



Map Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Natural Resources Geographic Information Systems Library," <http://www.igsb.uiowa.edu/nrgislibx/>.

Morning Sun

Settlement Patterns

Bioregional Context
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Settlement Patterns
This board uses maps from A.T. Andreas' *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa, 1875* overlaid with present-day town boundaries and water bodies. Published in 1875, Andreas' Atlas is an extraordinary resource showing the post-Civil War landscape of Iowa including settlement features (towns and villages, churches, schools, roads, railroads, etc.) and landscape features (water bodies, vegetated patches such as "timber" and "swamp," and major topographic features.) High-quality scans of the Atlas have been arranged to correspond closely with present-day maps revealing major landscape changes as well as features that have persisted, such as railroad rights-of-way and in some cases remnant vegetation patches.

Morning Sun in Context
Compare the 1875 boundaries of your town to the current boundaries. How much has your town grown?
Compare the course of the rivers in 1875 to their current course, are there major changes in alignment or location? Are there vegetation patches shown in the 1875 map still in existence?