

# Turnbull Surname Meaning, History & Origin

Excerpt. "Andrew Turnbull in Florida.

Andrew Turnbull, a Scottish physician from Melrose in Roxburghshire, had married the daughter of a wealthy Smyrna merchant. Her money enabled him to mix in London political circles and to secure some large land grants in the new and unsettled territory of Florida. In 1767 he assembled 1,400 putative **colonists** recruited from a number of Mediterranean countries and they set off for Florida in eight vessels.

Turnbull named his new **colony** New Smyrna after the birthplace of his wife. But his inability to produce marketable crops in quantities large enough to satisfy his investors cost him their support, as well as that of the British government. Half of his colonists died in the next ten years. The end of the New Smyrna **colony** came in 1777 when the plantation was virtually abandoned by most of the surviving **colonists** who fled to the safety and security of St. Augustine.

In the inevitable accusations and lawsuits that followed the settlement's demise, Dr. Turnbull was temporarily imprisoned but then released. He and his family moved to Charleston on the South Carolina coast, where he lived out the remainder of his life."

[Turnbull Surname Meaning, History & Origin | Select Surnames](#) A gruesome story on this website reads: *"A Turnbull Vanquished at Halidon Hill. Before the Battle of Halidon Hill in 1333, a champion on the Scottish side, a huge man named Turnbull, accompanied by his huge black mastiff, approached the English host and challenged anyone to single combat. Sir Robert Benhale, a Norfolk knight, answered the challenge. He started by killing the mastiff. This evidently disconcerted Turnbull and the Englishman sliced off his arm and then his head. He returned to the English host with the trophy of Turnbull's head."*

If you wish to see some of the illustrious members of the Turnbull family take a look at this link. Some great people. [Who's Who \(turnbullclan.com\)](http://turnbullclan.com)

## **Family: Maria Gracia Du Robin and Dr. Andrew Turnbull**

Jean Baptiste Du Robin & Flora Du Robin---Parents of Maria Gracia Du Robin

Their daughter Maria Gracia Du Robin (1736-1798) Married Dr. Andrew Turnbull (1720-1792) on 22 August 1753 in Izmir, Turkey.

### Their Children Were:

\*Walter Turnbull (1754-????)

Jane Turnbull (1754-1756)

Nichol Turnbull (1756-1824)

Katherine Turnbull (1758-1758)

Maria Gracia Turnbull (1759-1814)

Jane (Jenny) Turnbull (1760-1838)

Helen Turnbull (1763-1763)

Margaret Turnbull (1763-1848)

Flora Gordon Turnbull (1766-1766)

William Duncan Turnbull (1770-1848)

Robert James Turnbull (1774-1833)

John Turnbull (1775-1837)

Source: All Our Kin **The Genealogy of our Collective Families!**

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\*Walter Turnbull does not show up everywhere and if he was born in 1754, he and Jane must have been twins. Jane only lived two years. He could also have died early.

“They migrated to the colony of British East Florida in 1768 where her husband established the colony of New Smyrna with 1300 Greek settlers. Three of their children were born here and the colony was occupied until 1777. Gracia is regarded in the United States as having been Greek. She did have some Greek ancestry and almost certainly spoke English, French, Greek and Italian. The Levantine Community in Turkey was very cosmopolitan. No details have been found for her Greek ancestors and her parents were regarded as French.” Source: [Gracia Maria \(Robin\) Turnbull \(1736-abt.1798\) | WikiTree FREE Family Tree](#)