

Patronymics

Genealogy Tips by Jeannette Holland Austin

A long time ago, people from Scandinavian countries use a patronym which was based on the given name of a father or grandfather. When it was the mother, the term is matronymic.

So, the ancestors of Skeds, the son of Vold, ultimately became a surname, Skedsvold. Anders, the son of Sen, became Andersen. And so on. Thus, while searching the ancient families, it is a good idea to review the familiar characters of certain families and research the meaning as well as the possibility of your particular ancestor's name fitting in there somewhere. A study of ancient names is certainly indicated.