

NZAR ID No 61, ARM TYPE: BAYONET, Draft date (V1) 11 April 2012, Compiled by Phil Cregeen

Pattern (Name) 1913 Mk I Sword Bayonet, for P14 Rifle, Introduced into New Zealand Service 1916,
withdrawn Post WWII

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

Identical to the Pat 1907 except for a longer cross guard to allow fitting to the rifle barrel.

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



Top: Pat 1913, bottom: Pat 1907, both made by Remington



Marking on Remington made Pat 1913 (left) and Pat 1907 (right)

Note longer cross guard on P 13.

In 1910 Britain began development of a smaller calibre rifle (.276 in) based on the Mauser action and in 1912 Enfield produced 1,251 rifles and bayonets for troop trials. However problems were experienced with the new cartridge and with the outbreak of war in 1914 the project was abandoned. Plans were put in place to manufacture the new rifle in .303 calibre and Vickers were contracted to make the new rifle, designated Pattern 1914, and bayonet Pattern 1913. However following production problems, manufacture by Vickers was abandoned in 1915 and Remington and Winchester in the USA were contracted to make the P 14 Rifle and P 13 bayonet. The first American rifles and bayonets were completed in January 1916. The bayonets are marked 1913, date of manufacture and the manufacturers name on the ricasso with British inspection marks. When the Americans adopted the rifle in 30.06 it became the M1917, these bayonets are marked 1917, carry US inspection marks but are otherwise identical to the P 13.

Production of the P 13 bayonet was: Enfield Trials, 1,200 Vickers 1,500, Winchester 225,000, Remington 1,243,000.

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, P14s served from 1916 and as a sniper rifle from late in WWI. After WWI the Military P14 rifles came to NZ with the returning forces and were held in store. In WWII some P14s fitted with scopes saw service as Sniper rifles, used for training and issued to NZ Home Guard or held in reserve. The P14s were declared obsolete from the late 1940s but still held in store. In the 1960s - 70s the NZ military P14s were sold off as surplus.

Acknowledgements: Photos Phil Cregeen

John Osborne

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