

## Scope and Content

This microfilm collection of the *Washington Irving Papers* is an amalgamation of several previously separate collections, including the Isaac N. Seligman Collection, the George S. Hellman Collection, the Duyckinck Collection, and the Washington Irving Papers (all other materials acquired by the NYPL Manuscripts and Archives Section). The contents of these collections have been interfiled and divided into the following six series:

Series I, **Literary Manuscripts**, includes holograph drafts, manuscripts, revisions, and notes for many of Irving's literary and historical works. Series II, **Notebooks**, contains personal and literary notes made between 1807 and 1844. Many, however, are undated and are similar in character to some of the literary manuscripts.

Series III, **Journals**, contains Irving's diaries kept between 1804 and 1842, which include descriptions of his travels in the United States and abroad. Among the journals are two personal account books and one account book for the American embassy in Spain (April–October 1842). Series IV, **Letters**, consists of Irving's letters to and from family, friends, and colleagues, as well as correspondence and other documents signed in his capacity as chargé d'affaires of the American legation in London and president of the Astor Library. Of particular note are the more than 125 letters exchanged between Irving and his closest friend, Henry Brevoort, Jr. Other correspondents include Thomas Aspinwall, Joseph G. Cogswell, Alexander H. Everett, Edward Everett, Gouverneur Kemble, Charles R. Leslie, Gilbert Stuart Newton, William H. Prescott, and Gulian Verplanck.

Series V, **Genealogy**, and Series VI, **Memorial** are located on the last roll of microfilm.