

[http://www.weirdus.com/states/florida/ancient\\_mysteries/new\\_smyrna\\_ruins/](http://www.weirdus.com/states/florida/ancient_mysteries/new_smyrna_ruins/)

During the second Spanish period, which began in 1783, Dr. Ambrose Hull moved down from Connecticut and under a colonization deal offered by Spain, received a grant in 1801 for 2,600 acres including the site that is now Old Fort Park. Hull began preparing his land for growing sugar and cotton but he suffered a major setback when Indians attacked his plantation. By 1803 a new settlement had evolved at New Smyrna that had a population of 500 to 600 settlers. Hull referred to the location of the ruins as "Mount Olive" because of the olive trees that had been planted there during the Turnbull colonization. I

In his History of New Smyrna, Gary Luther writes that in 1776 a group of Englishmen from St. Augustine visited New Smyrna "to see the improvements, especially a very large stone building that was commenced for a mansion house." Luther adds, "Work was never completed because nearly all of the colonists, freed from their indentures, fled to St. Augustine in 1777." Does this mean that the ruins are the remains of a foundation for an unfinished mansion? Perhaps Turnbull's palace? In 1778, following the collapse of the Smyrna colony, Andrew Turnbull moved his family to Charleston, South Carolina.