

Year.	Assessment.	Population.
1870	\$801,605.....	3,941
1871	848,800.....	4,057
1872	920,110.....	4,202
1873	1,069,555.....	5,223
1874	1,222,905.....	6,101
1875	1,628,300.....	6,594
1876	1,797,650.....	7,301
1877	2,252,310.....	7,777
1878	2,341,870.....	8,442
1879	2,419,422.....	8,645
1880	2,422,565	8,888

Thus showing that within ten years the increase in population has been nearly, and the increase in value of property, considerably over, 300 per cent., and that the increase in both have been material in each and every year. As to the number of the various lines of mercantile and industrial establishments, it would require a regularly organized census to determine them.

The public improvements of Stratford, comprise many miles of graded streets, the chief of which are macadamized, and all within the more thickly populated sections supplied with good plank walks; a sewerage system, gas supply, fire protection, and public cemetery. Many of the streets are lined on either side with shade trees, adding materially to the appearance of the town, and giving a pleasing air of comfort incident to scenes where rural and metropolitan attributes are so closely mingled. The main business thoroughfare, Ontario street, is that portion of the old Huron Road east of the River Avon. It is 100 feet wide, and upon it are situated some of the finest business blocks in any town of equal size in the Province. Many of the principal blocks have been comparatively recently erected, thus combining modern style with modern interior improvements. The Albion, Dufferin, Easson, Odd Fellows, Phoenix, Rankin, and Waverley blocks, are such as would do credit to any city. The