



County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

SUPERVISOR EDUARDO POYORENA SR.

Term: 1866 - 1868
District: Not Applicable
Date of Birth: 1825
Death: Dec. 18, 1912

Eduardo Poyorena Sr. served as county supervisor for one term, from 1866 to 1868.

Poyorena was born in 1825 in Los Nietos, Calif., where he grew up. His parents had settled in the area around 1800 with the assistance of the Manuel Nieto land grant.

The Poyorena family (a.k.a. known as Polloreña), was related to every prominent family of the time – including Temple, Sanchez, Vejar, Duarte, Ramirez, Elizalde, Romero, Verdugo, Carrillo, Davis, Zuniga, Guirado and Sepulveda.

On Feb. 1, 1854, Poyorena purchased inheritance land from Pedro Perez, son of Tomasa Ontiveros, daughter of Don Patricio Ontiveros, for \$1,000.

The land known as “Paso del Bartola,” originally granted to Juan Crispin Perez, was bounded on the east by the Rancho of the “Coyotes,” on the south by Rancho Santa Gertrudes, on the west by the river of San Gabriel and on the north by the Rancho of Puente.

In 1855 Poyorena purchased almost 3,000 acres of land in Rancho Santiago de Santa Ana. He built at least one adobe and lived there for several years. Today's area of Paulorino in Costa Mesa is named in his honor as well as Paulorino Park and Elementary School.

Poyorena became one of the co-founders of the Los Nietos Water Company. His involvement in civic affairs led to his appointment as the judge of the plains for Rancho Santa Gertrudes (a position held by only the most respected of citizens); the board of trustees for the first school district in Los Nietos, which he and his wife were instrumental in setting up; and his election to the supervisorial seat in 1866.

After leaving the Board of Supervisors, Poyorena served as the county marshal for more than 20 years.

Poyorena is also linked to the founding of the City of Downey, after he sold land to John Gately Downey. Downey subsequently mapped out his town, after which the town was named.

On Dec. 18, 1912, Poyorena died. He was 87, and was survived by his wife, Maria Antonia, and their seven sons and three daughters.