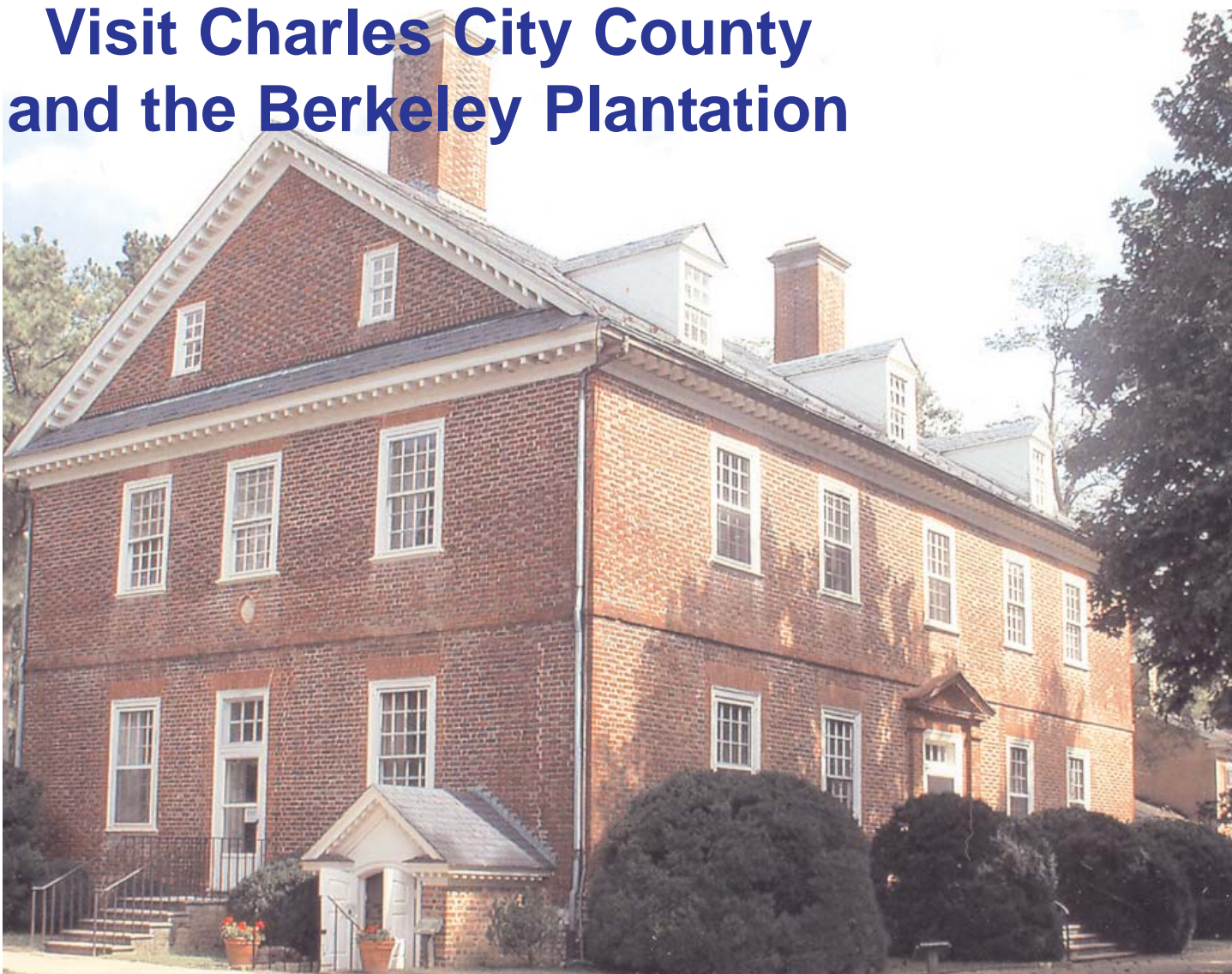


Visit Charles City County and the Berkeley Plantation



Berkeley Plantation, one of the first great estates in America, comprises about 1,000 acres (4.0 km²) on the banks of the James River on State Route 5 in Charles City County. Berkeley Plantation was originally called Berkeley Hundred and named after one of its founders of the 1618 land grant, Richard Berkeley.

Among the many American "firsts" that occurred at Berkeley Plantation are:

- The first official Thanksgiving: Dec. 4, 1619
- The first bourbon whiskey distilled: 1621, by George Thorpe, an Episcopal priest.
- First time Army bugle call Taps played: July 1862, by bugler Oliver W. Norton; the melody was written at Harrison's Landing on the plantation by then General Daniel Butterfield.

SOURCE: Wikipedia

