

Home buyers are expecting more

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styles. These fashions are reflected in today's interior merchandising, which definitely features a lighter touch and less clutter than it did five years ago."

Don Metz, an architect in Lyme, N.H., makes today's compact houses

"larger" by eliminating walls between rooms, devoting as little space as pos-sible to hallways and using big win-dows to bring the outdoors inside.

Gows to oring the outdoors inside.

FOR MANY people, making homes
streamlined and affordable means
trading big back yards, formal living
rooms and dining rooms for multifunctional rooms.

However, the panel found that for those who can afford it, American home buyers are once again looking with favor on spacious, large-volume

Americans can be somewhat fickle in their search for the ultimate dream home. Not unlike the clothing trade, what's in vogue for home design today may bear little resemblance to the home fashions popular only two or three vars ago.

And what might be high fashion in the housing industry today quickly be-comes yesterday's hand-me-downs. "A few years ago, every home was

'A few years ago, every home was designed with a Cape Cod look. Now we're seeing more use of a "mission" or "Mediterrean" style and the essence of post-modern design.'

- Walt Richardson architect

designed with a Cape Cod look," says Walt Richardson, president of the ar-chitectural firm of Richardson, Nagy, Martin. "Now we're seeing more use of a 'mission' or 'Mediterranean' style and the essence of post-modern de-

sign."
This year's originals by Givenchy,
Yves Saint Laurent and Pierre Cardin yves Saint Laurent and refer extantion command top dollar. But in a few months, when "the look" begins appearing on the racks at neighborhood department stores, the appeal falls away fast. The designers move on to create new looks, and the cycle continuous that the create it has been as in the ues. The same thing happens in the building industry.

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