

Who smoked these pipes?

When my brother, great grandchild Paul Huey, visited the hotel as a teenager in 1957, he was given "T.T.'s pipes." My mother said T.T. smoked and always smelled of tobacco. But what about Clara mentioning in her memoir (p. 4) that her Grandma Summers smoked a clay pipe? Could they have been kept as family heirlooms? The pipe on top is made of clay and was produced by the Pamplin Company in Virginia in the later 1800s. The pipe on the bottom is made of wood, and the bowl still smells strongly of creosote. Both are typical of pipes smoked by men, and women as well, in the southern hill country. Who smoked these pipes? Another clue might be the teeth marks on the ends of both stems. Clara wrote that Grandma Summers did not have a tooth in her head.

