

creeps over the top of a steep hill dominated by the huge La Cabaña fortress. A new waterfront promenade will create a new face for Casablanca and link the village to the water. This may include a new marina at Dársena de los Franceses, ending at the historic Batería de La Divina Pastora. Connections vertically up the hill would allow access to El Cristo de la Habana, a giant statue of Jesus Christ, and the weather observatory, which may be recycled into a planetarium.

A 300-year-old colonial town called Regla protrudes as a peninsula from the southern edge of the bay. Regla has a strong local character owing to its Afro-Cuban religion. A sea shuttle links Regla and Casablanca to Havana. At the ferry landing in Casablanca is the world's oldest operating electric tram. First commissioned in 1916, the tram connects Havana with Matanzas.

Havana bay has suffered from environmental pollution for some time. Currently there is a program with the United Nations Development Program/Global Environment Facility (UNDP/GEF) to reduce water pollution in the bay. The UNDP/GEF pilot phase project, "Planning and Management of Heavily Contaminated Bays and Coastal Areas in the Wider Caribbean," was a Pre-investment Facility (PRIF) project that dealt with Havana bay, Cuba; Cartagena bay, Colombia; Puerto Limón, Costa Rica; and Kingston harbor, Jamaica. Urban and industrial developments surround Havana bay, and these have a major impact on water quality. The bay receives suspended solids, hydrocarbons, heavy metals and other micro-pollutants from agriculture, industry and port activities. Havana's collection system does not treat the wastewater. Today many sewers discharge to local rivers flowing through the city. The tributary area of Havana bay, including the rivers Luyano and Martin Perez, receives polluted water from large residential areas and from some industrial areas. The project determined that the main sources of pollution are the Luyano River (organic material, nutrients, sewage, solid waste), the gas plant and the oil refinery, the Regla and Hacendados fish factories, and the fishing port.



9.13 The mouth of Havana harbor.