

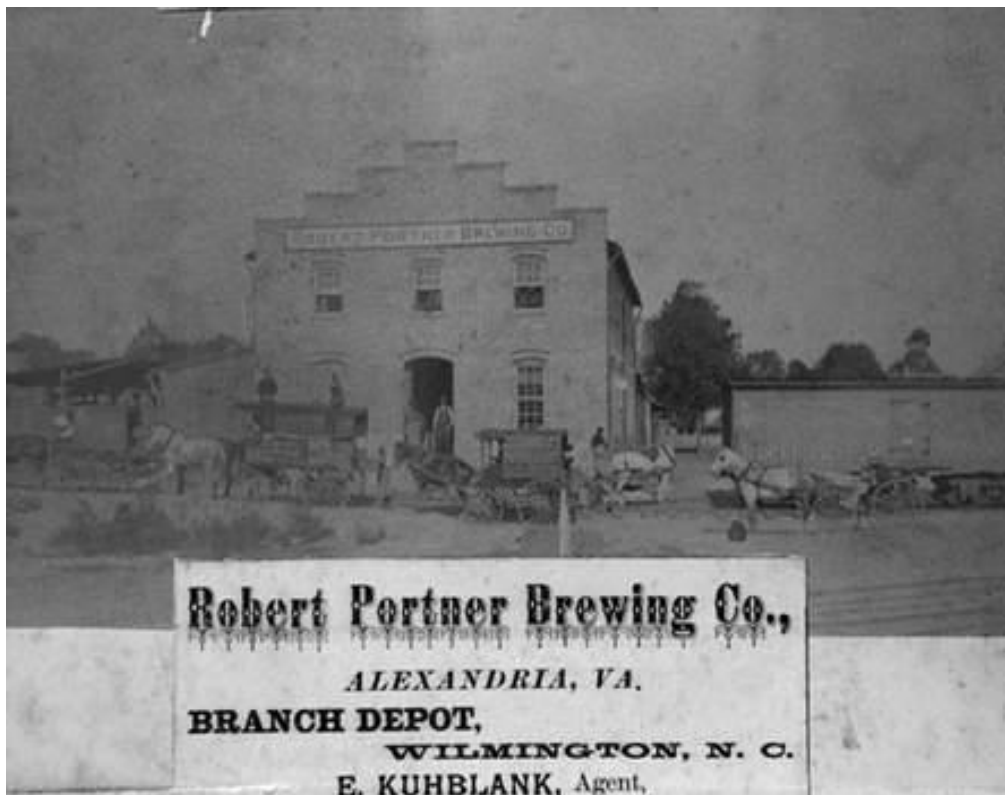
## **Robert Portner Brewing Wilmington, North Carolina**

Robert Portner Brewing Company maintained bottling plants and outlets throughout the Southeast with the Wilmington, NC facility likely among the most prominent. Although several plants were large enough to justify embossed bottles, many were not. Wilmington, Charlotte and Raleigh were most likely the largest in North Carolina as evidenced by their custom bottles. Smaller plants such as Washington, NC have no known embossed bottles.

The prominence of the Wilmington plant is supported by the storage capacity of up to 300 barrels (originally 36 US gallons per barrel, with variations). This facility located at Eighth and Brunswick was very successful and featured products such as Hofbrau, Vienna Cabinet and Tivoli. All of these were well known Portner brews that captured a large following. Portner, having pioneered the refrigeration and transportation of beer was able to ship the products in barrels for later transfer to bottles.

Although Portner died in 1906, Portner's Brewery continued operations until 1916 when it ceased because of Prohibition. The company was reformed as The Robert Portner Corporation for the production of feed and other products. This venture lasted a short while.

Shown below is an image of the Portner Wilmington facility and a Portner Wilmington bottle from the turn of the century.





Portions taken from a Wilmington Star News article – Brew the years .....  
Compiled by David Tingen  
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