

In the Victorian era, British Police carried truncheons or batons about one-foot long. The truncheon acted as the Policeman's 'Warrant Card' as the Royal Crest attached to it indicated the Policeman's authority.

Policing in New Zealand started in 1840 with the arrival of the New South Wales Mounted Police (similar to the Royal Irish Constabulary) accompanying Lt. Governor Hobson during the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. Many of New Zealand's first police were ex military and /or had served in Ireland or Australia

Examples of Batons used by Police in New Zealand



Canterbury Provincial Constabulary Baton c1868. New Zealand Provincial Governments 1853 - 1877



New Zealand Constabulary Baton c1880. New Zealand Constabulary 1877 - 1886



New Zealand Provincial Constabulary West Coast North Island carved Whale Bone Maori Police Baton 375mm c1870



New Zealand Provincial Constabulary West Coast North Island carved Maori Police Baton 420mm c1880



New Zealand Provincial Constabulary West Coast North Island carved Totara Maori Police Baton 440mm c1890



New Zealand Police hard wood Baton for foot use c1890



New Zealand Police hard wood Baton for foot use c1890



New Zealand Police hard wood Baton for mounted use c1890