

Benjamin Bean + Rebecca Evans
Married 8 Dec 1779, Prince George's County, Maryland¹

Hardy County, Virginia, was formed from the southern part of Hampshire County, Virginia, effective 1 Feb 1786;^{9p24} West Virginia was formed in 1863 from several north and western Virginia counties, including Hardy County. The western half of Hardy County became Grant County on 14 Feb 1866.^{9p24}

NOTE: Spelling is used as it appeared in various records.

BENJAMIN BEAN (aka Beans, Been) born abt. 1758 Maryland (based on 1776 Census³; Footnote 5 says abt. 1760), died 17 Apr 1828 Petersburg, Hardy County, VA⁵ (now Grant County, WV). He married **REBECCA EVANS** 8 Dec 1779, Prince George's County,¹ Revolutionary Maryland.

Rebecca born 1761, probably Maryland, apparently died before **Benjamin** made his will, which was probated in 1828, as she was not named in his will.^{9p321} A woman her age does not appear in either of the two Benjamin Bean 1820 census records found in Hardy County,⁷ so she likely died before that census.

• Father **George Bean Sr.** was about 35 when Benjamin was born, and mother **Mary Gatton Bean** about 20. **Benjamin** was probably the "white male, 18," in **George's** 1776 Maryland Colonial Census.³ **Benjamin** was not mentioned in his father's will. Was this because he had already had his share of his father's estate? He is identified as **George's** son in an 1811 legal document, shown below.

Children of Benjamin Bean & Rebecca Evans^{4,9p321}

1. **Priscilla Bean Carr** (1783 VA, now WV-1861 OH). Named in her father's will.^{9p321}

Bein, Precillia	Carr, Solomon	9/15/1799	Valentine Powers¹⁰
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2. **George Bean** (1790 VA-1865 OH). Named in his father's will.^{9p321}

Bean, George	Carr, Susan	8/25/1811	Valentine Powers¹⁰
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3. **John Bean**, named co-executor in his father's will.^{9p321} John served as guardian of his sister **Mary Bean Byrns'** children. There are entries to this effect in the estate account of **Hanson Veatch**, 1836-1837, Hardy County Will Book 6, Page 299.¹⁵

4. **Jesse Bean**, named co-executor in his father's will.^{9p321} His marriage:¹⁰

Bean, Jesse	Hyre, Hannah	2/27/1823	W. N. Scott (Presbyterian ^{9p44})
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Hannah, daughter of **Peter & Susanna Hyre**. Peter's will was probated 10 Jan 1826; it listed Hannah Bean as one of the heirs, JESSE BEAN as executor, and JOHN BEAN as one of the witnesses. *Hardy County Will Book 4*, page 93.^{9p320}

5. **Elizabeth Bean Ferris**, named in her father's will.^{9p321} No marriage found for her in Hardy County records.¹⁰

6. **Mary Bean Byrns** died before her father made his will; her heirs were mentioned.^{9p321} Her marriage:¹⁰

Bean, Mary	Byrns, Morgan	1819	Benedict Reynolds (Methodist ^{18,9p44})
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Mary's husband, **Morgan**, died, probably in 1825, will probated 9 Aug 1825 in Hardy County. Named: Wife Mary; son Andrew; children of deceased brother **Andrew** (**Andrew's** probate 11 Apr 1820^{9p317}), Executor **William Cunningham, Jr.**; Witnesses **James Carr Gamble, Henry Nicholas, Mortimer D. Williams.** *Hardy County Will Book 4*, page 56.^{9p320} *WE VEITCHES...*, Vol. I, p. 169, list the births of "**Andrew Byrans (Bryns)**, son of **Morgan Byrns**, b. 30 Aug 1820 and **Polly Byrns** b. 26 Jan 1823." Andrew was born the same year his uncle Andrew Bryns died. Mary must have been pregnant with Polly when Morgan Byrns died.¹²

7. **Sally Bean?**⁴ Benjamin's 1828 will mentioned all of the above children except Sally (Sarah?), so if she really was his daughter, she may not have survived or had heirs of her own. Was this her marriage?¹⁰

Bean, Sarah	Coberly, George	3/26/1811	Valentine Powers , Brethren Dunker minister ¹¹
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Valentine Powers married a **George Coberly** to **Matilda Lewis** 10/13/1816. If this were the same **George Coberly**, it most likely indicates that **Sarah Bean Coberly** died before then, apparently leaving no children, since her heirs were not mentioned in Benjamin's will, as were the children of deceased daughter Mary Byrns.^{9p321}

Benjamin Bean & Rebecca Evans Summary

- 1779** • Osborn Sprigg administered the Oath of Fidelity to 210 men, submitting his record to Prince George's County Court held at Upper Marlborough Town, MD, March 23, 1779.¹³ A **THOMAS BEAN** was #167 and a **BENJAMIN BEAN** was #175.¹³ It is probable that these men were the sons of **George Bean, Sr.**
- 8 Dec marriage of **Benjamin & Rebecca**, two sources cited below, the first source from Footnote 1:

MARRIAGE REFERENCE

Evans, Rebecca	M	Benjamin Bean
Remarks:	Prince George's County	
	Date of Marriage: 1779, December 8	
Reference:	Prince George's County Marriage Record 1777-1797, p.12	

MARRIAGE LICENSES, 1777-1801	97
Bean, Benjamin.	Evans, Rebecca Dec. 8, 1779

Maryland Records Colonial, Revolutionary, County and Church from Original Sources
by Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh, Volume I, Originally published 1915 Baltimore, Maryland,
Reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1967, 1975, 1985, 1993, Page 97

- 1783** **Benjamin Bean** bought land from both **Benjamin** and **McKenney Robinson** in what was then Hampshire County, VA, on the South Branch River. This land became Hardy County, VA, on **1 Feb 1786**, until 14 Feb 1866, when it was placed in Grant County, WV. (**Benjamin's** brother-in-law **Hanson Veatch** bought land in the South Branch Manor in 1791.)

- "24 May 1783; **Benjamin ROBINSON** of Monongalia Co to **Benjamin BEAN** of Hampshire Co, 49 acres in the South Branch Manor for £50 adj to his own and to **Daniel HOLE**. Land was farmlot to said **Benjamin ROBINSON, Benjamin WOOD** and **Job ROBINSON**."^{6p77}

PAGE 50	GRANTOR-GRANTEE
1783 ROBINSON, Benjamin	to Benjamin Bean
5-24 of Hampshire Co.	of Hampshire Co.
49 a. on South Branch River; rec. 11-11-1783.	
Wit.: Andrew Wodrow, Henry Cartright, Sylvester Ward.	
Early Records Hampshire County Virginia, Now West Virginia, Compiled by Clara McCormack Sage and Laura Sage Jones, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1976. <i>Ancestry.com database</i>	

- "10 Nov 1783; **McKenney ROBINSON** of Augusta Co to **Benjamin BEAN** of Hampshire Co lot N°76 of 114 acres in the South Branch Manor for £110. Land farmlot to **John ROBINSON, McKenney ROBINSON** and **Benjamin ROBINSON** brothers of said John. Said John leased the land to McKenney."⁶ (*Hampshire County WV Deed Book 6, p. 75.*)

Lot #	Name	Acreage	& Approximate Location (from Morrison or other sources)
76	Benjamin Bean	114a	

<http://www.wvgenweb.org/hardy/sbmanor.htm>

The above link states: "The two primary manors, consisting of about 55,000 acres each, were located along the South Branch of the Potomac. The Wappacomo, or Great South Branch of the Potowmack (sic), lay on both sides of the South Branch River from its mouth on the Potomac to the southern end of the Trough near Old Fields. The **South Branch Manor extended from the southern tip of the Trough along the river south and west to the Petersburg area to the Royal Glen Gorge and included the lower portions of Mill Creek and Lunice Creek.** The third tract lay on the South Fork from its mouth near Moorefield, south to Brake. This tract included only 18 lots. Another 10,000 acres situated along Patterson Creek was divided into 31 lots, extending from Headsville to just southwest of Russeldale on today's maps."

1783 ROBINSON, McKenney to Benjamin Bean
 11-10 of Augusta Co. of Hampshire Co.
 11 a. on South Branch River; rec. 11-11-1783.
 Wit.: Henry McMarro, Jacob Ragan, Abraham Clarke.
Early Records Hampshire County Virginia, Now West Virginia,
 Compiled by Clara McCormack Sage and Laura Sage Jones,
 Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1976.
 Ancestry.com database

1784 Benjamin's household was in the 1784 Hampshire County, VA, Census, but not on the 1782 Hampshire County Census;^{10,11} probably the family was still in Prince George's County, MD, at that time. Two sources appear below. The 1784 Hampshire County Census published under the main title of the 1790 Federal Census has the advantage of showing Benjamin's neighbors on Page 70. The Page 89 Hampshire County census shows a John Bean in addition to Benjamin. It is unknown whether this was Benjamin's younger brother, as there were many Bean families in this area.

70 FIRST CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.
 HAMPSHIRE COUNTY—Continued.

NAME OF HEAD OF FAMILY.	White souls.	Dwellings.	Other buildings.
Power, Valentine.....	10	1	3
Shill, George.....	3	1	...
Cubberly, James.....	8	1	...
Radeliff, Stephen.....	7	1	1
Curle, Jeremiah.....	10	1	...
Christie, James.....	4	1	...
Bean, Benjamin.....	6	1	2
Clarke, Watson.....	5	1	1
Welton, Job.....	11	1	5

Heads of Families at The First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790/Records of the State Enumerations: 1782-1785, Virginia, Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1908. Ancestry.com

HAMPSHIRE CO. CENSUS—1782-1784 PAGE 89

Bean, Benj. (not in '82) — (JbW) 6-1-2
 Bean, John (WB) 2 — (gone in '84)

Job Welton was enumerator. Legend is the same as the census above, six free whites, one dwelling, two outbuildings.

Early Records Hampshire County Virginia, Now West Virginia,
 Compiled by Clara McCormack Sage and Laura Sage Jones,
 Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1976.
 Ancestry.com database

Maureen's note: Enumerator JOB WELTON was a neighbor of Benjamin, as shown by the above census entry, and WELTON was also a witness to the sale of land by Hanson Veatch in 1811 to Michael Carr.

- 1786 • The southern part of Hampshire County, Virginia, became the new county of Hardy, effective 1 Feb 1786.^{9p24} The first Hardy County Court met 7 Feb to organize the county.^{9p168} (The Act creating Hardy County passed October 1785, to be effective 1 Feb 1786.^{9p24} Also—<http://www.wvgenweb.org/hardy/>)
- *Hardy County Land Book Entries 1786* included this entry: “**Bean, Benjamin** 200 acres.”^{9p20}
- **Benjamin Bean** was on the 1786 list of Hardy County poll tax payers, no slaves.¹⁶
- “Early Courts in Hardy County”—17-18 Mar, **Benjamin Bean** was one of eight men who were appointed as the first constables of the new county.^{9p168}
- October: **Benjamin Bean** was a buyer at the public sale for the **Leonard Hire** estate.^{6p84}

1789

Name	County	Tax List	Page
Bean, Benjamin	Hardy	1789 Personal B	2

(<http://www.binnsgenealogy.com/VirginiaTaxListCensuses/1790index/1790B-index5.htm>)



(<http://www.binnsgenealogy.com/VirginiaTaxListCensuses/Hardy/1789PersonalB/02.jpg>)

1790 “The original manuscript schedules for the First and Second United States Census Returns for Virginia, taken in 1790 and 1800, were destroyed when the British Army occupied Washington, D.C., in August 1814. The schedules, which named the heads of households and contained the number of inhabitants in each household, were lost, and only published abstracts containing the number of inhabitants of each county survive.” (http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/va2_1790census.htm)

1794 “On February 1, 1794, **Reverend Denny Martin Fairfax**, consideration Six Thousand Pounds, conveyed to **John Marshall** the South Branch Manor part of the Northern Neck, this including one survey of 54,596 acres more or less, made in 1747 and another of 1,550 acres surveyed in 1748, this conveyance subject to certain prior Leases and Grants and also subject to certain annuities as shown therein. See Deed Book No. A, Page 12.”^{9p14} Maureen’s note: This passage’s importance is shown when one reads the 1797 entry below.

- “4 Sep; **John WOOD** of Harrison Co to **Benjamin BEAN** of Hardy Co, 9 acres for £10 in the South Branch Manor.”^{6p146}

1797 • “**John Marshall** Conveyances—Names of Grantors of parts of the South Branch Manor, see General Index, Grantors L M under Marshall, page 3 and following, these conveyances starting in 1797 Book A and continue in later deed books as shown in Index.”^{9p18} **Benjamin Bean’s** name is included in this list, which shows that Benjamin’s South Branch Manor land leased in 1783 was in the section subsequently owned by Marshall.

- Under the heading “The End of the South Branch Manor,” author Richard K. MacMaster writes: “Leases on the South Branch Manor ran for 21 years or for three lives, with possession until the death of the longest lived of the three persons named in the deed. This did not give the tenant any real security, especially if he were to make considerable improvements on the land. Many South Branch Manor tenants were men of substance, who built fine homes, barns and other farm buildings.

“Under pressure from his South Branch tenants, Lord Fairfax made new leases which gave the tenant the right of reversion. This meant that the land did not automatically come back into the hand of Lord Fairfax or his heirs at the expiration of the lease, the way a tenant farm or other rental property normally would. The tenant had the right to renew the lease or he could sell that right to someone else. Tenants left their land in the Manor to their heirs in the same way they passed on other property. ...

“Lord Fairfax made a number of new leases in 1779-1780 for land on South Branch Manor and the **Reverend Denny Martin Fairfax also made new leases in 1790-1791**. ...to fifty tenants on South Branch Manor, recorded in Hardy County Deed Book 2. ...New leases were made to...(among the fifty) **Hanson Veatch, David and Job Welton**. ...

“According to the 1801 ‘Returns on South Branch Manor,’ 69 tenants still leased a total of 11,087 acres. Since the Manor had a total acreage of 56,146 acres when Fairfax made his deed to the Marshalls in 1794, it is obvious how much of the South Branch Manor land was sold to tenants within a very short time. ...Most of the unsold manor land was in small tracts, and the average acreage for all tenants in 1801 was only 69 acres. Half of the tenants on South Branch Manor, 35 of 69, leased fewer than 100 acres. This figure can be misleading. ...Some of these small tracts were being purchased by neighboring landowners. ...**Andrew Byrns** who ‘owns the land’ paid arrears of rent to 1799 on 105 acres leased to **Henry Steele**...

“**Benjamin Bean**, ... (followed by more names) made similar settlements of overdue rents on land leased to others.

“**Chief Justice Marshall** began selling land in South Branch Manor in 1797. The list of his deeds over the next few years is a census of those who bought the former Fairfax manor lands. There are no outside speculators. The two surviving rent rolls indicated that all the purchasers were former tenants. They were ...**Benjamin and James Bean**, ...**Andrew Byrns, Michael and Henry Carr**, ...

“The end of South Branch Manor gave permanent ownership of some of the richest land in the state...”¹⁴

Maureen’s note: **Benjamin Bean** was **Hanson Veatch’s** brother-in-law. Kinship of **James Bean** is unknown. **Andrew Byrns** was the brother of **Morgan Byrns**, who married **Benjamin’s** daughter **Mary**.

- 1799** 11 Sep, **Benjamin** was one of three appraisers for the **Peter Kenan** estate.^{6p88}
- 1802** 20 Aug, **Benjamin** was one of four appraisers for the estate of **Joseph Richardson** in Hardy County.^{6p91}
- 1804** August, **Benjamin Bean** was a member of the jury in Hardy County's case against **Johann Peter Shrout** for the murder of his wife, **Anna Clara Feuerbach Shrout**. She died 24 Jul 1804 in Union Township, Hardy County, VA.
 "The Superior Court records of Hardy Co. show: 'At a Court called and held for the County of Hardy on Saturday the 28th of July 1804 for the examination of **Peter Shrout** charged with the murder of **Ann Shrout**. The Prisoner aforesaid was led to the Bar in the custody of the keeper of the jail of this County and the warrant of his commitment being read it was demanded of him whether he was guilty of the murder or not guilty, said he is no wise guilty thereof, whereupon sundry witness were sworn, it is the opinion of the Court that the prisoner is guilty of the murder that he go on trial for the same on the first day of the next District Court held at this place, thereupon he is remained in jail. Peter Shrout plead guilty. Jury: **Ben Bean, John Foley Jr., John Cornell, Andrew Harvey, Wm. Fry, Jacob Hauss, Leonard Huffman, Jacob Huffman, Alex Simpson, Jacob Fisher, Arjalon Price, Solomon Vause**. Prisoner guilty of murder of the first degree.' See Chrisman, Pattie H., *Gamble-Montgomery, History and Genealogy and Connected Families, 1979*, p. 251. The murder and subsequent hanging is graphically detailed and can be found in the Hardy County, WV, Library in Moorefield. 'Hardy County, Virginia, Superior Court Records, Monday 10th, September 1804: **Peter Shrout** again led to the Bar. Sentence of Death pressed against him and that Execution of said deed be made done by the Sheriff of Hardy on the 12th of October next between 10 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon.'" (From *Ancestors of Jeffery Thomas Shrout*, posted at <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/s/h/t/Jeff-Shrout-IN/BOOK-0001/0002-0018.html>)
- 1809** 13 Apr, "**Hanson Veatch, Benj Bean, James Wiley**" conducted an appraisal in Hardy County for the estate of **Elijah Sims**.^{6p98}
- 1811** • 5 Nov, **Benjamin Bean** signed a letter giving his brother-in-law **Hanson Veatch** power of attorney to act on his behalf in obtaining his share of his brother **Carlton Bean's** estate. The document mentions **Benjamin's** sister **Elizabeth Bean Veatch**, their father **George Bean**, and **George's** widow, **Ann Bean**.²
 • 12 Nov, **Benjamin Bean's** account in Hardy County with the **Abraham Clark** estate was settled.^{6p99}
- 1818** 9 Dec, **Benjamin Bean's** account in Hardy County with the **John Scott** estate was settled.^{6p109}
- 1819** 8 Jun, **Benjamin** was among the buyers at **Isaac Welton's** estate sale in Hardy County, along with brother-in-law **Hanson Veatch** and his son **Elijah Veatch**.^{6p109}
- Before 1820** A woman fitting **Rebecca Evans Bean's** approximate age in 1820 is not listed in either of the two 1820 Census records below for a **Benjamin Bean**, so **Rebecca** must have died before the census. She is not listed as an heir in **Benjamin's** 1828 will.
- 1820** 7 Aug, Federal Census, Hardy County, VA, two **Benjamin "Been"** households recorded:
- Household #1
 Free white males—One 16 thru 25 (son **Jesse?** He was unmarried at that time); One 45+ (**Benjamin**, abt. 62)
 Free white females—None, so no wife.
 Two slaves—One 26 thru 44, One 45+
 Two persons engaged in agriculture. Four total in household.
 A **John Bean** of the right age to be **Benjamin's** son was in Hampshire County, VA, but other Bean families lived there, too.
 - Household #2
 Free white males—Two under 10; One 10 thru 15; One 16 thru 18; Two 16 thru 25; One 45+ (**Benjamin** abt. 62)
 Free white females—One 10 thru 15; One 26 thru 44 (Wife **Rebecca**, would have been about 59, unless she had died)
 Five persons engaged in agriculture; no slaves. Eight total in household

Maureen's note: We don't know enough about what **Benjamin's** household may have been like, but it seems to me that Household #1 would be more likely to accurately describe his situation, **UNLESS** a child and his/her family were living with him. In either case, there is no white female in the age category that wife REBECCA would have fit, which would have been 45+.

1828 • 17 Apr, **Benjamin Bean** died in Petersburg, Hardy County, VA⁵ (now in Grant County, WV).

• 13 May, **Benjamin's** will was proved and probate was opened in Hardy County Court.^{9p321} His will named **sons George, John and Jesse; daughters Priscilla Carr and Elizabeth Ferris; and heirs of daughter Mary Byrns.**^{9p321} Sons John and Jesse were named executors; witnesses were **John Clark, Aaron Welton, Thomas Seymour, Hiram Taylor and Job Welton.**^{9p321}

Footnotes:

1. Marriage license:
http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se27/000000/000050/pdf/se270050.pdf#xml=http://172.17.1.92/texis/search/pdfhi.txt?query=%22Benjamin+Bean%22&pr=guide_coll&prox=page&rorder=500&rprox=500&rdfreq=500&rwfreq=500&rlead=500&rdepth=0&sufs=0&order=dd&mode=&opts=adv&cq=&sr=1&id=4cd4eed411
2. Copy in Maureen Gobel's possession of a legal document obtained from *Hardy County, WV, Deed Book 6 1880-1813*, pp. 468-469
3. 1776 & 1790 censuses obtained online through *Ancestry.com* membership
4. **Benjamin Bean's** Family Tree: <http://trees.ancestry.com/owt/person.aspx?pid=34494099>
5. Hanley Family Tree at <http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/9395797/person/1776086794> (Gave ages of children of **George & Mary Gatton Bean**, but no documentation).
6. *Hampshire & Hardy Counties, (W)VA Abstracts* compiled by Larry G. Shuck, Closson Press, Apollo, PA, 1996. Microfilmed by Latter Day Saints.
7. 1820 Federal Census, *Ancestry.com* database
8. *The Clan MacBean in North America*, Vol. III, p. 330. Children's names recorded there, sent to me by a private source: **Priscilla, Elizabeth, John, Jesse, Mary (Polly)**. They also had a daughter **Sarah (Sally)**, according to Footnote 4.
9. *History of Grant and Hardy Counties, West Virginia* by Elvin Lycurgus Judy of Petersburg, WV, Charleston Printing Company, Charleston, WV, 1951. (**Tschudi** was the original name, changed to **Judy**. Page 38)
10. Children's marriages in Hardy County, VA (now WV): <http://www.wvgenweb.org/hardy/harmar.htm>
11. PDF of *Allegheny Passage, Churches and Families, West Marva District, Church of the Brethren, 1752-1990*, by Emmert F. Bittinger, Penobscot Press, Camden, Maine, 1990; THE CACAPON SETTLEMENT: 1749-1800, THE COBERLY FAMILIES, pages 43-44, posted at <http://www.tarvinfamily.org/AlleghenyPassage.pdf>
12. *WE VEITCHES, VEATCHES, VEACHES, VEECHES An Historical Treasury of the Descendants of James Veitch, the Sheriffe* by Laurence R. Guthrie, compiler; editing, additions and index by Wanda Veatch Clark, Midstate Printing, Inc., Redmond, Oregon, 1974; pages 168-170. Supplemental information in Volumes II & III, 1992.
13. *Maryland Records Colonial, Revolutionary, County and Church from Original Sources* by Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh, Volume II, 1928 Baltimore, Maryland, Lancaster Press, Inc., Lancaster, Pa., pp. 303-308 (Benjamin & Thomas' names appeared on p. 308). This book said that this information came from the original Revolutionary Records of Maryland, pp. 25-36. Posted at <http://www.archive.org/stream/marylandrecordsc02brum#page/n9/mode/2up>
14. *The History of Hardy County 1786-1986* by Richard K. MacMaster, ©1986 The Hardy County Public Library, Walsworth Press, Inc. This was a project of the Hardy County Bicentennial Commission, the Hardy County Commission and the Hardy County Public Library Commission. It is well documented with footnotes at the end of each chapter. Fairfax leases, pp. 119-123.
15. Will of **Hanson Veatch**, *Hardy County, VA, Will Book 6*: Will, Page 199; Probate, Pages 207-208, 210-214, 299-300, 337
16. *Virginia Tax Payers 1782-87 Other Than Those Published by the United States Census Bureau*, Augusta B. Fothergill & John Mark Naugle, published in Richmond, 1940; reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1966, p. 8

Researched and summarized by Maureen Veatch Gobel, 11 Jan 2012 (dawyck@diodecom.net)

Maureen welcomes emails from anyone who has **documented** evidence to add to this summary or that would prove or disprove the information provided here.