

## Maude and Maybelle Goodlander The Goodlander Sisters

Maude (1879-1962) and Maybelle (1882-1959) Goodlander were known as the Goodlander Sisters. Their father, Marcus Goodlander owned and operated a photography studio at 50 E. Main. The family lived over the studio, so the sisters quickly learned about photography. In 1901, Maude and Maybelle officially joined their father in the business. When the family and the business moved to 409 E. Main St. in 1905, the name of the business also changed to “Goodlander Sisters”.

The sisters were considered pioneer women photographers of Indiana. They ranked among the best women artists in America, they were honored by The National Organization of Women Photographers repeatedly. They were members of the Photographers Association of America. Maybelle served as president of the Women’s Federation of the Photographers Association of America. She also served as National President of the American Women’s Guild of photographers. Maybelle was one of the best-known women photographers in the country having displayed prints in all parts of the United States as well as in Europe. The sisters worked hard at their art, always seeking to photograph the personality of the subject rather than the features. They specialized in showing their subjects in their accustomed surroundings. One of their photos was featured on the cover of the November issue of American Photography magazine, and in 1929, they photographed William Jennings Bryan. The photo now hangs in the U. S. Capitol in Washington DC.

In 1928, the decision was made to open a photography studio in Anderson which they maintained for seven years. When their father died in 1934, the sisters closed the Anderson studio and moved their studio to the Johnson block in Muncie. Here they continued to work for many years. When Maybelle died Maude continued to keep the business open until her death in 1962.

