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*Pereskia*

*Cactaceae*

*Pereskia* commemorates a French naturalist, astronomer and archaeologist, Nicolas-Claude Fabri de Peiresc (1580-1637) who, it is noted, was the first Frenchman to view monuments in terms of their history, and he also discovered the Orion nebula in 1610. He studied fossils as well, and was a patron of art and science.