

Publication: Hull Daily Mail

Publication date: Friday 05 March 1948

**SEARCHED FOR SHEEP, FOUND SKELETONS**

**T**WO women, whose decomposed bodies, little more than skeletons, were found on February 13 by a farmer's son out searching for sheep on a hillside near Pulverbatch, Shropshire, were the subject of an inquest at Shrewsbury today.

The Coroner returned a verdict that they died from exposure and exhaustion.

The women were friends, Mrs Sarah Hotchkiss (36), who lived in a cottage near the place where the bodies were found, and Mrs Phyllis Williams of no known address.

Mr Leslie Norman Morris, of Seller's Farm, Picklescote, said he found the bodies under a bush.

One of them was covered with a coat, and the other, which was uncovered, had on it a pair of slacks and some outer clothing.

**SAW SLACKS**

"When I saw the slacks I immediately thought of Mrs Hotchkiss, whom I have never seen wearing anything other than slacks," he said.

He last saw Mrs Hotchkiss alive about January 26, 1947. He had seen her with a woman friend on several occasions.

Insp. E. A. Grase said the bodies were about 500yds. from the road. They were lying side by side in a natural position near a small tree.