

**Break a vase, and the love that reassembles the fragments is stronger than that love that took its symmetry for granted when it was whole.**

Derek Walcott, "The Antilles: Fragments of Epic Memory"  
*The New Republic*, December 28, 1992

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**Cover:** A settlement-era drawing conveys a clear sense of the park-like aspect of the oak savannas of the upper Midwest, but provides little information about vital details such as understory composition, soils, and fire-frequency. Attempts to restore examples of this vanishing ecosystem have led to a lively debate over these matters, which continues in this issue of R&MN (see lead story). The drawing is one of 16 landscape sketches made by German artist Adolph Hoeffler during a visit to southern Wisconsin in the summer of 1852. *Courtesy of Wisconsin State Historical Society*