

A CHRONOLOGY OF GREENWICH POINT

- 1640 Purchase of “ye neck by ye Indians called Monakewego” from the Asamuck and Patomuck Indians by Captain Daniel Patrick and Robert and Elizabeth Feake
- 1700s/1800s Farming and pasturing
- 1864 Simeon and Sybel Ferris Brady begin to develop the western end of the Point, eventually owning five structures there
- 1884 J. Kennedy Tod buys 40 acres at the western end of the Point, all the land west of the present lake which was then a marsh; various parcels were known as “Hill Neck,” “Flat Neck,” “Bulger Lot” and “Bennets Dyke” with a creek called “The Gut”
- 1886 Tod buys 24 acres from various members of the Ferris family, including a parcel known as the “Husted Piece”
- 1887 Tod buys 30 acres from Sally Ferris and her nine children, giving him ownership of all of the Point, including the broad sandy beach, and breaks ground for his summer cottage
- 1888 Paper reports Tod’s “baronial mansion” about completed and construction begun for a boathouse on the lake
- 1892 Easement granted to Tod by Frelinghuysen Ferris to construct and maintain a road to the mainland, the “driftway”
- 1899 Innis Arden Golf Club founded with Tod as its first president
- 1900 Tod buys 11 acres, including the roadway to mainland, from Frelinghuysen Ferris; the following year he builds a gatehouse and erects massive iron gates at the entrance
- 1904 Tod closes the gates to the Point and golf course because of the abuse of privileges by land promoters and local resort owners
- 1925 Tod dies, leaving the Point to his brother, Robert E. Tod, with life use by Mrs. Tod of the mansion house, cottage, and western portion of the estate
- 1939 Maria Potter Tod dies and Robert E. Tod bequeaths the estate to the Presbyterian Hospital of New York
- 1942 Beach leased by the Town of Greenwich from Presbyterian Hospital for \$30,000 for one year; sixty acres are opened to the public
- 1945 Tod’s Point is purchased by the Town of Greenwich for \$550,000 and changes the name to Greenwich Point

- 1945 Garden Club of Old Greenwich undertakes the renovation of Mrs. Tod's walled garden, the Seaside Garden
- 1945 Old Greenwich Boating Association (later Old Greenwich Yacht Club) moves to the Point
- 1946 Thirteen veterans and their families move into the mansion
- 1950 Late November storm causes the worst damage in history to the Point
- 1954 A large facility is built with a bathhouse, concession, first aid and comfort station
- 1955 Lifeguard towers, lifeboats, and picnic tables, are added improvements
- 1956 Greenwich Point Advisory Committee is formed to advise the selectmen on matters pertaining to Greenwich Point
- c.1959 The first trail is completed with help from the Boy Scouts
- 1959 Anniversary Holly Grove is donated by Allen and Helen Kitchel to commemorate their 50th wedding anniversary
- 1959 The boat pier and floats are constructed for the marina
- 1962 The Tods' mansion is demolished
- 1963 1,600 feet of chain link fence are installed as a temporary measure to protect the dunes
- 1964 The boaters' parking lot is enlarged and improved at the Old Greenwich Yacht Club
- 1964 Knollwood Garden Club assumes responsibility for the Seaside Garden
- 1967 The launching ramp is added at the marina
- 1968 Greenwich Point is restricted to Greenwich residents
- 1968 Greenwich Point Exhibit Center, staffed by the Audubon Center, opens
- 1971 Board of Recreation starts Camp Kairphree, a day camp for children, at the lake
- 1979 A dike is constructed along the southern shore, to slow erosion, provide a path and restore two salt ponds
- 1979 Sculptor James Knowles creates a new bronze eagle for the island in the lake through the generosity of Helen Binney Kitchel

- 1969 The chimes play again, thanks to Old Greenwich Lions Club and Horace Abbott
- 1979 Bruce Museum assumes responsibility for the Exhibit Center, now known as the Seaside Center
- 1980 The Greenwich Jaycees donate a pavilion for the clambake area
- 1980 The Hanging Gardens are dedicated to Helen Binney Kitchel on her 90th birthday
- 1992 Storm causes damage in excess of \$250,000
- 1996 The Greenwich Point Advisory Committee changes its name to Friends of Greenwich Point
- 1996 Eagle Pond tidal water exchange is restored by the Audubon Society and other non-profit organizations at a cost of \$100,000
- 1998 Safe Roads program for pedestrians introduced during the winter months
- 2001 The residents-only policy is declared illegal by the Supreme Court of Connecticut
- 2004 The Greenwich Point Conservancy is formed to preserve the Tods' estate buildings
- 2007 The "Tod's Point Historic District" is placed on the State Register of Historic Places in preparation for listing on the National Register of Historic Places