EQ-1989 - Watsonville

Quake measuring 4.2% rattles Watsonville

WATSONVILLE (UPI) — A small earthquake, possibly another aftershock of last October's major Northern California temblor, jolted the Watsonville area this morning.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the quake struck at 6:12 a.m. and had a magnitude of 4.2 on the Richter scale. Its epicenter was north-northwest of Watsonville, 15 miles southeast of Santa Cruz. The quake was reportedly felt in parts of Aptos and as far south as the Monterey Peninsula.

"It was felt quite strongly by residents in the area," USGS spokeswoman Pat Jorgensen in Menlo Park said. "It appears to be on the San Andreas and within the Loma Prieta aftershock zone."

The Oct. 17 quake, which caused widespread damage in Northern California, registered 7.1 and has been followed by hundreds of aftershocks.

No damage or injuries were reported from this morning's aftershock. The Watsonville Police Department reported three calls from worried residents.

"Everyone was probably still asleep," a police dispatcher said.