Rare Revenues
Passport Fee stamps

Paul Woods

References
1. G.I. Robertson Stamps Overprinted “Passport Fee.” Printings & Usage. NZ Stamp Collector December 1995 and Further Notes – September 2015
2. The Postage Stamps of New Zealand Vol VI
3. KIWI Catalogue & Handbook of New Zealand Revenue and Railway Stamps 7th Ed. Appendix VIII

Passports - History

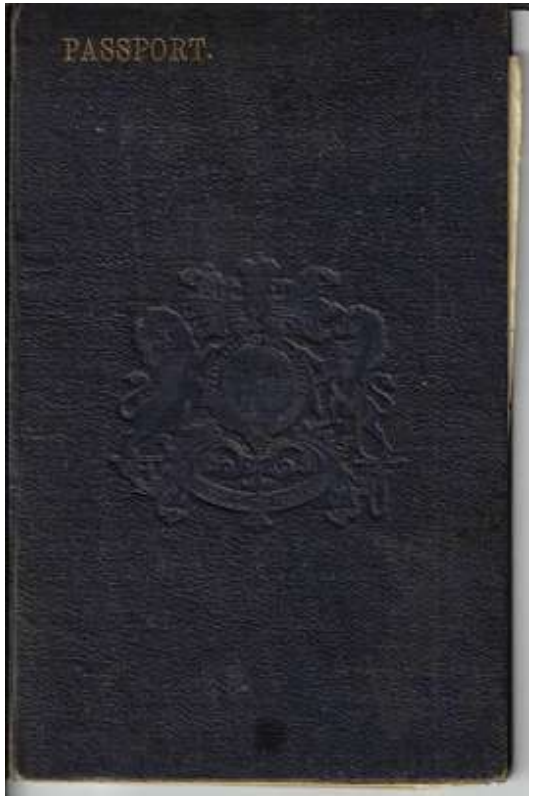
Documents offering ‘safe passage’ and ‘letters of introduction’ were mention in Hebrew Bible in c 450BC and also in Magna Carta 1215AD.

The term "passport" comes from - a document required in order to **pass** through the gate (or "**port**e") of a city wall or to pass through a territory.

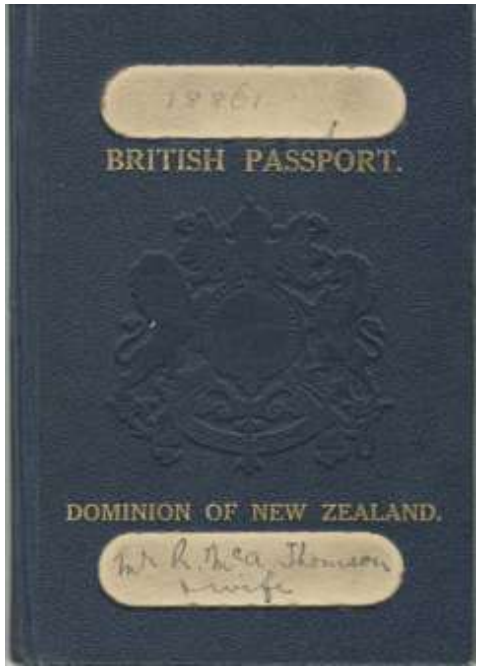
1891 British Government gave colonies and dependencies power to issue ’passports’.

1915 Hard Blue covered passports issued – contained a large folded document sheet. Needed by travelers during WW1.

1923 Passport ‘book‘ format Introduced



111mm x 173mm



107mm x 155mm

First Passport design with two renewal ‘PASSPORT FEE’ Stamps







525mm x 338mm

First type Passport issued to Mrs Mary Cook (aged 64) on 24 August 1920 for 2 years costing 10/-, for a trip via India to Britain and to Switzerland. It was renewed on 14 April 1927 to expire on 24 August 1928. The six year extension from the original expiry date cost 6/- requiring two PASSPORT FEE stamps.

Second Passport design with two renewal ‘PASSPORT FEE’ Stamps



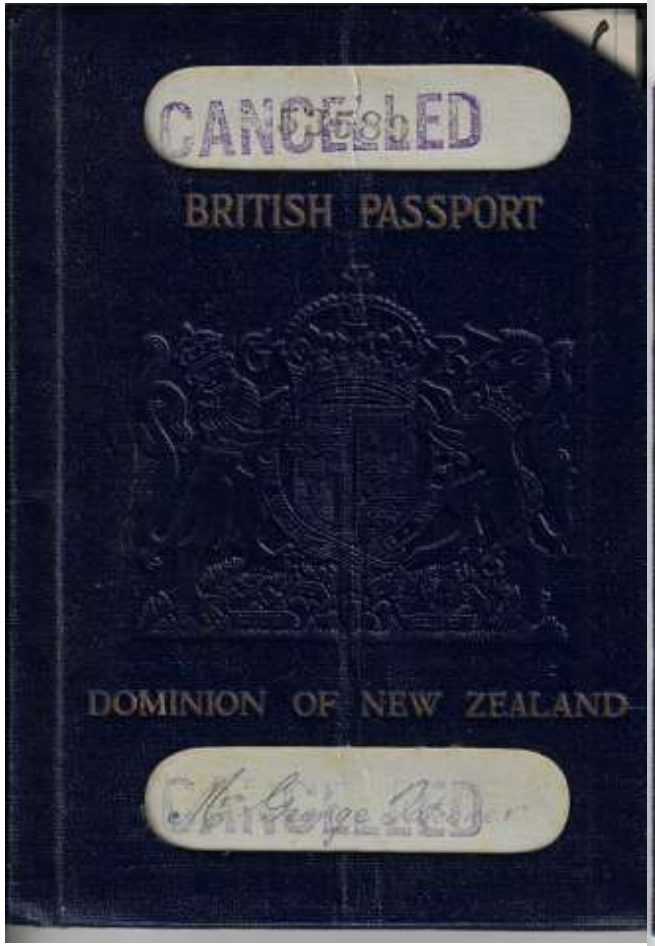




Second type Passport issued on 5 February 1923 for 2 years costing 10/-. Renewed in March 1927 until 5 February 1928 at a cost of 3/- for a 3 year extension - paid with two Passport Fee stamps.

1931 Passport and 10/- Arms Fee Stamps

In 1930 the cost of a Passport was 20/- and was valid for five years. They could be renewed for a further 5 years at 2/- for each year.







Passport Fee Stamps

In 1915 the cost of a Passport was 10/- and was valid for two years. They could be renewed for 2/- for each 2 year period - up to 4 times (8 years). Stamps were attached to the passport to show the renewal fee. In January 1926 special overprinted “PASSPORT FEE” stamps were introduced to help account for fee income. By then passports were valid for 5 years and could be renewed for another 5 years.

This piece of passport shows a 5/- QV Long Type stamp applied in 1925, (the year before the overprints were applied) paying a 5 year renewal fee. It was renewed in 1930 for 3 years with the two George V passport fee overprint stamps.



This piece of passport shows a late use In May 1936 of a 4/- QV Long Type stamp and two 2/- GV stamps paying a 4 year renewal fee of 8/- (2/- a year).



Passport Fee Stamps







Number of Passport Fee stamps printed by Type, Value and Year									
	Jan-26	Jan-27	Dec-30	Dec-33	May-35	Feb-37	May-37	Jul-38	Total
KGV 1sh.	1,200	6,000							7,200
KGV 2sh.		4,000			800				4,800
QVLT 2sh.	1,200								1,200
QVLT 4sh.			1,200						1,200
QVLT 5sh.	1,200	3,000							4,200
QVLT 10sh.			1,200						1,200
Arms 4sh.				800	800	800		1,600	4,000
Arms 10sh.					800	800		1,600	3,200
1935 Cook 2sh.							1,140		1,140

Ref 1



FAKE example of 1937 overprinted 2/- Captain Cook stamp. Real examples not seen - so extremely **RARE.**