



"Enriching Lives"

County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

SUPERVISOR JAMES DAVIDSON OTT

Term: 1878 - 1880
District: Fourth
Date of Birth: May 1841
Death: February 1922

James Davidson Ott served as county supervisor for almost one full term. Ott was appointed to the seat after the resignation of W.H. Spurgeon on May 6, 1878.

Ott was born in May 1841 in Rockbridge County, Va. He grew up in his hometown and later served as a captain in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

In 1871 Ott moved to California and settled at Anaheim Landing, the present site of Seal Beach in what is today Orange County. He established a boating business, servicing passing vessels in all kinds of weather.

His success in business led to his appointment to the supervisorial seat in 1878, prior to the division of Los Angeles and Orange counties, when the district was all Los Angeles County.

In February 1922, Ott died at his home in Santa Ana. He was 80, and was survived by his widow, two daughters and one son.

Source: Los Angeles Times, Feb. 21, 1922