

<p>Place Date Language Material Number of texts Type Collections Find/Acquisition</p>	<p><b>The weaver Pausiris and family</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">TM Arch 176. Version 2 (2018) Karolien Geens</p> <p>Oxyrhynchus AD 49-79 Greek papyrus 23 Family archive with private (loan contracts, receipts and repayments of loan) and business papers (registrations of apprenticeship, private letter on business matters, sworn declaration) Ann Arbor, Michigan; Madison, Wisconsin University Acquired in Egypt in 1920</p>
<p><b>Bibliography</b></p>	<p>T. GAGOS - L. KOENEN - B.E. MCNELLEN, 'A First Century Archive from Oxyrhynchus or Oxyrhynchite Loan Contracts and Egyptian Marriage', in J.H. JOHNSON, <i>Life in a Multi-Cultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine and Beyond</i> (Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization 51), Chicago, 1992, p. 181-205.</p>
<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p>The family archive of Pausiris, a weaver who lived in Oxyrhynchus in the second half of the first century AD, consists of 22 documents in the collection of Michigan (inv. 72-94) and 1 in the collection of the Wisconsin University. His surviving papers include those of his brother Dioskous and his father Pausiris Sr. (see App. for a family tree). They were acquired in Egypt in 1920. Most of the papyri are still unpublished.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>The documents in the <b>subarchive of weaver Pausiris sr., son of Ammonios</b>, consisting of 5 papyri (AD 49-62), are all published. <i>P. Mich.</i> III 170-172 are registrations by parents or relatives with officials or tax farmers that they have apprenticed minors to a master weaver. The first, of AD 49, registers an apprenticeship by Pausiris who entrusts his minor son Ammonios to Apollonios, son of Apollonios. According to a second declaration, of AD 58, Helene, daughter of Horion, gives her nephew into apprenticeship with Pausiris Sr. In AD 62, Pausiris makes a second registration of apprenticeship on behalf of his second son Pausiris. All three registrations are probably duplicates kept by Pausiris in his archive. <i>P. Wisc.</i> I 4 is a apprenticeship contract in which Pausiris agrees to give a third minor son, Dioskous, to the above-mentioned weaver Apollonios. <i>P. Mich.</i> X 598 is a receipt for weaver's tax paid by Pausiris in AD 49.</p> <p>The <b>subarchive of Dioskous, Pausiris' brother</b>, consists of 7 documents (AD 60-61) concerning loans of which only 3 are published (<i>P. Mich.</i> III 191-192, 194). <i>P. Mich.</i> inv. 79 is a contract of a loan granted by Thermouthion to her husband Dioskous. <i>P. Mich.</i> III 191-192 are duplicates of another contract of a bigger and longer loan from Thermouthion to Dioskous, drawn up in the office of the <i>agoranomoi</i> in Oxyrhynchus. <i>P. Mich.</i> III 192 was the copy held by Thermouthion and cancelled by her upon repayment of the loan. In this way, the contract becomes a receipt. <i>P. Mich.</i> III 191 remains uncanceled. In both cases the repayment of the loan is preserved (<i>P. Mich.</i> inv. 77; <i>P. Mich.</i> III 194). <i>P. Mich.</i> inv. 78 is a repayment of another loan with interests between members of Thermouthion's family. <i>P. Mich.</i> inv. 80 is a payment for expenses.</p> <p>The papers of Pausiris Sr. and Dioskous were eventually kept in the <b>archive of Pausiris jr.</b> (AD 73-79), together with the latter's own documents, which mainly consists of receipts and repayments of loans issued at the Sarapeum's bank in Oxyrhynchus (<i>P. Mich.</i> inv. 84-92). To be added is a private letter on business matters from Pausiris addressed to his wife Thaesis (<i>P. Mich.</i> inv. 93). Pausiris probably kept his wife's documents in his own archive. <i>P. Mich.</i> inv. 94 is a sworn declaration by Dioskous and Ammonios about their brother</p>

<sup>1</sup> For a diagram of the documents, see GAGOS, KOENEN, MCNELLEN 1992, p. 201-204.

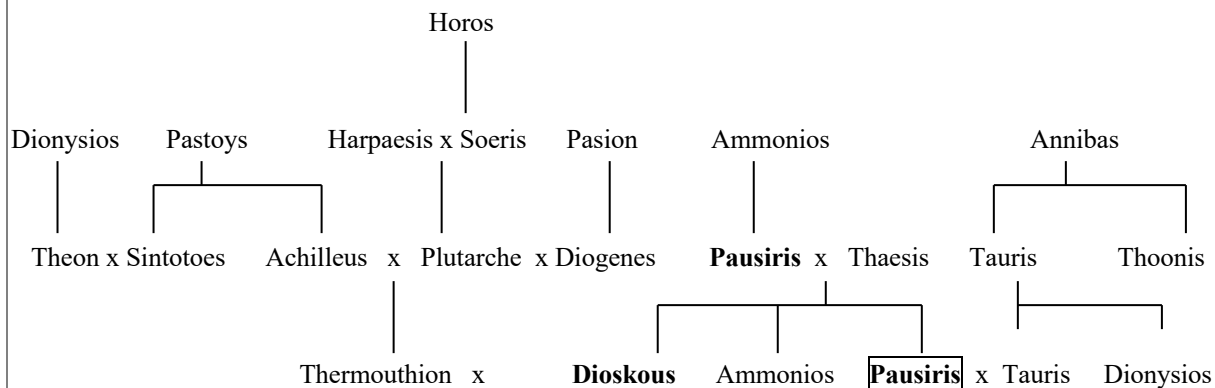
Pausiris staying in Alexandria (AD 79).

The socio-economic significance of the loans in the archive has been discussed by Gagos, Koenen and McNellen 1992: “In the first and second century AD, loans from wives to husbands were relatively common in Oxyrhynchus. The specifics of the loan contracts, issued through banks, *agoranomoi*, and in the form of unnotarized private contracts, were flexible. In a few cases, their economic and social function is visible in stipulations concerning separation during pregnancy or in pledge on part of the debtor that he will give his wife a more formal marriage contract. (...) Only the wife could ask for the return of the money. (...) The need to return the money should have made divorce more difficult for the husband and should have created some security for the woman. (...) In some cases, such loans were preceded by shorter and smaller loans marking a trial period. Sometimes the loan arrangement preceded a marriage contract.”

**Archive texts** *P. Mich.* III 170-172, 191-192, 194; *P. Mich.* X 598; *P. Wisc.* I 4; *inedited: P. Mich.* inv. 77-80, 84-94.

**Text types** Loan contracts, repayments of loan and receipts; registrations of apprenticeship, apprenticeship contract, tax receipt, private letter on business matters, sworn declaration

**Appendix** *Stemma of the family*<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> Based on GAGOS, KOENEN, MCNELLEN 1992, p.181.