The early Louisiana settlers solved the problem by founding their homes on brick piers anywhere from 3 or 4 to 8 feet above the ground. The raised cottage idea. In some of the houses, the space under the house was used for storage or stabilizing, but more often it was just left open. Anything that could be damaged by high water was put upstairs, on the "first floor."

Cooling
Long hot summers and relatively mild winters led to an increased emphasis upon cooling, rather than heating, the usual Colonial style-setter in other parts of the country. Every device that could be was brought to bear on the problem of staying cool in those pre-air conditioning days. Ceilings were high, 10 and 12 feet being not uncommon. Windows, which in the earlier houses were small, were increased. The high roofs and wide overhanging insulated the rooms below and shaded the walls. Broad galleries were extended across the entire front of the smallest houses and, in the larger ones, extended on all the sides as well. The early builders, displaying a degree of foresight uncommon among present day house builders, sliced the houses among some of the finest shade trees in the world, the giant Louisiana live oaks.

Jeannie's Twin Causes Problem
Jeannie's twin sister pays a visit to the Nelson household and her antics cause problems for the newlyweds, in "My Sister the Homewrecker" on NBC's "I Dream of Jeannie" comedy series Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. on WBRZ. Jeannie II, twin sister of Jeannie (series star Barbara Eden in a dual role), has a thorny history for this week. Not as permanent as the foundation, the house, regardless of its style, is, as time goes on, a house, and a happy one at that. But, and this is important, the house, regardless of its style, is, as time goes on, a house, and a happy one at that.

The predominant feature of most of these buildings is the roof. Big enough to enclose a living attic and steep enough to shed water, the roof is probably the most distinctive characteristic of the style. The materials of construction were predominantly local. The bricks were slave made, burned in a nearby kiln. The framing timbers, siding and paneling were made of cypress or pine. Shingles were split, with a row from sections of cypress log, although in some of the more pretentious houses, the owner imported slate from New England. Central windways were a feature of the early houses. In the coastal areas, where the winds were from France. In the coastal areas, where the winds were long hot summers and relatively mild winters, that thing that is used most of the time in your life, the house, regardless of its style, is, as time goes on, a house, and a happy one at that.

Peculiar Combination
Although later in the period, builders used the relatively modern techniques of load bearing and a combination of framed in wood, many of the earlier houses were built of a peculiar combination of wood and masonry, "briquette entre poteaux," in which wide vertical posts or beams and diagonal bracing formed the structural frame for the building, which was then filled with solid brick masonry. This was, and is, a fairly common technique in Europe, where the term "briquette" is used.

The "Lafitte Blacksmith Shop" in New Orleans is such a structure. Prior to this, there were houses built of "bouillage entre poteaux," which is the same idea, except that the infilling is mud mixed with moss. Sometimes referred to as "wattle and daub" construction, the term "bouillage" is a term which means "briquettes," most of these houses are gone today. Although the old houses are important to us now mainly for their historical connotations, they contain valuable lessons in design for the builder. Here at the hint, design a house to serve its purpose, build it of materials appropriate to its use, blend the form with the taste and art and you will produce a well-designed house, regardless of such distractions as style.