

Columbus B. Hill was a well-known barbecue man in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries when he supervised some of the largest barbecues in Colorado history, up until his death in 1923. Hill was recognized for his barbecue skills and officiated at numerous barbecues. Despite limited recognition beyond his immediate colored community, Hill and other African American pitmasters served as barbecue ambassadors, maintaining barbecue culture in the South and spreading it to other parts of the country. He is a great example of the African American barbecue specialists who emerged in the nineteenth century. Chef Columbus B. Hill is a great example of the African American barbecue specialists who emerged in the nineteenth century. There is very little written about these experts, but Hill is an exception. His exploits, because they were so fantastic, were chronicled by the media of his time.

