

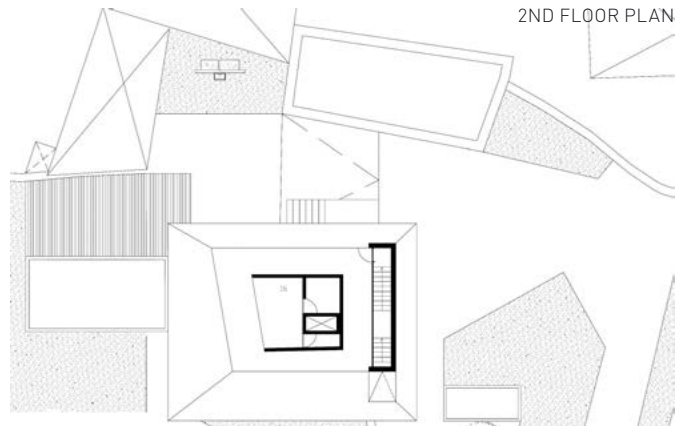
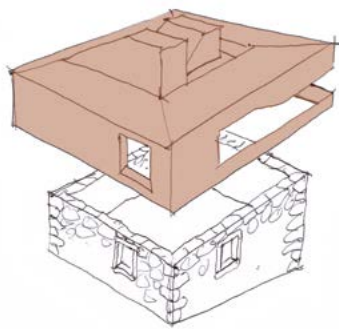
RUSTIC REVITALIZATION



This project in Areosa, northern Portugal proposes an alternative, contemporary approach to remodelling rustic vernacular buildings with a unifying copper cloak, as its architects Branco Cavaleiro Arquitectos explain.

The project involves revitalization of a two floor single-family building and annex, and its central concept stems from the existing main building, which is oriented towards the west and the Atlantic Ocean. We tried to suggest a different conceptual approach to the existing house, exploring new ideas but at the same time maintaining its identity, language, scale and volume, improving the relationship between the indoor and outdoor spaces.

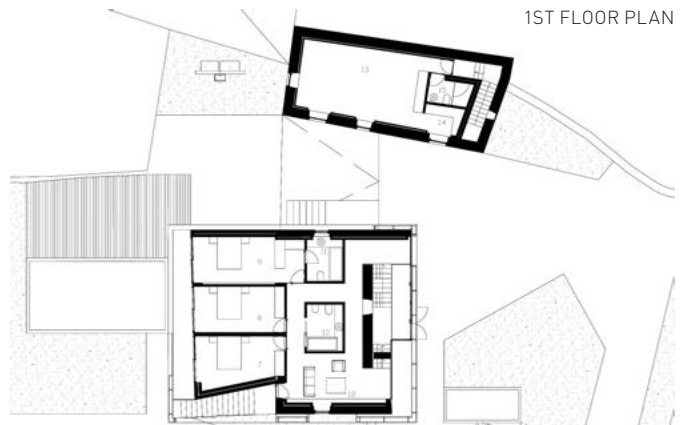




2ND FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



1ST FLOOR PLAN



OPAQUE AND TRANSPARENT COPPER

To highlight contemporariness, we proposed a loose-fit outer façade – a new ‘skin’ defining the home. This consists of both opaque and transparent copper vertical cladding, fixed to a steel structure suspended from the existing facades. This ‘copper hat’ embraces the existing thick granite walls that persist despite the erosion of time, like the final piece of a puzzle that fits into the old building, completing it and restoring its original volume and scale. Simultaneously, the old and the new merge, yielding a composition whose shapes reflect the roofs of surrounding houses, giving visual continuity.

The surrounding landscape design aims to recover existing elements, such as tanks and walls, relocating them and giving them new functions. The pool and fountain design references the running water from existing mines in the vicinity. The orchard with various species of fruit trees, typical of the region’s backyards, has been restored and poplars added at the front of the house to counterbalance the buildings’ horizontality.

Architect: Branco Cavaleiro Arquitectos
Copper Installer: Alberto Viera Pinto
Copper Product: natural copper
Photos: Jose Campos

