

Pattern (Name) 1840 Socket Bayonet for Constabulary Carbine, Introduced in New Zealand, c1858, withdrawn ??
Length OA 16.8 in (427mm), Blade 12.8 in (325mm), Socket 3.1 in (79 mm), MRD 21.2 mm, SM 1.4 in (36mm)
Triangular flat top blade hollow ground on the two lower sides. 3 motion slot in socket with Lovell lug.
This bayonet has a distinctive spring catch on the top face of the blade to secure it in the scabbard.
Black leather scabbard with brass locket, with groove for spring catch in the lip, and chape.



Top view showing slot for spring catch, which is missing in this example.



Socket, showing 3 motion slot and Lovell Lug. Note slot for spring catch (missing) and Lovell catch on carbine

Introduced in 1840 by George Lovell for the Pattern 1840 Constabulary Carbine the socket had a rounded collar for the Hanoverian catch but from 1844 was made with the lug for the Lovell catch, as shown above. It also included a special spring catch on the top face to prevent it being easily pulled from the scabbard (missing in this example) These bayonets were manufactured from 1840 by the Birmingham Trade, which included such makers as: Aston, Hill, Deakin, Heighington, Roe, and Salter. The Constabulary Carbine was initially set up for Irish orders but was used by Police forces in Britain and the colonies.

New Zealand Service

In 1858 New Zealand purchased 120, Pattern 1840 smooth bore Constabulary Carbines with bayonets for use by foot police of various provincial police forces.

Acknowledgements: photos provided by John Osborne

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