

(5) THE HAASS HOUSE
Owned by A. J. Coyle
Courtesy of Mrs. Catherine Antonio

Although this property was purchased by George Louis Haass from Henry Castro on March 1, 1851, the log cabin still standing on the property indicates that the house itself was probably not built right away. The actual date of the Haass House is not known because there are no legal records available from 1851 until 1902.

The original structure is believed to have consisted of five rooms, plus a loft for sleeping quarters. The two main rooms, now used as a parlor and dining room, are quite simple. In evidence in these rooms, as in all of the rooms of the house, are the original hand-hewn cypress ceiling beams. The parlor contains the main fireplace, which is believed to have been built when the house was built.

The kitchen, adjoining the dining room, is a small room with a lean-to roof of exposed cypress beams and the original cypress shingles. There are still hooks on the walls where sausage and jerky once hung. The two fireplaces in this room were redone by Mr. Coyle, but they are the prototyped structure with the unique keystone pattern of the first fireplaces. The back bedroom, like the kitchen, has a lean-to roof and from this room, a very narrow staircase leads to the loft above. Also a part of the first house, is a bedroom next to the parlor.

Since the house was built, two rooms have been added at the back of the house to make it rectangular in shape. These also have lean-to roofs which slope from eight feet to about 14 feet at the highest point. It is interesting to note how the beams were spliced on to add these rooms. The date of this addition is not known.