Zen Living on the West Coast</i> airs on CBS Sunday Morning	