

Body of Young Woman Found Off Calistoga Rd.

The nude body of a young woman was found yesterday some 30 feet off Calistoga rd. down a steep embankment. Sonoma County sheriff's officials issued an appeal for help in identifying her.

She was between 16 and 23 years of age, about five feet three inches and 103 pounds.

She had red chipped polish on her toes, pierced ears, very light blonde hair that almost appeared bleached and two large front teeth that were irregular.

Her hair was cut in shag style.

Preliminary autopsy information indicated she may have died from a dislocated vertebrae in her neck, but the exact cause of death will be established later with further tests, according to sheriff's officials.

The girl apparently died at the scene between Dec. 1 and 8, the autopsy surgeon reported.

Undersheriff Robert Hayes said this morning there was nothing to indicate the young woman had been assaulted or attacked.

Sheriff's Lt. John Hess said

the several officers assigned to the case this morning returned to where the body was found to look for further evidence.

A young couple discovered the body around 3:20 p.m. yesterday near the top of Calistoga rd. on the grade northeast of Rincon Valley.

It had apparently been thrown over the embankment about 30 feet before being stopped by some trees.

Lt. Hess said the area where the body was found indicated it may have been there at least a week before being discovered.

As soon as more information is available the sheriff's office will send a teletype to all law agencies in the Redwood Empire to assist in identifying the woman.

Anyone with information that might help the sheriff's investigation was asked to call 527-2511.

If the autopsy indicates the girl was murdered, she would become Sonoma County's 18th homicide victim this year, which is double the county's previous record of nine killings within a single year.