

NZAR ID No 55, ARM TYPE: BAYONET, Draft date (V1) 9 April 2012, Compiled by Phil Cregeen

Pattern (Name) Ross Mk II Sword Bayonet, Introduced into New Zealand Service 1915, Withdrawn Post WWII
Length OA 14.7 in (373mm), Blade 10.0 in (254mm), MRD 16.5 mm, Scabbard 11.2 in (284mm)

Wooden grips secured by two screws, Brown leather scabbard with integral frog, steel locket and internal chape.



Ross Mk II Modified bayonet and scabbard

The Ross Mk II Bayonet was developed for the Canadian Ross Mk II** .303 Rifle but was mostly used on the Mk III Rifle. It was approved in May 1912 and manufactured by the Ross Rifle Company, Quebec, Canada. In 1915 the bayonet was modified by reshaping the point of the blade to improve penetration and minor changes to the pommel.



New Zealand Service

When NZ home based military arms supplies ran out in 1915-16 NZ land forces travelled to Europe unarmed, when they arrived they were issued with small arms and ammunition, B Company, Wellington Infantry Battalion were issued with the .303" Ross m1910 MKIII rifles & bayonets.

300 Ross Rifles were issued to the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy, which became the RNZN in 1941.

Ross rifles and bayonets were used by the Home Guard in WWII.

They were sold as surplus in the 1970s.

Acknowledgements: Photo Phil Cregeen

John Osborne

References: British & Commonwealth Bayonets by ID Skennerton & R Robertson.