

Interview Abstract



Interviewee: **BRIGID DENNISTON**

Interviewer: Judy Hinsley

Date recorded: 29 January 2024

Abstractor: Margaret Bennie and Suzanne MacKenzie

File 01

00:16:45	Describes how father Leslie Hunter Denniston came to Central Otago after WW1. Father lived in Sod Cottage in Fruitlands. Learned about fruit growing. 1928 married Gabrielle Spain from Earnsclough Homestead. Describes living in large house at Earnsclough Station with family (10 people altogether). Refers to christening celebration at Earnsclough with her twin brother Hunter. Recalls grandfather Stephen Spain and his business acumen. Speaks of life during the depression and WW11. Work on the Station, childrens' activities e.g. horse riding, trapping and skinning rabbits. Remembers the flat roof of the Earnsclough Homestead and the accident that befell her twin brother. Recalls school bus to Alexandra on frosty mornings. Remembers swaggers coming to Earnsclough and the work of feeding musterers and shearers. Describes the family sadness of selling the property to Maurice Mulvena in 1948 and the satisfaction felt now that the new owners Marcos Creemers and Ryan Sanders are making Earnsclough Castle a special place 2026.
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