

Grec family citations from ACV records.

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Extracted from DAVEL and other sources.

Y Dos gen Grec: dossier, 1 envelope, “famille originaire de Moudon et Vevey”. These “dossiers” often consist of family trees drawn by amateur genealogists, without source information. Sometimes they are helpful, sometimes not!

C XV 11/218: Citation of a **Jaquet Grest or Gret**, possibly in the vicinity of Vevey, 1371.

P Loys 2856, 2869, reconnaissances, **Jean Grest l'ainé de Montet** en faveur de Noble Henry de Glane, 1385 (mention also of property held by **Rolet Grest**), and **Jean fils de Jean Gret de Montet**, 1387. (Montet is east of Bressonnaz, on the opposite side of the Broye river. It is part of the modern canton of Fribourg, but in the past was a small fief held successively by several noble families, most importantly, by the Loys family, seigneurs de Villardin, who left extensive archives, now catalogued at the ACV as **P Loys**. Just north of Montet, and to the NE of Bressonnaz, on higher ground, is Chavannes-sur-Moudon (part of the canton of Vaud), and Moudon itself is just to the north of Bressonnaz along the Broye. The Bressonne river is a tributary of the Broye, joining it from the south, at the northern tip of the territory of Bressonnaz. That confluence is also effectively the southern tip of Moudon.) Clearly, there were multiple “Grest” families at Montet in this period.

Fk 2, terrier, reconnaissance by Domina Ysabella de Wlliens (Vulliens) relicta domini Petri de Fernay, 23 apr 1387, fol. 99v, cense owed by **Johannes Gres de Bressona**, one of her subjects, habitator, on properties he had purchased from the tenement of Perrodus filius Auberti de Bressona. Additional properties at Bressonnaz, subject to Ysabella's sister Margareta, are listed on fol. 133, with the information that **Johannes Gres of Montet, the one who settled at Bressonnaz, was the son of Perretus Gres**.

Fn 8, terrier for Ysabella de Williens, 1400, fol. 18, various properties that Johannes Gresc or Grest had purchased from Perrodus de Bressona, essentially the same properties mentioned in the previous terrier Fk 2, in 1387.

(**C VI i 48**, Lausanne area, Aymonet dit Paget autrement Grest de Froideville, 1411, donation to the priory of St. Maire – another “Grec”, Grest, Gret family, no evidence of a relationship, and a possibility that this family took its name from a local place name.)

P Cerjat (I) B 1598, **Jean Gret ? de Bressonnaz** donne un reachept à Jaquet Rachinier d'une pose à Syens pour 4 sols de cens, signed P. Braillar 25 may 1435. (Syens is just to the west of Bressonnaz.)

Fn 316, terrier for obligations to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem of Moudon, “A” section, fol. 9, **Johannes Grest de Bressonnaz**, annual rent or interest of 6 deniers, Die Mercurii ante festum Purificationis Beate Marie Virginis 1438 (likely 28 jan 1439 by the modern calendar,

assuming that the year was being reckoned in the Style of the Annunciation, 1439 beginning on March 25), with marginal notation that the principal had been repaid, Die Jovis festi Sancti Galli Confessoris 1511 by **Glaudius Grest, heir of Johannes** (16 oct 1511).

Fn 20, “rentier” for Humbertus and Guido Cerjat, 1443-1449, mention of **Johannes Grest** owing a small amount of rent, but no location or other details.

(**C V a 2065**, Lausanne, Pierre Pagenet alias Grest, 1452, and scattered references into the 16th Century.)

(**C VI c 190**, Rolet Pagest alias Gret, 1461, Lausanne – various Paget etc. alias Gret, Grest.)

P Loys 7, vicinity of Montet (Sougex ?), mention of **Jean Grest l'ainé**, 1467, apparently in Montet. Georges seigneur de Blonay laude des acquisitions faites par Nicod, fils d'Antoine Dimyere, de **Montet** et ses prédécesseurs, soit la moitié des biens suivants: - des terres en la Rueretaz, en Cubitannaz, en Champ Prandrey, en la Gotaz, en Burbusoz, eys Esterpy, en la Montagnery, en Rosset; - des prés sous le village, en Champ Prandrey, en Melley, en Brolio de **Montet**, en Cubitannaz; - une oche ouz Mellez; - une demi-pose de terre et de chintre de pré en la Vernousaz. Nicod Dimyere a reconnu tenir de Georges de Blonay ces biens qui proviennent de Conod, dit Chappilliod, de **Montet**, de Rolet Grinsoz de **Montet**, de Jeannod fils de Jean de Sougex, de **Jean Grest l'ainé**. Acte scellé par Jean de Genève, seigneur de Lullin, bailli de Vaud, et levé par le notaire Pierre Confignion, citoyen de Genève. Thus, a branch of the Grec family may have remained at Montet.

Fn 316, terrier, see above, reference in 1511 to **Claudius Grest as heir of Johannes Grest**. (Claudius must have been of the age of majority at that date, thus born before 1486.)

DL 43, notarial registers of Michel Frossard, second microfilm, image 773, 25 jun 1518, Petrus Aymonod de Somentier owes **Claudius Grest de Bressonaz** 12 livres for the **dowry of his wife Johanneta**, sister of Petrus Aymonod. (However, Johanneta would have to be the second wife of Claudius, or else there had been a delay of many years in paying the dowry (there are many examples of this happening in the records of the notaries), because his sons the brothers Petrus, Humbertus, Claudius, and Johannes at least (uncertain about the age of Anthonius) had all reached the age of majority (25) by the early 1530's.)

Jean Grest at Moudon in 1523, among the citizens and habitants who were present for a sale of property in 1523, **ACMoudon M58, 2224**.

P Cerjat (I) A 5, fol. 66, 1525: Item, medietatem indivisum ut supra tercie partis unius denarii Lausannensium bonorum census ipsius nobilibus condvisoribus annualis debitis per **Petrum Grest de Bressona** pro et super rebus sequentibus que fuerunt de bonis suis paternis. Essentially the same information in another terrier, **Fk 27**, fol. 651: **Petrus Grest**, properties inherited from his father, at Bressonnaz, subject to Nobilis Petrus filius quondam Nobilis Ludovici filii que quondam Nobilis Guydonis Cerjat burgensis Melduni, 25 apr 1525.

Also in **P Cerjat (I) A 5**, 1525, fols. 298v-301, a surprisingly long section concerning properties held by the same Petrus Grest, that were previously held by Johanneta widow of the late Johannes Grest, which came to her from her father Jaquetus Gonrard, these properties all at **Syens**, just across the river (la Bressone) from the community of Bressonnaz. In the course of the enumeration of these properties, **Petrus Grest is said to be the son of the late Johannes Grest**, but there is no stated connection between the father of Petrus and the late husband of Johanneta Gonrard. The way these passages are worded, both in P Cerjat (I) A 5 and in the other sources cited here, suggests that there were two men called Johannes Grest, one the father of Petrus Grest, the other perhaps his grandfather or uncle. From the context and the citations concerning the history of Syens in this terrier, the Johannes Grest whose wife was Johanneta Gonrard was a figure from the first half of the 15th Century, while the father of Petrus Grest must have lived until about 1500. It is possible there are additional sources for Syens.

Fn 64, circa 1531, not indexed, quernet, fol. 136v **Claudius filius quondam Petri Gres de Brissonaz**, from his paternal estate, also mentioning the (unnamed) heirs and bonatenentes of the late Johannes Gres (relationship to Claudius not stated), and another version of the same reconnaissance in **Fn 65**, fol. 129v.

Fn 65, circa 1531, fol. 129v, **Claudius filius quondam Petri Grest de Bressonaz**, AND fol. 141, **bonatenentes Johannes Grest** – no parentage for this Johannes even hinted at, but could have been a brother of Claudius, or an uncle or grandfather. In any case, the implication *could* be that there were no descendants of this Johannes, and so his properties were in the hands of others, but it seems more likely that that some of his properties had simply been sold to others. The language is ambiguous. After careful comparison, the name is apparently Gres in Fn 64 and definitely Grest in Fn 65. Another version of the same reconnaissance or quernet, likely the original, as it is signed and complete, is in Fn 68, which needs a lot more work.

Jean Grest cited as scindic at Moudon at least 1528-1531, **ACMoudon M58 items**.

DL 33, notarial registers of Rod Demont, various mentions found 1530-1536: **Humbertus son of Claudius Grec, Johannes son of Claudius with wife Perrissona, Petrus son of Claudius married Louisa Jaulnyn, Claudius son of Claudius married Perneta Jaulnyn, and mention of Johannes Grec faber Melduni**. The records of this notary are still being reviewed.

1530: Cited by **de Cérenville, Moudon** (1938), p. 582, a **Jean Grest notaire** admitted to the conseil de Moudon, ref. Registre du conseil B, fol. 6, and noted about the same time as **scindic**, p. 618.

P Loys 539: 13 may 1541: **Jean Gret, bourgeois de Moudon, de Bressonnaz, en son nom et au nom de ses frères**, reconnaît devoir à Claude de Glannaz, donzel, de Moudon, seigneur de Villardin et coseigneur de Denens, en tant que vidomne de Moudon pour les deux tiers du vidomnat de Moudon, la somme de 25 florins de petit poids pour la composition faite concernant les biens de **Humbert Gret, son frère, qui a été exécuté par sentence du bailli de Moudon et du Pays de Vaud**. Il promet de payer la moitié de cette somme à la prochaine Saint-Jean-Baptiste, et l'autre moitié à la Saint-Barthélemy suivante. Témoins: François Pydoux, hôte et bourgeois de Moudon, Etienne Perret de Chambéry, Jaques Fassioz et Claude Decresta, ces deux

derniers officiers de Moudon. Signé: Benoît Nycati, bourgeois de Moudon, juré. (**HUMBERT seems to have been alive as late as 1536**, see **DL 33, records of Roulx Demont, register 3**, fol. 211, 08 may 1536. Note that the extract given here is a summary prepared for the inventory of the ACV. The original document is likely to contain additional details.)

ACMoudon, M58, 2434, Claude Grest de Bressonaz Dessous, bourgeois de Moudon, accensement for the charitable hospital 1545, Benoît Nycati, comme recteur de l'hôpital des pauvres, donne à cense aux enchères à **Cl. Grest**, de Bressonnaz dessous, bourgeois de Moudon, un bois de 3 poses rière Moudon **en la Baumaz**, jouxte le chemin de Moudon à Rue, devers orient, le bois de l'hôpital, devers le vent, la terre dudit Claude des 2 autres côtés; la cense pensionnaire est de 6 quarterons de messel, la directe de 6 deniers.

P Cerjat (I) A 9, fol. 55: 24 oct 1548, Reconnaissance de **Pierre et Anthoine freres filz de feu Claude Grec et des enffans de Claude Grec leur frere de Bressonaz. Pernette vefve de feu Claude Grec leur frere comme tutrice de ses anffans et dudict feu Claude Grec.**

Fn 86, fol. 116: 26 oct 1548, **Les Grec**: Reconnaissance de **Pierre et Anthoine freres filz de feu Claude Grec de Bressonaz Desoub et des enffans de feu Claude Grec le jeusne dudict lieu**; Pierre et Anthoine Grec freres filz de feu Claude Grec et Pernette vefve de feu Claude Grec de Bressonaz Desoub comme usufruituaire es biens dudict son mary et tutrice de ses enffans et dudict Claude Grec son mary, des biens et de la reconnoissance es mains de feu Discret Jehan Luysy pour lors commissaire des presentes extentes, par ledict feu Claude Grec leur pere reconneuz à eux par leurs loyale succession paternelle parvenuz, assavoir les pieces et possessions qui s'ensuivent assises et situés aux village et territoire dudict lieu de Bressonaz Desoub et des Nardyns.

NT 5499 (C XXII NF13982, the original is **C XX 207/395 (Moudon)**, identified by matching all three dates) November 19 and 27 and December 10 1571, Procès verbal de la saisie de gage, subhastation & mise en possession, soit cession volontaire de tous les biens meubles et immeubles de **Pierre Gret le jeune, de Bressonnaz dessus, en qualité d'héritier de feu son père Pierre Gret l'aîné**, situés rière la chatellenie de Moudon & non spécifiés, le tout fait en faveur de Gaspard Luysy, bourgeois de Moudon à la poursuite & en paiement de diverses sommes en deniers & graines spécifiées. The original manuscript needs to be examined.

DL 72, notarial register of Denis Pivard, notary at Moudon, fols. 121-123, 09 mar 1616, settlement between the **heirs and current tenants of Pierre and Claude Grec**, versus Jean Nicod, with some history back to the 1540's. Cites some significant documents, which, however, may no longer exist:

1. Acte des partages faitz entre lesditz quatre freres, receu par feu Egrees Rod Demont et Rod Baudet notaires, le quattresme jour du mois d'Avril l'an mille cinq cens quarante et deux (14 apr 1542). Notarial records of Rodolph Demont (DL 33) have survived, not yet fully indexed, those of Rodolph Baudet have not. Just one echo of the partage has been found so far, DL 33/8 fol. 135, 26 mar 1544, Jean Grec filz de feu Claude Grec de Bressonnaz bourgeois de Moudon has received from Pierre, Antoine, and Claude ses freres et de leur seur (their sister, not named), full satisfaction for the pension due to him from their partage.

2. Eschange par ledict feu Jehan Grec à feu honorable Claude de Marterenges alias Savateyroz predecesseur maternel dudict Jehan Nicod, à forme de la lettre dudict eschange receue et signée par feu Egrege Jaques Creaturaz notaire, en datte du seiziesme jour du mois de Janvier en l'an mille cinq cens quarante et quatre (16 jan 1544). Notarial records of Jaques Creaturaz have not survived.
3. Vendition faicte par le mesme Jehan Grec de Bressonnaz à honorable Antoine Phillipon de l'avoine questionnée comme aussy deniers provenans de ladicte cense, receue par feu Egrege Guillaume Fyvaz notaire en datte du quattresme jour du mois de November l'an mille cinq cens quarante et trois (03 nov 1543). Notarial records of Guillaume Fivaz have not survived.
4. Cession par ledict Phillipon faicte à Antoine Grec, et consequement la remise par ledict Antoine Grec faicte à feu Noble Franceois Cerjat receue par feu Egrege Pierre Decrevel au mois de Fevrier en l'an mille cinq cens cinquante et deux (?? feb 1552). Notarial records of Pierre Decrevel have not survived.
5. Reconnoissance passée par Jehan Luisy et Pierre Grec à Nobles Franceois et Phillippe Cerjat desdicts vingt quatre solz et dix coppes d'avoine procedéz de la pension ou cense contentieuse, ladicte reconnoissance receue et signée par feu Egrege Claude Panchaud, datée du quinziemesme Fevrier l'an mille cinq cens huictante et sept (15 feb 1587). Not found.
6. (And the preceding reconnaissance was) fondée sur une aultre precedente faicte par les Grec es mains de feu Egrege François Collomb. Not found, but Collomb was active in the 1540's.

Relationships: The brothers Pierre, Antoine, Claude, Jean, and Humbert were all sons of Claude, whose (second ?) wife was probably Jeannette Aymonod. Humbert was executed for some unknown infraction in the early years of the Bernese occupation of Moudon (1536-1541), or perhaps at the very end of the Savoyard period; there is no mention of a wife or descendants of Humbert in the records that have been found so far. Pierre certainly left descendants, as did his brother Claude.

The elder Claude was likely the son of a Pierre (died between 1525 and 1528), son of Johannes, who in turn was almost certainly a descendant of a Johannes Grest son of Perretus who is cited at Bressonnaz in 1387 and 1400, and who came from Montet. Filling in the years between the two Johannes may be difficult! However, there is no similar name in the area, so it is unlikely that the Grec, Grest, Gret families found in Bressonnaz and the surrounding communities are unrelated. However, none of the citations found so far tell us which of the Grec brothers from about 1530 left descendants who were still living by 1616, when the settlement among the "bientenants" (i.e., the current tenants) of the properties that had been held by Pierre and Claude Grec was recorded in the records of the notary Denis Pivard.

In the surviving early church records, there are a few scattered mentions of names that might be Grec (i.e., Gre, Grey, etc.) at Syens (some early marriage records survive, but no baptisms), the parish which, at that time, officially included Bressonnaz. The records at Moudon are in much better condition, though clearly not complete. The best sources for additional information will be the records of the notaries of Moudon and the terriers.

At Moudon:

Marriage, 07 mar 1568, Antoine fils de feu Jean Affaroux d'Orzin (=Orsens) vers Iverdon (i.e., near Yverdon) and Antoine fils de feu Claude Grec de Bressona, paroisse de Syen[s]. This couple may have moved to Bussy, a daughter Benoitte Affarau baptised at Moudon 02 jul 1581. (This was probably Antoine son of the younger Claude Grec, son of the elder Claude Grec.)

Baptism 17 apr 1599, Marie daughter of Pierre Grec de Bressonnaz.

Baptisms (Deacon's register), 18 oct 1632, Françoise fille de Pierre Grec et de Anne sa femme; 06 jan 1634, "le mesme jour, une fille à Pierre Grec"; 29 feb 1634, Pierre fils de Jaques Grec...

Additional sources: Scattered mentions of previous land holders at Bressonnaz are found in a terrier Fn 359, dating from 1684-1685. Many of these citations include dates as far back as the 15th Century. There are some mentions of the Grec family, but they do not seem to be among the land holders in 1684. A very close reading will be necessary in order to locate these passages.

There are a few mentions that probably concern this family, under various spellings such as Gre and Grey, at Syens, but the early records there are fragmentary.

The inventory of the ACV says that there may be some references to residents of Bressonnaz in the church records of Mézières as well.

Some of the Grec family can be traced back to a Pierre Gaspard Grec and his wife Marthe Beranger who baptised children between 1698 and 1715. This Marthe came from Pont-en-Royans, in the "parish" of Grenoble, France, according to some of the baptismal records of her children. There is in fact a baptism a for Marthe Beranger at Pont-en-Royans, 18 dec 1673 (born 12 dec 1673), daughter of Bertram Beranger maitre cardier et Françoise Suti sa femme, and the father signed the record, B Berangier. It is likely that her parents fled to Switzerland around 1685, but it is not clear yet where they settled. The most popular destination for the Huguenot refugees were Geneva and Lausanne, but many others are scattered across French-speaking Switzerland and beyond. A "Huguenot census" was compiled by the authorities in Bern, out of concern that the refugees would deplete local resources and would have to be supported by the state, not yet examined for possible references to the Beranger or Berangier family.