

COBOURG 1837

BECOMING INCORPORATED WAS A LOT MORE COMPLICATED

Cobourg had scarcely become a Police Village when more elaborate plans emerged. According to local historian Percy Climo,

THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IN SEEKING INCORPORATION GOES LIKE THIS:

- 1832** **Dec. 28**, the first "official" discussion of Incorporation, including the annexing of the Village of Amherst.
- 1834** **Feb. 15**, resolutions are passed in detail petitioning the Legislature for Incorporation. The Village of Amherst not included.
Feb. 17, another group of citizens gathers to **strongly oppose rushing Incorporation.**
- 1835** **Jan. 7**, residents of both Cobourg and Amherst support a **petition for the two villages to be incorporated.**
Mar. 11, the *Cobourg Elective Police Bill* receives first reading in the House.
- 1836** **Feb.**, George Ham and 80 others petition the Legislature against Incorporation. Ebenezer Perry and 40 others petition the Legislature for Incorporation. *Bill receives second reading.*
Mar., the Cobourg Incorporation *Bill* is read a third time.
Dec. 2, another meeting petitions both Houses of the Legislature pass the Bill.
- 1837** **Mar. 4**, **The Act to Establish a Police in the Town of Cobourg, and to Define the Limits of the said Town is passed.**
July 1, the **First Cobourg By-Laws become effective.**
- 1839** **Mar. 18**, George Ham and 206 others of the Town of Cobourg petition the Legislature, "*praying that the Act incorporating the said Town be **repealed***". No action taken!

BECOMING INCORPORATED DIDN'T SEEM SO VERY IMPORTANT AT THE TIME.

A number of other significant events attracted the attention of the residents of the "Police Village" of Cobourg in 1837.

- the death of his Majesty, King William IV,
- the accession of Queen Victoria to the throne,
- the deadly rebellions in Upper and Lower Canada at the end of the year.