

# 1. Parish: Copdock

**Meaning:** Copped oak (oak rising to a top) (Ekwall)

2. **Hundred:** Samford

**Deanery:** Samford

**Union:** Samford

**RDC/UDC:** (E. Suffolk) R.D. ( -1974), Babergh DC (1974- )

Other administrative details:

Samford Petty Sessional Division  
Ipswich County Court District

3. **Area:** 965 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

- Mixed:**
- a) Deep well drained fine loam, coarse loam and sandy soils, locally flinty and in places over gravel. Slight risk water erosion
  - b) Deep often stoneless coarse loam. Some slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged coarse and fine loam over clay

5. **Types of farming:**

- |           |             |  |
|-----------|-------------|--|
| 1500–1640 | Thirsk:     | Sheep-corn region where sheep are main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop. Also has similarities with wood-pasture region with pasture, meadow, dairying and some pig-keeping. |
| 1818      | Marshall:   | Wide variations of crop and management techniques including summer fallow in preparation for corn and rotation of turnip, barley, clover, wheat on lighter lands   |
| 1937      | Main crops: | Wheat, barley, turnips, mangolds, clover   |
| 1969      | Trist:      | More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet   |

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

- 1974 Line of Roman road crosses parish SW-N.  
Main London Road crosses centrally N-S through parish.

Small compact development along London Road. Church separately situated to east of development in Pound Lane.  
Scattered farms.

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 25, 1801 – 81, 1851 – 71, 1871 – 73, 1901 – 75, 1951 – 134, 1981 – 181

**8. Communications:**

Road: Roman Road – Main Ipswich – Colchester road  
Minor roads to Chattisham, Belstead and Washbrook  
1844 Carrier to Ipswich  
1891 Carriers pass through to Ipswich on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Rail: 1891 2 miles Capel station. Bentley – Hadleigh line, opened (1847), closed for passengers (1932), closed for goods (1965)

**9. Population:**

1086 — not recorded  
1327 — 17 taxpayers paid £1. 14s.  
1524 — 26 taxpayers paid £2. 9s. 8d.  
1603 — 77 adults  
1674 — 25 households  
1676 — Not recorded  
1801 — 225 inhabitants  
1831 — 310 inhabitants  
1851 — 349 inhabitants  
1871 — 341 inhabitants  
1901 — 334 inhabitants  
1931 — 339 inhabitants  
1951 — 390 inhabitants  
1971 — 420 inhabitants  
1981 — 549 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Rectory (consolidated with Washbrook)**

1254 Valued £6  
1291 Valued £8  
1535 Valued £9. 12s. 8½d.  
1831 1 curate, stipend £120 p.a. Glebe house. Gross income £497 p.a. Incumbent also holds Rectories of Hutton, Essex and Catmere, Berks.  
Joint value £483 p.a. (1835)  
Rectory house rebuilt (1869) with money from Queen Anne's Bounty on site of previous rectory  
1891 35 acres glebe. Tithes commuted for £250. 10s. p.a.  
1912 Joint nett value £319. 50 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: C. Forster (1603), Lord Walsingham (1831)

**11. Church** St. Peter  
(Chancel, nave, N. transept, S. porch, W. tower)

15<sup>th</sup> cent. Main structure  
1643 Puritanical Vandals (William Dowsing) Destroyed 150 superstitious pictures and 2 crucifixes, defaced cross on font, ordered removal of stone cross and chancel steps to be leveled, removed brass inscriptions  
1909 Organ chamber, vestry and gallery added

Seats: 300 (1831)

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

1606 4 recusant papists  
1644 William Aldus. Rector ejected by Suffolk Committee for Scandalous Ministers  
1648 Henry Forster, recusant, two-thirds of his estate sequestered for his recusancy

**13. Manorial:**

**Copdock with Barons**

1286 Robert Copedoc owns  
The ownership is unclear and it is possible that the Holbrook family held some part of this manor  
16<sup>th</sup> cent. Linked with Stowmarket, Capel St. Mary, Hintlesham and Bentley (Lionel Talmash)  
18<sup>th</sup> cent. Mid-18<sup>th</sup> cent. Linked to Washbrook (Thomas de Grey)  
1814 Lordship also Comptroller of first fruits and tenths  
1850 Linked to Washbrook (Rev. James Tooke Hales)

**Sub-Manors:**

**Copdock Hall al Fitz Raffes**

1263 Linked to Bradfield St. Clare (held by William de Montchensy of Honor of Hedingham and CAstrum, Essex)  
13<sup>th</sup> cent. John Baron owns  
14<sup>th</sup> cent. John Fitz Raffe owns followed by John de Vere, Earl of Oxford (links with numerous manors throughout Suffolk)  
1418 Granted by Countess of Oxford to Robert Fitz Raffe  
16<sup>th</sup> cent. William Forster owns  
1855 W.J. Deane owns

**14. Markets/Fairs**

**15. Real property:**

1844	£1,759 rental value
1891	£1,714 rateable value
1912	£1,859 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844/1891	Land sub-divided
1912	J.B.T. Hales, principle owner

**17. Resident gentry:**

1680	1 gent
1844	Hon. Rev. F. de Grey MA, Lt. Gen. Sir Samuel Dickens, J. Josselyn
1891	A.M. Bernard, Rev. J.H. Hooking, Capt. A.H. Morse JP
1912	B.A. Mountagne

**18. Occupations:**

1500-1549	1 potter, 1 ashburner
1550-1599	3 husbandmen, 1 yeoman, 1 ashburner, 1 knacker
1600-1649	4 husbandmen, 5 yeomen, 1 clothworker, 1 labourer
1650-1699	5 husbandmen, 6 yeomen
1831	50 in agriculture, 23 in retail trade, 1 professional, 21 in domestic service
1844	Blacksmith, 2 shoemakers, victualler, wheelwright, corn miller, carrier, schoolmaster, 7 farmers
1912	Sub-postmaster, police officer, schoolmistress, 6 farmers, publican, blacksmith, miller (water), asst. overseer, shopkeeper, painter

**19. Education:**

1818	4 day schools, 1 Sunday school (89 attend)
1833	2 infant schools (18 attend), 2 daily schools (31 attend), 1 Sunday school (32 attend)
	National school built (1841) by subscription
	School Board for Copdock and Washbrook formed (1874)
	Proposal for new school to accommodate 130 with average attendance of 91
	Public Elementary school built (1875) average attendance (1912) 96

**20. Poor relief:**

1776	£70. 19s. 6d.	spent on poor relief
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1803	£47. 6s.	spent on poor relief
1818	£287. 3s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£291. 6s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£251. 2s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£182. 14s.	spent on poor relief

**21. Charities:**

**22. Other institutions:**

1912 Police officer listed

**23. Recreation:**

1844 THE WHITE ELM posting house

1891 THE ELM public house

1912 THE WHITE ELM INN

**24. Personal:**

**25. Other information:**

**Archaeological Sites**

Med. green (documentary evidence) (CRN 4650)

Length Roman road (CRN 4651)

Church of St. Peter (CRN 4652)

Stray finds: Neo. Polished axe (CRN 4622)

Stone implement (CRN 4653)

Rom. Bronze coin (CRN 4649)

Med. pottery (CRN 4392)

Un. Animal bone, worked wood (CRN 1502)