

= Reina Victoria Eugenia @-@ class battleship =

The Reina Victoria Eugenia class was a class of three battleships of the Spanish Navy authorized as the Plan de la Segunda Escuadra under the Navy Law of 1913 . The class , as well as the lead ship , were named for King Alfonso XIII 's English queen consort , Victoria Eugenie of Battenberg . The other two ships were classified as " B " and " C " . It was supposed to be designed by Vickers @-@ Armstrongs , and built by John Brown . The ships were never built due to Britain 's involvement in World War I , which halted all foreign projects being constructed in British yards .

= = Background = =

Following disastrous losses in the Spanish ? American War of 1898 , Spain lacked the money to rebuild its navy , so it was not until the Navy Law of 7 January 1908 that a new program authorizing three new battleships , the España class (España , Alfonso XIII , and Jaime I) , along with other ships , was passed . The delay enabled Spain to take advantage of experience gained by Britain with the world 's first commissioned dreadnought , HMS Dreadnought , and by the United States with its first dreadnought , USS South Carolina . As Spain was incapable of building the España class herself due to a lack of resources , Armstrongs were contracted for the design and John Brown for the construction of the shipyard and ships themselves .

A second Navy Law was passed in 1912 named the Plan de la Segunda Escuadra (Second Squadron Plan) . It called for , among several other ships , three dreadnoughts to supplement the España class . These dreadnoughts were named the Reina Victoria Eugenia class . They were to be laid down in 1914 and 1915 and completed around 1920 .

= = Design history = =

The class consisted of three ships , Reina Victoria Eugenia , the lead ship , and two others named B and C. The lead ship was named after King Alfonso 's English wife . They were designed by Vickers @-@ Armstrongs and were planned to displace 21 @,@ 000 long tons (21 @,@ 000 t) with a speed of 21 knots (39 km / h ; 24 mph) . Early plans for the type called for an armament of four twin 15 @-@ inch (380 mm) guns ; however , financial difficulties resulted in the selection of an armament of four twin 13 @.@ 5 @-@ inch (340 mm) guns instead , which still would have had a longer range than most contemporary ships . The secondary armament would have been 20 6 @-@ inch (150 mm) guns . Other specifications of the ships were never decided upon , although it is probable that they would have resembled contemporary British ships , with two closely spaced funnels along with super @-@ imposed turrets fore and aft .

As with the España @-@ class battleships , significant technical assistance from Britain would have been required . The outbreak of the First World War led to both the delay of the España class and the cancellation of the Reina Victoria Eugenia project . Since Spain did not sign the Washington Naval Treaty , whose signatories were forced to limit their ships to no more than 35 @,@ 000 tons , the class was available for future Spanish governments to construct , either as a main ship or as support to other planned designs , like a possible Littorio @-@ class battleship or a ship based on the Gneisenau . However , the class was never constructed .