

The Sussex Combined Services - Armoury

The Armoury

The Redoubt's Armoury is home to a large collection of weapons, from muskets to machine guns! Some very rare weapons are displayed amongst the 22 handguns, 18 rifles/muskets, 4 machine guns, 4 sub-machine guns, and an anti-tank rifle. Also on display is an array of bayonets, hand grenades and small arms ammunition of assorted calibres and periods.

The main display contains First World War machine guns, the reliable British Vickers Gun, and its German counterpart, the MG08. Examples of the latter (and a modified version, the MG08/15) were captured by the 9th Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment during the fighting at Ravine Wood, in June 1917.

Also captured were two German anti-tank rifles, known as 'Tankgewehrs'. These were no more than an enlarged copy of the standard German rifle, but firing an enormous 13mm bullet! These rifles were very heavy, but could penetrate the armour of the newly developed tanks then in service.

The armoury also contains some model battlefield dioramas, including a model of a British First World War trench system.

