East Area Rapist Attacks
22nd Victim At Home

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The east area rapist attacked his 22nd victim early Saturday morning when he confronted a couple in their bedroom at gunpoint. Sacramento County Sheriff's officials said Saturday.

The rapist, wearing a ski mask and armed with a large caliber gun, apparently entered the home through a sliding glass window. He stayed in the home, located in the vicinity of Greenbriar Lane and Bird Cage Street, from about 4 a.m. to 5:15 a.m., said sheriff's spokesman Bill Miller.

Miller said the rapist, as on other occasions, tied the husband, then raped his wife, a woman in her early 20s. He also followed his normal pattern of ransacking their home. The couple has no children.

Miller said the case is counted as the 22nd because a rape that occurred April 2, in the vicinity of Madison and Main, which had not been classified as the work of the east area rapist, has since been attributed to him.

Miller said the April 2nd rape was initially considered one of the east area rapist's jobs because a man was in the home at the time. Since then, however, the east area rapist

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has struck several times while husbands were at home.

"We just weren't sure at first it was the same guy because of the different MO (method of operation)," Miller said.

Before Saturday morning's attack, the east area rapist last appeared in Orangevale where he confronted a couple in a driveway May 5 and ordered them back into the woman's house. He then tied them, raped the woman and ransacked the house.

His first recorded attack was in October 1975, and for sometime thereafter he generally preyed upon women who were alone. Many of them were married women whose husbands were away for the night, detectives said.

Miller said the rapist, a skilled burglar, has invaded homes with children present and has sometimes awakened the children and bound them and other times has left them alone.

He has committed various kinds of sex perversion on his victims, Miller said.

Miller said the sheriff's department has a large number of officers assigned to the case, but declined to reveal investigators' strategy or where they are deployed.

Arrow indicates approximate location of latest attack.