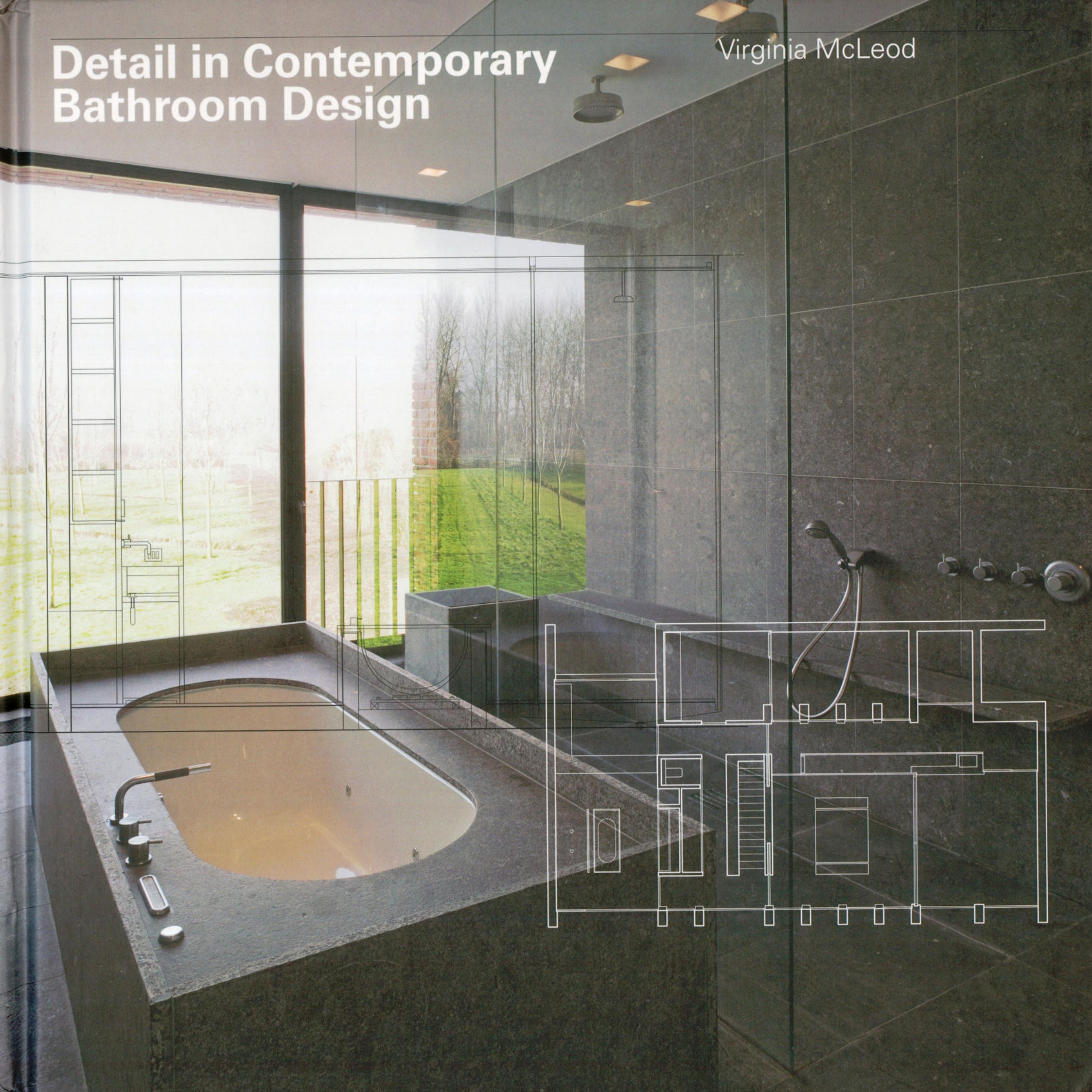


# Detail in Contemporary Bathroom Design

Virginia McLeod





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## Acknowledgments

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# **José António Lopes da Costa Architect / Tiago Meireles Architect**

Ovar House  
Ovar, Portugal

This luxurious family home is located just inland from the northern stretches of Portugal's Atlantic Ocean coastline. The house is situated in the centre of its large triangular suburban plot, making the most of existing and new landscape elements to screen it from its neighbours.

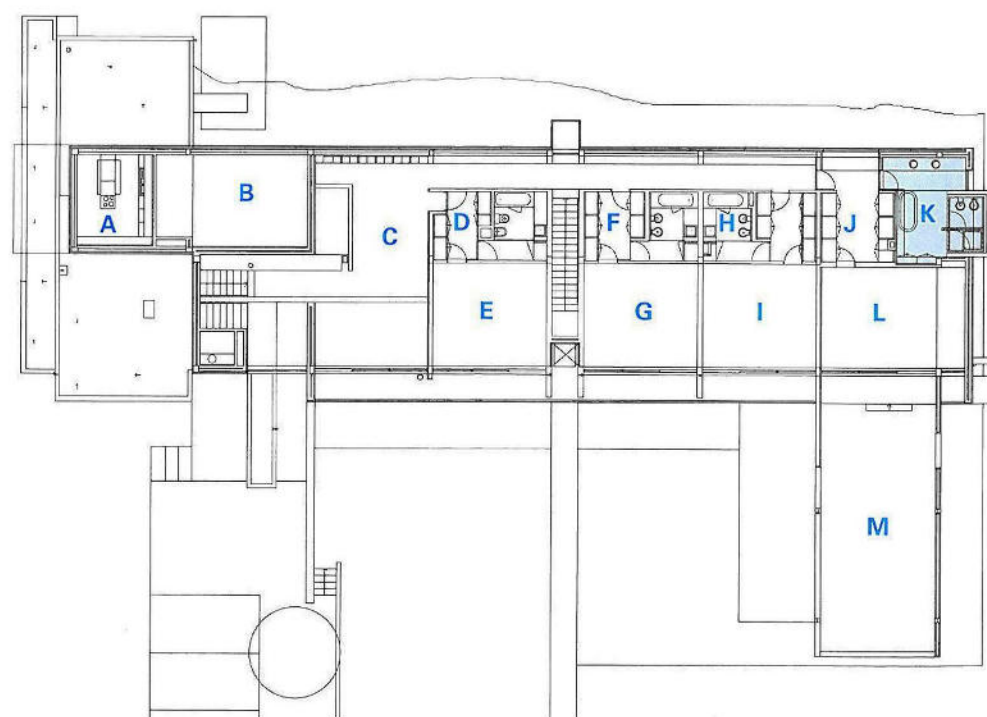
The building, a long rectangular prism, takes advantage of the natural slope of the site so that to the front of the house both storeys rise out of the ground and overlook the pool terrace, whereas at the rear, where the site is higher, only the upper level and a strip of ribbon windows below are exposed, giving the house a lower profile. A moat-like reflecting pool surrounds the house, giving it

the appearance of floating in a shallow lake.

On the ground floor are all of the living spaces including the kitchen, dining and living spaces, as well as recreation facilities including a play room, billiards room and an indoor swimming pool that occupies a slender rectangular volume arranged perpendicular to the main house.

The upper level is accessed via a central staircase where a corridor leads to four bedrooms, all with dressing rooms and ensuite bathrooms. To one end of the space, a gallery overlooks the kitchen and dining room below, while at the other, a dramatic terrace over the pool, accessed from the master bedroom, enjoys views across the landscape.

The master bathroom consists of a large, white-tiled open space housing the double vanity bench and a free-standing bathtub, with a separate raised area to house the WC and shower. These two more private spaces are divided by a wall of polished Negro Marquina black marble. The pure white walls, floor, ceiling and fixtures are relieved by accents of dark timber joinery and lit by a recessed skylight in the ceiling above the bathtub.







#### Opposite Left

The landscaped grounds include various games courts supported by a separate outbuilding. The master bedroom suite (top right) has direct access to the large terrace over the swimming pool, with its cutaway timber-clad balustrade walls.

#### Floor Plan

A Kitchen below  
B Dining room below  
C Open gallery  
D Ensuite bathroom and dressing room  
E Bedroom  
F Ensuite bathroom and dressing room  
G Bedroom  
H Ensuite bathroom and

dressing room  
I Bedroom  
J Master suite dressing room  
K Master bathroom  
L Master bedroom  
M Terrace

#### Above

The master bathroom features a polished black wall that cantilevers out over the floor, which separates the WC (left) from the shower enclosure (right). The large double-ended bathtub is lit from above by a slot of glazing in the ceiling.

**Materials**

**Countertop** White silica agglomerate

**Joinery** Wenge timber

**Floor** Afzelia timber and white silica agglomerate

**Splashback** Glass

**Wall Tiles** White silica agglomerate and Negro Marquina black marble

**Lighting** Nimbus

**Appliances and Fixtures**

**Basin Taps** Vola

**Basin Spout** Vola

**Basin** Catalano

**Shower Taps** Fantini

**Shower Head** Fantini

**Bath Taps and Spout** Vola

**Bath** Duravit Starck

**WC** Duravit Starck 1

**Project Credits**

**Completion** 2005

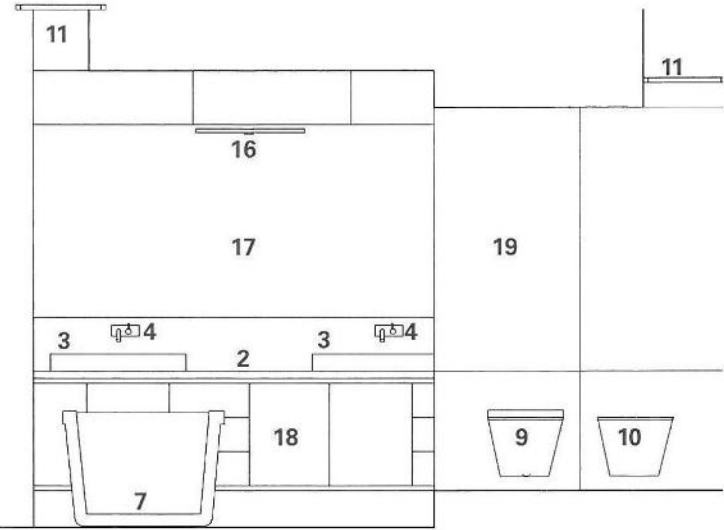
**Project Architects** José António Lopes da Costa, Tiago Meireles with collaborators Rui Ventura and Filipe Ribeiro

**Structural Engineer** Alipio Guedes

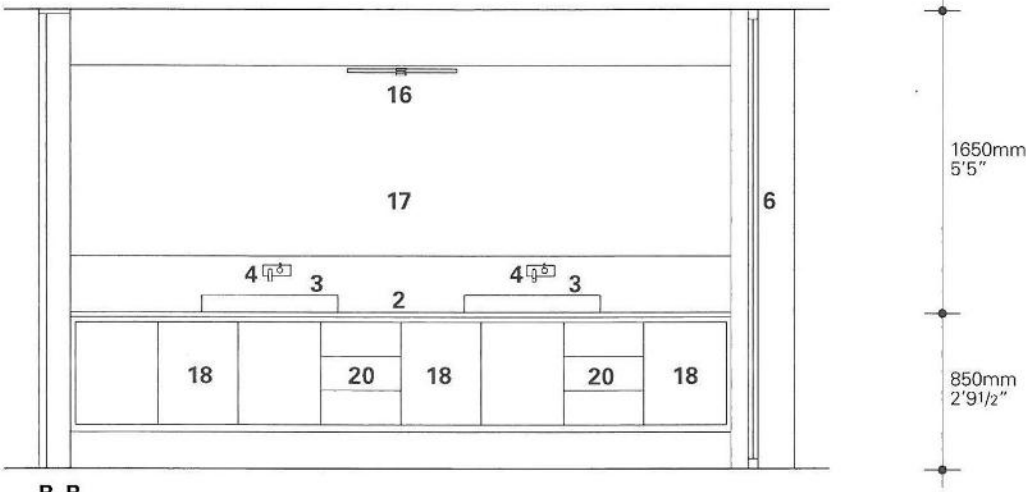
**Services Engineer** Henrique Duarte

**Lighting Engineer** Artur Santos

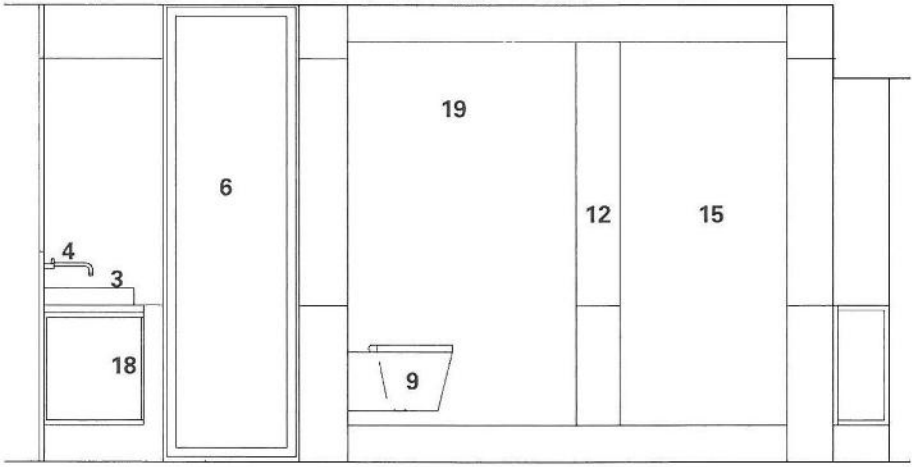
**Main Contractor** Construtora do Loureiro



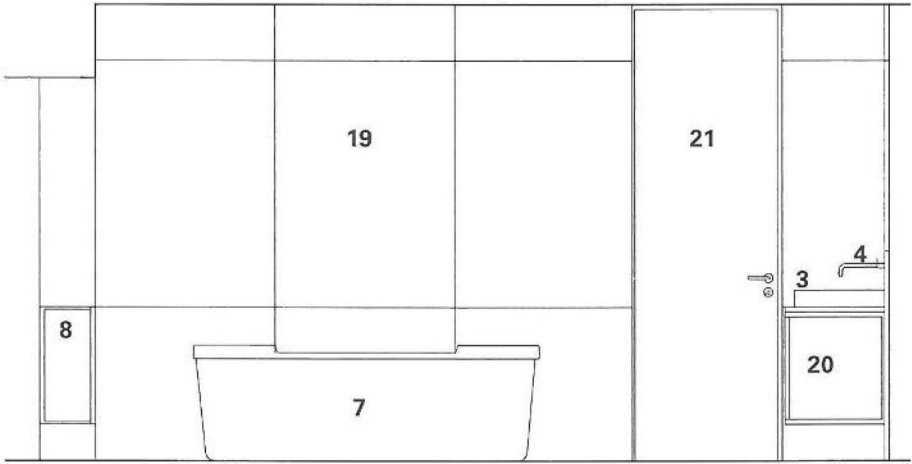
A-A



B-B



C-C



D-D



<b>Timber</b>  <b>José António Lopes da Costa Architect / Tiago Meireles Architect</b> Ovar House Ovar, Portugal	<b>Bathroom Plan and Sections A-A, B-B, C-C and D-D</b> <b>1:50</b>		
	1 Wardrobes to dressing room 2 Timber countertop 3 Counter-mounted white ceramic basin 4 Wall-mounted basin taps and spout	5 Timber floor 6 Window 7 Double-ended white ceramic bathtub 8 Timber sideboard 9 WC 10 Bidet 11 Line of skylight over 12 Black granite wall 13 Gloss white tiled floor 14 Glass screen to shower	enclosure 15 Shower enclosure 16 Wall-mounted light fitting over mirror 17 Wall-mounted mirror 18 Timber cupboard fronts 19 Gloss white tiled wall 20 Timber drawer fronts 21 Door to dressing room

