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The Danish Brotherhood in America, begun in Omaha in 1882 as a fraternal, social and insurance organization for Danish immigrant men, saw the rapid formation of local branches or lodges wherever significant groups of Danes were found. Dannebrog Lodge No. 175 was organized in Jacksonville, Iowa, in August of 1903, with 41 members. At the same time local residents formed the Dannebrog Hall Company, with shares sold to the public, in order to erect a gathering place for the lodge and other community events. An "auxiliary building" (outhouse) and barn were also built, so that while the people enjoyed themselves their horses might be sheltered and comfortable. As well as serving as a venue for lodge functions, the downstairs was rented out for such varied events as dances, wrestling and boxing matches, debates, silent movies, and club meetings, providing income for the lodge's financial assistance programs. In the late 1920s the hall ceased paying dividends and the company was dissolved. The two-story building then passed through several hands and was moved before finally being demolished in 1978. Dannebrog Lodge No. 175 membership reached 130 in this small rural community. Although it later extended its membership criteria to include anyone related to or of Danish heritage, its membership declined, as was the case with many of its fellow lodges, as Danish immigration tapered off following changes in immigration law in the mid-1920s. The lodge was formally disbanded on January 1, 1972, with its two remaining members, Laurits "Lars" Sorensen and Peter B. M. Sorensen, transferred to Lodge No. 600 in Omaha, Nebraska.

The Family History & Genealogy Center has in its collection indexed membership records for the over 350 lodges formed as part of this immigrant fraternal organization, a valuable genealogical source for those with Danish ancestry.