

CREOLES AND THEIR HOUSES

STANDARDS: The material in this unit may be used to address the following Social Studies Standards:

G-1C-E4	H-1A-E3	H-1A-M4
G-1D-E1	H-1D-M6	H-1B-H1

EXPENSIVE TASTES:

- Creoles liked to live and dress well
- Floors of cypress
- Straw mats used on floor in summer
- Candles rather than oil lamps for illumination
- Canopy beds and mirrored armoires
- Private altars in bedrooms
- Larger homes had enormous dining rooms for social events and entertaining
- House always open to friends and travelers

CLIMATIC INFLUENCES:

- People more concerned with heat than cold
- House had:
 - High ceilings and windows
 - Patios and balconies
 - Open galleries
 - Galleries sometimes decorated and used as outdoor rooms

INSECT PROBLEMS:

- Mosquitoes from early June to October
 - Beds draped with protective netting
 - Fumigating smoke to keep insects away