

# Folk - Copeland - Counts

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October 9, 1991.

Dear Rev. Peeples,

Greetings! I guess you can see I've not been swallowed up by a black hole. How are ya'll doing? I find it a restless time of year, trying to catch up and then stop and breathe a little.

As you suggested, David Piquette wrote to me. I sent him the Folk lineage. He seems a persistent sort of fellow. He did tell me that "John Jacob Copeland, Jr. was married to Mary Riser, and that her mother's name was Francina Counts, daughter of John Counts who was granted 350 acres of land in 1749, originally from Rotterdam." He did not offer any proof, just that statement. As I was not aware of her maiden name, I thought perhaps you lacked that information also. I thought to pass it on. I haven't looked into it yet. It's impossible to search every name. I don't suppose his wife will get me into First Families either. The atrocity of being born on the wrong side of the track.

Now I know where I remember that name from. It was in the Priester Book. John Count's acreage lay alongside Andrew Meyer, Benedict Kuhn and Francis Helo. That's all that's in there about him, just his plat.

That said, there was a query in the N.C. Genie Journal about Peeples. I remembered you mentioned you had the Peeples book for sale, so I dropped the lady a postcard and told her to write to you. Her name has slipped my mind, and I've already filed the journal away.

I also wrote to Earl Steadman about a month ago, I guess. He sent me a surprise "gift" copy of the Steadman book. I didn't have the heart to tell him that I had already bought one. Do you want the extra one, or do you already have one? It's very interesting, to be sure! Without an index, it fills in my spare few minutes here and there reading for names. If you haven't gotten a copy, I'll be glad to send it to you. I suppose we'd have to hire Scotland Yard to find out that much information on any of the branches across the ocean!

I was not aware that Susannah Mole's parents were Jacob Mole and Mary Cope, not until you told me. How did you find out? If you do not descend from Frederick Mole and Mary Magdalene Varn, then neither do I. My descent from Susannah is through her daughter, Harriett Platts m/David Farnum Moore, Sr. So what do you know about Jacob Mole and Mary Cope?

There is a little information about the Cope family in the Priester Book, also. But nothing to connect our Mary Cope.

I suppose this information I have on John Peter Varn is useless to me now. I'll enclose the last information I found on them. You may wish to file it away for some future whatever.

I have recently completed a sort of biography on my Blackmon ancestor. I can go a generation beyond him, but his is the one I wish you to read. Please tell me, genealogically speaking, what merit it has, and what it lacks, and if you think, well, just what you think? It's the first one I've actually sat down and put into story form, and I'm anxious for a professional opinion. Aren't you the lucky one I've

chosen? I know I write emotional, but I suppose I find I have to be true to myself. A part of me wishes to use the dialogue I've grown up hearing out there in the country. Another part of me, says, no, they'll think you're a dumb country bumpkin. Mayhap I'll be a country bumpkin in my great's chapter, a red-neck in my grandfather's chapter, a hippy in my father's chapter, and for my generation, let's see, a medieval, red-necked, country bumpkin hippy intellectual. See what problems I face being born a Gemini? Are you laughing yet? I don't know. Such decisions.

My paternal new surnames are Gatting, Odom and Yeates. I still have yet to figure out how you have learned so much about all our families! All my father's lines settle Darlington County, from North Carolina. So confusing to find they use the same Christian names over and over so I can't tell which is which generation, or remarriage or what.

Well, I better close for now. I wanted to tell you about Counts. Give Miss Cora our love. God bless!

Love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kathryn Moore', written in dark ink.

Katheryn Moore