

Pattern: 1853 & 58 Artillery Carbine Sword Bayonet, Introduced into NZ Service 1858, Withdrawn by 1896
Length OA 28.1 in (714mm), Blade 22.8 in (579mm), MRD 20.5 mm, Scabbard 23.5 in (597 mm)

This bayonet features a curved (yataghan) fullered blade with early models having a brass hilt, while from 1855 they had a steel hilt and leather grips secured by 3 rivets. The locking spring is secured by a rivet on the Pat 53 and a screw on the Pat 58. Both types have an all steel scabbard.



Top: Pat 53 2nd type (non interchangeable), Bottom: Pat 58 (interchangeable)



Note: the extended mortise slot on the Pat 53(top) to engage a forward extension of the bar on barrel, this was omitted from 1858.

Bayonets were initially manufactured by the Birmingham & London trade and Belgium/Solingen contractors. Production at Enfield commenced sometime after 1858. The changes to the pattern in 1858 also meant that the Enfield made bayonets were interchangeable with the Pat 58 Enfield Short Rifle.

These bayonets were also used for the carbines and short rifles converted to Snider breech loading system and new made MK III Snider Artillery carbines. Volunteer versions of this bayonet were also made by private contractors.

New Zealand Service

The Pattern 1853 Artillery Sword Bayonet was first introduced in New Zealand in 1858 when the Royal Artillery Regiment was equipped with the Pat 53 Artillery Carbines. It was later issued to other British regiments serving in New Zealand, Armed Constabulary and Volunteer Units armed with the Artillery Carbine, Enfield Short Rifle and Snider Short Rifle as well as the Snider Artillery carbine. The bayonets were withdrawn from service when the Sniders were finally replaced by Martini Henrys in 1896.

Acknowledgements: photos provided by Phil Cregeen

Reference: *British & Commonwealth Bayonets* by ID Skennerton & R Robertson.

Appendices to the Journal of the House of Representatives <http://atojs.natlib.govt.nz> H19