

## **White, William Edgar** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **White, William Edgar**

by William S. Powell, 1996

**19 Jan. 1861–29 Mar. 1935**

See also: [White Furniture Company](#) <sup>[2]</sup>



William Edgar White, [furniture manufacturer](#) <sup>[3]</sup>, was born in Mebane, the son of Stephen Alexander and Mary Jane Woods White. He received his education at the [Bingham Military Academy](#) <sup>[4]</sup>, located near his home, before working as a [telegraph](#) <sup>[5]</sup> operator for the [Southern Railway](#) <sup>[6]</sup> until 1881. With his brother, David A., and a capital investment of \$420, he then established the [White Furniture Company](#) <sup>[2]</sup>, of which he was president until his death over half a century later. The company made furniture of the highest quality and earned an international reputation.

As a [Republican](#) <sup>[7]</sup> White was active in local political affairs and a member of the school board; he was a director of the [State Fair](#) <sup>[8]</sup> and helped organize the Mebane tobacco market. A member of the [Presbyterian church](#) <sup>[9]</sup>, he was involved in its work. White never married. The White Furniture Company ceased operations in 1994.

#### **References:**

*Greensboro Daily News*, 31 Mar. 1935 (portrait).

*Raleigh News and Observer*, 30 Mar. 1936.

*Who Was Who in America*, vol. 1 (1943).

#### **Additional Resources:**

Vincent, William Murray. "William E. White." *Historic Alamance County: An Illustrated History*. Historical Publishing Network. 2009. 70-71. <http://books.google.com/books?id=qL3RkMTRx1YC&lpg=PA70&pg=PA70#v=onepage&q&f=false> <sup>[10]</sup> (accessed March 8, 2013).

#### **Image Credits:**

"William E. White." *Greensboro Daily News*, March 31, 1935. D-7.

#### **Subjects:**

[Biographies](#) <sup>[11]</sup>

#### **Authors:**

[Powell, William S.](#) <sup>[12]</sup>

#### **From:**

[Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press.](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

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[1] <https://ncpedia.org/biography/white-william-edgar> [2] <https://ncpedia.org/white-furniture-company> [3] <https://ncpedia.org/furniture/overview> [4] <https://ncpedia.org/bingham-school> [5] <https://ncpedia.org/telegraph> [6] <https://ncpedia.org/southern-railway-system> [7] <https://ncpedia.org/republican-party> [8] <https://ncpedia.org/state-fair-0> [9] <https://ncpedia.org/presbyterian-church-0> [10] <http://books.google.com/books?id=qL3RkMTRx1YC&pg=PA70&pg=PA70#v=onepage&q&q&f=false> [11] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/biography-term> [12] <https://ncpedia.org/category/authors/powell-william-s-0> [13] <https://ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/dictionary-no>