

# Henry Van Brunt Travel Diary

This diary is part of several that architect Henry Van Brunt kept while traveling in Europe in the early 1900s.

## Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Henry Van Brunt  
**Title:** Henry Van Brunt diary  
**Dates:** 1901  
**Size:** 1 diary  
**Location:** SC31-1

## Administrative Information

**Restrictions on access:** Unrestricted access.

**Acquisition information:** Gift, circa 1960s, Dr. William J. Cassidy.

**Citation note:** Henry Van Brunt diary (SC31-1), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

## Collection Description

### **Biographical/Historical note**

Henry Van Brunt, 1832-1903, was born in Boston, Massachusetts and graduated from Harvard. He was a well known architect, first in Boston then coming to Kansas City in 1887. The firm of Van Brunt & Howe designed buildings in Kansas City and throughout the country. Buildings in Kansas City included the Emery, Bird, Thayer building, Coates House Hotel, Bryant building, Gibraltar building, etc.

### **Scope and content note**

Kansas City architect Henry Van Brunt apparently kept a multi-volume diary while traveling in Europe in the early 20th century. This handwritten, bound, one volume diary is titled "Notes of Journey/Vol. XI/Henry Van Brunt." It is dated March 9, 1901 - April 11, 1901 and contains approximately 200 pages, measuring 4 1/2" x 6 1/2." It was a gift to the Kansas City Public Library and the donor, Dr. William J. Cassidy, purchased it at an auction and was unable to get any other volumes.

The travel notes included in this volume were taken in France, England and Ireland with the last entry written at sea during the return voyage. It begins with Geneva to Lyons and includes descriptions of Avignon, Nimes, Orange, London, etc. Additional information on Mr. Van Brunt may be found in the department's Local History Database, including a biography of him.

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, July 1992.