

## WILLIAMS, ISAAC JOHN (1874 - 1939), museum official

**Name:** Isaac John Williams  
**Date of birth:** 1874  
**Date of death:** 1939  
**Spouse:** Beatrice Lily Williams (née Summers)  
**Spouse:** Annie Williams (née Summers)  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** museum official  
**Area of activity:** History and Culture  
**Author:** Archibald Henry Lee

Born at Merthyr Tydfil, 10 April 1874. A Cardiff School of Art medallist, he became school art master, and from 1910 to 1914 was superintendent art instructor, and curator of Cyfarthfa Castle Museum, Merthyr Tydfil. He was appointed first keeper of the department of art in the National Museum of Wales in 1914, and laid the foundations of the present national collections in that department.

He married (1) Annie (née Summers) died 1932, and (2) Beatrice Lily, sister of his first wife.

He died at Cardiff, 25 December 1939. He bequeathed £3,500 to the National Museum of Wales (The Isaac and Annie Williams Bequest Fund).

### Author

Archibald Henry Lee

### Sources

Personal knowledge

### Further reading

Scott Reid, 'Isaac John Williams, Curator,' *Merthyr Historian*, vol. 22 (2011)

### Works

Art UK: [Isaac John Williams 1876-1939](#)

### Additional Links

Wikidata: [Q20748839](#)

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