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ON THE COVER: A plan of Irasburgh, Vermont, 1792, courtesy of the Wilbur Collection, University of Vermont Library. Eighteenth-century American surveyors adapted European tree lore to their own unique environment, classifying land as "Good," "Middling" and "Bad" according to the species of tree they found thriving there. See "Fair Fields and Blasted Rock: American Land Classification Systems and Landscape Aesthetics," by John R. Stilgoe, pages 21-33.

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