Cape Cod

A principal subtype of the Minimal Traditional style is the side-gabled roof or Cape Cod subtype. This subtype was widely published in home magazines in the 1930s and 1940s. Many favored its New England folk-house form and reference to colonial America. Although typically one story and symmetrical, experimentation with asymmetrical elements is common.

The interiors of these houses also reflected the skill of builders with arched and detailed room dividers, beautifully tiled kitchen and bathrooms, and built-in bookshelves and storage. Simplicity and modernity were reflected in the use of Art Deco style bathrooms and kitchens.

Character-defining features of Minimal Traditional houses include:

- Simple, compact massing
- Low-pitched cross-gabled, hipped, side-gabled roofs with shallow eaves and exposed rafter tails
- Stucco or wood wall covering, often in combination
- Brick or stone accent cladding, as foundation skirt, half-wall, bay window bullnose, or less commonly, as an accent wall
- Most commonly one story
- Small entrance porch or stoop
- Wood front door, typically paneled
- Bay windows with brick or stone bulkhead
- Double hung or casement secondary windows, usually wood
- Small accent windows
- Fixed multi-lite picture windows
- Ornamentation of gable siding, porch covers, and wood attic vents