

Story of Thomas Reed & Sallie Mai Burris Reed
Parents of Francis J. "Tootie" Reed who md James Paul Anderson
*see Chapter 3 - Johnny William Anderson
Story on pg. 38 of the book:
Jackson County Tennessee – Bicentennial Pictorial History 1801-2001

"Ice cold lemonade made in the shade, stirred with a spade, good enough for any old maid." As Tom Reed would shout out to the crowded town square on a Saturday afternoon. W.T. (Tom) Reed's Grocery was a fixture "on the square" for over 40 years. Mr. and Mrs. Reed operated this store from the early 1920's through the early 1960s. Rick and Sue Bryan who own the Shady Rose Gift Shop have heard many stories of how much Tom and Sally Reed were loved by the people of Gainesboro. On Friday nights after the Jackson County basketball games the players used to go to Mr. Reed's house and have him come back to the store so they could get their Nehigh grape drinks or small Cokes. Mr. Reed called these drinks "belly washers" and would serve bologna, cheese, crackers and moon pies, all for 5 cents each.

As Mr. Reed got older some of the boys would play good-natured pranks on him, like fake cat t poop in the pinto bean barrel. Or the time three boys sold a hen to Mr. Reed, each time he would take the hen out back to his crowded chicken coop and each time a different boy would go get the hen and re-sell the hen to Mr. Reed. On the third sale Mr. Reed told the boy, "well it seems this is the third time I have bought this chicken and hopefully the last."

The old building may be out dated for a modern grocery store now, but it makes a perfect spot for the Shady Rose Gift Shop. Rick and Sue Bryan travel the country to Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles and New York to bring Gainesboro a wide selection of gifts at an affordable price. The store is named after Rick's great-great-grandmother Shady Walker and grandmother Rose Walker who both lived in the community of Pigeon Roost. You are invited to come to the Shady Rose Gift Shop and walk the creaky old oak floors and continue the tradition of shopping on the square.



Pictured is Mr. Thomas "Tom" Reed & his daughter, Elva meadows (ca. 1929). Mr. and Mrs. Reed's other children include Cecil R. Reed (deceased), Walter Minor Reed, Thelma Dean Reed Wilson & Frances "Tootie" Reed who md James Paul Anderson. Mr. Thomas "Tom" Reed passed away in 1945. The building is ca. 1903.