

Sheas listed in Various Oaths of Allegiance in period 1775 – 1801

The Penal Laws enacted after the defeat of the Jacobites in 1690 were intended to limit the spread of 'Popery' in Ireland and to maintain Protestant domination. Towards the end of the eighteenth century these began to be relaxed and various relief acts were passed. To avail of relief Catholics were obliged to take a qualifying oath. Those who signed were generally people of some substance who were in a position to take advantage of the acts. The following lists those Sheas whose taking of various oaths are recorded.

James O'Shea Mar 2006

Oath of Allegiance following the passing of the 1774 Relief Act

There are no O'Sheas or any other derivations listed. No Sheas signed in Kerry. There are no signatures of any sort in Limerick. In total 1,505 signed with the 368 in Tipperary being the largest contingent, partly due to the encouragement of the Archbishop of Cashel. Those who signed were only a tiny fraction of the almost three million Catholics in Ireland at the time.

Place & date of registration	Person
Co Tipperary, 18 Dec 1775	Richard Shee, Grange, Gent
Kilkenny, 18 Dec 1775	Wm Shee, Durrow, Butcher Andw Shee, Durrow, Joiner
Kilkenny, 7 Dec 1775	Thos Shee, Kilkenny, Merchant John Shee, Kilkenny, Merchant Wm Shee, Kilkenny, Innkeeper Henry Shee, Kilkenny, Merchant
Cork City, 10 Aug 1775	Henry Shea, Cork City, Merchant John Shea, Cork City, Merchant Henry Creagh Jn (* ¹ Shea), Cork City, Merchant John Shea (* ² Creagh junior), Cork City, Merchant Walter Shea, Cork City, Cooper Wm Shea, Cork City, Merchant Andrew Shea, Cork City, Shopkeeper

*¹: The Irish source lists the signer as Henry Creagh Jn. A source in the British museum lists it as Henry Shea Jn. I believe the Henry Shea Jn is correct.

*²: The Irish source lists the signer as John Shea. A source in the British museum lists it as John Creagh Junior. Again I believe the British source is correct

The Catholic Qualification Rolls for Munster 1793 – 1801:

The original rolls are lost but the following 'Sheas' are listed in an index available at the National Archives of Ireland. This is hard to decipher in places hence the many question marks in the text. There are no 'O'Sheas' or any other derivations listed.

Place & date of registration	Person
Dungarvan, 29 April 1794	Shee Michael, Drommore?, farmer Shea Jas, Abbeyside, brogue maker Shea Philip, County?, farmer Shea Philip, Ballycoo, farmer
Lismore, 15 July 1794	Shea Thos, Dungarvan, fisherman Shea Patrick?, Rockinpower?, farmer
Dungarvan, 26 Apr 1794	Shea Thos, County?, farmer
Clonmel, 19 Nov 1793	Shea Jas, Shleeleala?, farmer
Guildhall Cork, 19 Sept 1796	Shea Cors, Blackrock, taylor [sic]
Guildhall Cork, 6 Oct 1796	Shea George, City Cork, merchant
Waterford, 21 Nov 1795	Shee Patrick, Botten Co?, mariner
Kings Old Castle Cork, 6 May 1793	Shea John, Ballybeg, farmer
Macrump 31 May 1793	Shea Cornelius, Cahirbirane, farmer
Middleton [Sic] 25 July 1794	Shea Richard, Killeagh, farmer
Skibbereen July 1794	Shea Denis, Skealule?, farmer