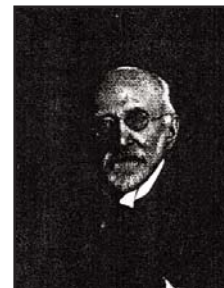




## County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors



### SUPERVISOR ALONZO EDWARD DAVIS

Term: 1888 -1892, 1896 - 1900  
District: Fourth  
Date of Birth: June 30, 1839  
Death: Jan. 19, 1915

Alonzo Edward Davis served two non-consecutive four-year terms as county supervisor. He was elected in 1888 and again in 1896.

Born June 30, 1839, in Livingston County, N.Y., he was the son of Thomas and Sarah Davis. Young Davis was one of 11 children, and grew up working on the family's farm. During the winter months he was allowed to attend school.

In 1857 at the age of 18, Davis moved to San Francisco. He taught school for a short time, but his interest quickly turned to mining gold. He acquired 160 acres of land in Butte County and began farming as well as running a lumber business.

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1862, Davis enlisted in the Fourth California Volunteer Infantry in defense of the Union. Though there had been an official agreement that this regiment would be sent back East to fight, the promise was not fulfilled. The command was assigned to duty in fighting Indians in Arizona, with headquarters at Fort Mohave on the Colorado River. Davis served three years and received his honorable discharge in 1865.

While in military service, Davis spent his free time studying law, and after his discharge he continued his studies. In 1866 he gained admission to the Arizona bar upon examination before the Supreme Court of that territory. In that same year he was elected to the Arizona Legislature and in the early 1870s he served two terms as district attorney. In 1874 he was again elected to the Legislature. Four years later Davis was made the Republican nominee from his district to the United States Congress, but was defeated in the strongly Democratic precinct.

He continued his work in the Arizona Legislature with a strong emphasis in promoting the educational interests of the territory, and at the same time began expanding his mining and mercantile interests to the West.

In 1883 Davis moved to Los Angeles. He became active in local politics and was elected county supervisor in 1888 and 1896. He continued to take an active interest in all matters relating to the public welfare of the city/county until his impaired health compelled the curtailment of his activities in 1910.

His credits included memberships in the Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Grand Army of the Republic, and Society of Los Angeles County Pioneers. He was commander of Stanton Post, and a member of the Veterans of the Civil War and the Ancient Order of United

Workmen. He attended and supported the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On Jan. 19, 1915, Davis died. He was survived by his wife, Emily, and four children: son Francis, and daughters Charlotte, Louise and Jessie.

Sources: Los Angeles County Records; a History of California, Vol. II; California and Californians, Vol. III; Los Angeles Times, Jan. 20, 1915.