

## Vikings and Virginians

*The Burnett family lineage*

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### Timeline for Edward Saunders (1595-1639) of Charlwood, Surrey and Virginia in early 17th century

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*WHB -I have constructed a timeline relating to Edward Saunders of Charlwood, Surrey, based on the notes of Justin Sanders.*

#### 1595

Edward Sr. was born about 1595 in Charlwood, Surrey County, England.

Edward Saunders is believed to be the person who, at age 40, sailed on the ship Safety from London to Virginia, and who, in 1635, was listed as the father of passengers Thomas, 13 and Edward Jr., age 9.

#### 1607

Thomas Saunders (who ran Joseph Saunders warehouse in the late 1640's) was born in Gloucester, England in 1607, the son of Philip Saunders of Amroth, Wales, a descendent of the same Charlwood, Surrey County Sanders/Saunders family from which Edward is believed to descend.

#### 1619

Edward Saunders made his first voyage to Jamestown in 1619 as a merchant working within the Virginia Company, and returned to England in 1621. he name of his father is not known, but he is thought to be a grandson of Thomas White Saunders of Charlwood.

#### 1622

Edward Saunders may have been absent when his first son, Thomas, was born in England in 1622.

In 1622 Edward and Roger Saunders divided their time between Jamestown and Accomack, a possible reason they escaped the massacre. "Together over the next decade Edward and Roger assisted others in managing the lands of cattle of Lady Dale, the ex-governor's wife. . . ."

#### 1623

A legal paper filed in London in 1623 identified Edward as an inhabitant of the colony when an Indian massacre took the lives of 347 colonists (about one-fourth of the population) on 22 March 1622.

#### 1624

Edward Saunders was back in England at the time the paper was filed, attesting to conditions in Jamestown at the time of the attack. He therefore played a role in the dismantling of the Virginia Company in 1624, at which time Virginia became a Crown Colony. [Ralph Sanders, *Generations: A Thousand Year Family History*, p. 191].

On his return to Virginia in 1622 Edward was accompanied by a relative named Roger Saunders. The two men collaborated in a warehouse venture with Joseph Saunders, a wealthy ship owner and merchant of the ancient Vintners Company.

A relationship between Edward and Joseph is suspected, but has not been identified. The warehouse of Joseph Saunders was located near Cape Charles in Accomack, somewhere near the southern tip of the peninsula where Roger Saunders constructed a plantation house in 1628.

## 1625

Between 1625 and 1635 the Saunders Accomack Virginia warehouse imported linen, powder and wine in exchange for tobacco and beaver skins. [p. 198].

## 1628

Roger Saunders constructs a plantation house near Cape Charles in Accomack

## 1632

Roger Saunders managed the Accomack warehouse until his death in 1632. William Smith then took over the operation until his death in 1636.

## 1635

4 July 1635 – the ship *Transport*, Edward Walker, Master, embarked for Virginia from London.

Thomas Saunders – 20.

Source: John Camden Hotten, *The Original Lists of Persons of Quality . . . 1600-1700*, p. 102.

10 Aug 1635 – the ship *Safety*, John Graunt, Master, embarked from London carrying 144 persons to Virginia.

Edward Saunders – 40

Thomas Saunders – 13

Edward Saunders – 9.

James Pattison – 21 (listed two names above the senior Edward).

Source: John Camden Hotten, *The Original Lists of Persons of Quality . . . 1600-1700*, p. 122.

The Edward Saunders above, age 40, was the father of Thomas, 13 and Edward Jr., age 9. Edward Sr. was born about 1595 in Charlwood, Surrey County, England.

[*Note from WHB – See my previous posts [Ancestral Families and the English-Colonial Trade \(1612-1632\)](#) and [Saunders in Gloucestershire and Bristol in Late Medieval Times.](#)]*

## 1636

William Smith (of Accomack warehouse) death in 1636.

## 1639

Edward Saunders ran operations at the Accomack warehouse until he and three coworkers died in 1639 aboard the *Flower de Luce*, a ship owned by Joseph Saunders, en route for England [p. 199]. “. . .

Thomas Saunders of Gloucester (not the son of Edward) evidently picked up the slack in the 1640's after the deaths of earlier partners.” [Sanders, p. 197].

The sons of Edward Saunders, Thomas, b. 1622 and Edward, b. 1625 returned to England following the death of their father. In 1655 Edward returned to Virginia with the title of Doctor and resided in Northumberland County. His brother Thomas followed shortly after and obtained property nearby in the same county. [Sanders, pp. 401-2].

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