

NZAR ID No 57, ARM TYPE: BAYONET, Draft date (V1) 10 April 2012, Compiled by Phil Cregeen

Pattern (Name) 1907 Mk I Sword Bayonet, Introduced into New Zealand Service 1912, withdrawn Post WWII

Length OA 21.75 in (552mm), Blade 17.0 in (432mm), MRD 16.5 mm, Scabbard 17.9 in (455 mm)

Wooden grips secured by two screws, fullered blade, Black or brown leather scabbard with steel locket and chape.



Top: Pat 1907 Bayonet with hooked quillion, Bottom: Pat 1907 post 1913 both with No 1 Mk II scabbards

Top made by Mole and bottom made by Sanderson

The combined length of the Short Magazine Lee Enfield Rifle and Pat 1903 bayonet was considered by many to be too short. This led to trials in 1906-07 of several different longer blade designs including the Pat 1895 triangular bayonet, the US M 1905 bayonet and the Japanese Type 30 Arisaka bayonet. The result of these trials was the selection of a design that closely copied that of the Japanese bayonet and resulted in the Pattern 1907 with a 17 in single edged fullered blade and a distinctive hooked quillion to the cross guard.

Approved in January 1908 production commenced at RSAF Enfield that year. The bayonet was also made by contractors: Wilkinson, Mole, Sanderson, Chapman and Vickers, Lithgow in Australia, Ishapore in India and by Remington in the USA. Manufacture of this bayonet continued through to WW II and the total numbers produced ran into several Million.

Initially manufactured without an oil hole in the pommel, this was introduced in 1916. In October 1913 a modification to the design of the bayonet resulted in the hooked quillion being deleted, many previously manufactured bayonets had the hook removed during subsequent repair consequently these bayonets are now quite scarce. This change did not lead to a change in mark of the bayonet

New Zealand Service



Marking on a NZ issued bayonet manufactured by Wilkinson in 1918

New Zealand imported 8,000 SMLE Mk III rifles and Pat 1907 bayonets in 1912 and a further 2,000 in 1913, which were issued to Artillery and Mounted Rifles units. The infantry remaining armed with the MLE and Pat 1888 bayonet.

Infantry units eventually acquired the SMLE and Pat 1907 bayonet when they arrived overseas to fight in the Great War.

After WW I Pat 1907 bayonets returned with troops or were imported from Britain although some of Australian manufacture have been reported. New Zealand troops were equipped with Pat 1907 bayonets until their SMLEs were replaced by the No 4 rifle during and after WW II.

The Pat 1907 bayonet also fitted the Lanchester Mk I SMG and was used by the RNZN until the early 1970s.



Australian, Lithgow made bayonet with an alternative brown leather scabbard & round frog stud.

Acknowledgements: Photos Phil Cregeen

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

Appendices to the Journal of the House of Representatives <http://atojs.natlib.govt.nz>