



"Enriching Lives"

County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

SUPERVISOR FRANCISCO PALOMARES

Term: 1872 - 1876
District: Third
Date of Birth: October 1840
Death: Jan. 11, 1882

Francisco Palomares served as county supervisor for two terms. He assumed office in 1872 and was re-elected again in 1874.

Palomares was born in October 1840 in Los Angeles. He was the second of two sons born to Don Ygnacio Palomares and Dona Concepcion. When his father died, he assumed the position of the family patriarch.

Like his father, Palomares was philanthropic and active in community service. This led to his election to the Board of Supervisors.

During this time he's also credited with donating land for a school to be built in Pomona; helping to organize the Los Angeles Immigration & Land Co-operative Association, which plotted out the township of Pomona; and sinking the first artesian wells in the Pomona Valley and forming the first water company. William Mulholland, who in 1905 would bring water to a thirsty Los Angeles with his famous aqueduct from the Owens Valley, was his assistant.

Palomares also took it upon himself to care for the local Indians by giving them food and clothing. He freely dispensed advice and assisted any way he could. If an Indian was arrested and jailed, Palomares would bail him out. The Gabrielinos Indians respected him and repaid his kindness by making him an honorary chief.

On Jan. 11, 1882, Palomares died of complications from a horseback riding accident. He was 41, and was survived by his wife and four children.

Source: Historic Adobes of Los Angeles County, John R. Kielbasa; Historical Society of Pomona Valley; Spanish Mexican Families of Early California: Vol. III, Marie Northrop; Los Pobladores de la Reina de Los Angeles, p. 63.