

CYA killer held again in slaying

A former California Youth Authority inmate convicted of killing a Paso Robles CYA teacher in 1975 has been arrested by Sonoma County sheriff's deputies on suspicion of slaying a winery office worker.

Arvie B. Carroll, 31, was taken into custody Sunday east of Guerneville in Sonoma County, according to a report in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat.

Carroll was arrested on suspicion of killing Christina Appleton, an office worker at Iron Horse Ranch and Vineyards.

Appleton was allegedly pulled from her car by Carroll outside the winery during the early morning hours of Aug. 3 and stabbed 15 times in the chest, face and stomach, Sonoma County sheriff's officials said.

Her body was found later that day in a field near the winery. Detectives believe Appleton was killed after she reportedly told Carroll he was fired from his job at the winery, the Press Democrat reported.

Carroll had been working at the winery just four days before he was fired, sheriff's detectives said.

Eyeglasses belonging to Carroll were allegedly found near Appleton's body and a search of his home uncovered additional evidence linking him to the crime, according to detectives.

Carroll, who is also a suspect in at least four bank robberies in the Santa Rosa area, is being held in a Sonoma County Jail.

Carroll was convicted in 1975 of stomping to death 51-year-old Maria Romero inside a CYA classroom in Paso Robles in March of that year.

Romero, a mother of four, had been one of Romero's teachers at CYA.

Carroll killed Romero one day after he became enraged in a classroom dispute with her.

Carroll, who was 17 at the time of the killing, pleaded guilty and was convicted of second-degree murder. He was sentenced to five years at CYA.

He was later released, but he was in trouble with the law soon afterward, according to the Press Democrat.

Carroll had just been released from state prison in May 1990 after serving time on an armed robbery conviction.