



"Enriching Lives"

County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

SUPERVISOR FRANCISCO MACHADO

Term: 1872 - 1876
District: First
Date of Birth: Unknown
Death: Unknown

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

Machado's family was one of the early colonizers of Los Angeles. During his boyhood and early youth, Southern California was divided into a few large ranchos, the proprietors of each being the head of a great patriarchal establishment, including hundreds of workers, tenants and servants.

The Machado family was one of these powerful families, having been given hundreds of acres of lands which included present day San Pedro, Torrance and Harbor City from the King of Spain. The ranch, which covered more than 20 square miles with 1,000 head of cattle, became known as Rancho Machado.

The father was rich and powerful due to his ties to the Mexican government. Machado followed in his father's footsteps by pursuing a career in civil service.

After the American conquest of California in 1848, Machado remained active in politics under the new government, which led to his election to the Board of Supervisors.

Lake Machado in Harbor City was named in his honor, having once been the site of his home. Lake Machado also made the headlines in 2005 as the "home of Reggie the alligator," a pet alligator released in the lake that eluded capture for almost two years before being eventually taken to the Los Angeles Zoo.

Sources: California and Californians; History of Los Angeles County; Utopiannature.com.