

Erebus National Memorial

Date Requested: 11 June 2024

Date Provided: 15 July 2024

Request

Please provide me with all correspondence, including but not limited to, emails, attachments, txts, documents, reports, and notes between the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, and Christchurch City Council employees, councillors, committees, contractors or representatives, including Mayor Phil Mauer, regarding the potential location of the National Erebus Memorial in Christchurch/Canterbury.

Associated and in addition, please provide all similar material between Christchurch City Council employees, councillors, committees, contractors or representatives, including Mayor Phil Mauer, regarding the potential location of the National Erebus Memorial in Christchurch/Canterbury.



Council Response

This has been a substantial request that required a significant review of Council emails and associated documents, which are enclosed with this response.

By way of context, in September last year the Council received an informal approach regarding the possibility of Christchurch being considered as a potential location for the National Erebus Memorial. A small project team was established, and a series of briefings were held. These were initially with the Council's Executive Leadership Team, and then with Councillors to gauge support for the Mayor to formally invite the Ministry to consider Christchurch as a host city. This approach was unanimously supported by elected members.

Since then, a collaborative working relationship has developed between Council staff and Ministry project personnel. A site assessment team, led by a memorial designer and including representatives from mana whenua (Whitiora), MCH, and Council, assessed potential locations across the city. As a result, two Council-owned sites and one fallback option were identified. These are now being shared with Erebus families and members of Operation Overdue.

Throughout this process, we have been clear that Christchurch is not in competition with Auckland. TE901 was a national tragedy. While the flight originated in and was destined for Auckland, and many of those lost were from there, Christchurch too has a connection to the Erebus story and the Antarctic continent. Our community has also experienced significant tragedy in recent years, which has contributed to our understanding of the importance of manaaki for those impacted by tragedy.

Regardless of the final location of the memorial, the families of those lost and members of Operation Overdue will always be welcomed with compassion and respect by our city.

Please note we have decided to withhold some information under the following sections of the LGOIMA:

- 7(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons
- 7(2)(i) – to enable any local authority holding the information to carry on negotiations

In the Council's view the reasons for withholding these details are not outweighed by public interest considerations in section 7(1) favouring their release.

Subject: RE: National Erebus Memorial
Sent: 30/10/2024, 11:54:17 am
From: s7(2)(a)@mch.govt.nz>
To: s7(2)(a)
Cc: s7(2)(a)

Many thanks s7(2)(a)

I'll send through a placeholder meeting for the 6th.

Ngā mihi

s7(2)(a)

s7(2)(a)
Pou Taki, Kaupapa Whakataki | Director, Portfolio Delivery
Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage
Phone s7(2)(a) | Email s7(2)(a)

Ki te puāwai te ahurea, Ka ora te iwi
Culture is thriving, The people are well

From: s7(2)(a)@ccc.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2024 3:38 PM
To: s7(2)(a)@mch.govt.nz>
Cc: s7(2)(a)@ccc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: National Erebus Memorial

Kia ora s7(2)(a)

Thank you for sharing the information for the National Erebus Memorial. s7(2)(a) and I have reviewed the information and further discussions with our Executive Team.

It has become clear that we are not in a position to brief our elected members before your next engagement with families on 7 November. However, we have discussed this with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and the Executive Team, and they are all supportive of us continuing the conversation. Given this, and the tight timeframe you are work towards, we feel the messages for the family meeting will need to be carefully considered.

Could the focus be more on reiterating that a wider approach to locations now need to be considered, given progress with the sites currently under consideration? Additionally, the site selection criteria and design brief worked through with the families and Operation Overdue would remain relevant for any new locations. This would set up for exploring other locations, including Christchurch, rather than raising this and seeking views in one discussion. It would allow time for families to consider the latest on Auckland sites, for our engagement process, and avoid public statements ahead of the process.

The background document you've drafted covered key content well. One point of feedback that's also relevant for messaging with families is to avoid focusing on urgency as the key reason for considering alternative sites. Would seem best given experience to date and that the process needs to be run well. For example: *We have communicated to families that we are open to considering alternative sites if there are suitable sites that have the potential to realise a memorial in shorter timeframes.*

I will be on leave over the period 25 October through to 5 November and will not have access to emails. However, I suggest we have a catch up on my return, happy if this is on the 6th prior to the meeting with families.

Ngā mihi - s7(2)(a)

s7(2)(a)
Manager
Office of the Mayor and Civic Services

 s7(2)(a)



s7(2)(a) @ccc.govt.nz



Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch



PO Box , Christchurch 8154



ccc.govt.nz



From: s7(2)(a) @mch.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 22 October 2024 10:05 am

To: s7(2)(a) @ccc.govt.nz>; s7(2)(a) @ccc.govt.nz>

Subject: National Erebus Memorial

Kai ora kōrua

Please find attached draft information as discussed.

I'm happy to jump on a call to discuss further or feel free to send back any thoughts/suggestions you may have in terms of what's included (or missing!) so I can then finalise.

Thanks

s7

s7(2)(a)

Pou Taki, Kaupapa Whakataki | Director, Portfolio Delivery

Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage

Phone s7(2)(a) Email s7(2)(a)

Ki te puāwai te ahurea, Ka ora te iwi
Culture is thriving, The people are well

This electronic email and any files transmitted with it are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. The views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender and may not necessarily reflect the views of the Christchurch City Council. If you are not the correct recipient of this email please advise the sender and delete the email.

[Redacted signature box]

5. National Memorials Update

Reference Te Tohutoro: 24/1782308

Responsible Officer(s) Te

s7(2)(a)

Pou Matua:

s7(2)(a)

Accountable ELT Member

s7(2)(a)

Pouwhakarae:

s7(2)(a)

1. Purpose and Origin of the Report Te Pūtake Pūrongo

- 1.1 To outline recent conversations with Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) relating to the National Erebus Memorial and potential opportunity for this to be located within Ōtautahi Christchurch.
- 1.2 s7(2)(a)
s7(2)(a)
- 1.3 **Confidentiality:** The information in this report is confidential.
 - 1.3.1 **Reason for Confidentiality:** Families and others directly affected have not been consulted.
 - 1.3.2 Staff consider this matter would no longer be confidential after engagement has been undertaken and released publicly by MCH.

2. Officer Recommendations Ngā Tūtohu

That the Executive Leadership Team:

1. Receive the information in the National Memorials Update Report.
2. Provides endorsement for continued conversations with MCH regarding the National Erebus Memorial and undertaking engagement with Elected Members and Ngāi Tūāhuriri on a confidential basis.
3. Identifies key matters to address for an indication of support, or otherwise, to be provided to Erebus families and Operation Overdue through MCH.

3. Background/Context Te Horopaki

- 3.1 The MCH website contains extensive information regarding the Erebus accident, the relationship with families and members of Operation Overdue, and the path towards a national memorial. In summary, drawing on this content:
- 3.2 Since early 2023 a further process for site selection has been undertaken in Auckland with 37 sites identified and one in Wellington at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park. The Wellington site was not favoured given this is the site of the National War memorial and in a busy area of the city. As other sites have been assessed a range of issues have arisen and there are now few viable sites, although investigations are continuing.
- 3.3 MCH made contact in late September 2024 with the Head of the Antarctic Office, s7(2)(a) to raise the possibility of a site in Christchurch and a conversation has occurred to gain further background.
- 3.4 Extensive information online includes [personal reflections](#) from families, friends and members of Operation Overdue of the accident and impact on their lives over the last 45 years. Stories

recount the adventure of a lifetime the passengers were setting off on, efforts to secure and fund tickets, and the range of backgrounds and interests that led them to that flight. There are many references to the significance of the memorial. A [July 2024 media article](#) summarised the following from a family member:

They were looking forward to seeing a National Erebus Memorial constructed on a site that had a strong sense of spirit.

They said it should also be a place where people could gather to reflect on the gravitas of the crash, the impact it has had on the families, search and rescue personnel and the learnings from it that were benefiting those who had come after.

There should be an underlying element of journeying to the sky, as the passengers were 45 years ago.

4. Considerations Ngā Whai Whakaaro

- 4.1 In November 2024 it will be 45 years since the worst aviation accident in New Zealand's history. An Air New Zealand DC-10 crashed into the slopes of Mt Erebus in Antarctica. All 257 crew and passengers lost their lives, New Zealand's greatest single loss of life outside of wartime. A national memorial is long overdue. An opportunity to consider Christchurch as the location for this memorial has arisen.
- 4.2 Preference to date has been for the memorial to be located in Auckland as the largest proportion of those who died lived there, many Erebus families continue to live in the area, and the flight departed from the city. It is also a major gateway for international passengers if they visit.
- 4.3 Whilst progression of sites in Auckland is presenting a number of challenges and leading to broader consideration of options, the rationale for Christchurch being considered is also clear. As New Zealand's Antarctic Gateway there is the opportunity to provide a welcoming home for the memorial, further strengthen these connections and create a special place within the city. Every year a commemoration is held at the Scott Statue for those that have lost their lives in Antarctica, including the 257 lives lost in the Erebus accident. The flight was also due to land and refuel on its return in Christchurch, with families across the South Island turning on lights in the hope they could help guide the plane to safety.
- 4.4 Consideration of a site outside of Auckland would first be raised with families and members of Operation Overdue (the recovery effort). A site in Auckland has been the preference however given the challenges faced and likely timeframes, alongside a welcome from our city, there may be support for exploring a site in Christchurch.
- 4.5 Mana whenua have been closely involved in the process in Auckland and welcoming of families. Early engagement is needed with Ngāi Tūāhuriri to determine views and involvement in a process if commenced.
- 4.6 Oī Manawa Canterbury Earthquake National Memorial opened to the public on 22 February 2017 as a place to reflect on the 2010/2011 earthquakes and is the only national memorial in Christchurch. This provides valuable experience of the process, delivery and management of a national memorial.
- 4.7 
s7(2)(i)
s7(2)(i)
s7(2)(i)
s7(2)(i)
s7(2)(i)

- 4.8 Community views may include concern regarding a further national tragedy being recognised in Christchurch through a national memorial.
- 4.9 If progressed, a number of sites across the city would need to be identified and assessed based on existing criteria agreed with the families. This process would consider existing activities and current and future development in order to assess suitability, along with community engagement. Council would also need to understand our role in annual commemorations and future operational costs.

5. Next Steps Ngā Mahinga ā-muri

- 5.1 It is proposed that further investigation be undertaken into giving the National Erebus Memorial a home in Christchurch. This should include formal engagement with Ngāi Tūāhuriri and a briefing to elected members. If there was a favourable response, then MCH could commence engagement with family members and members of Operation Overdue and a formal project could get underway.
- 5.2 MCH have indicated November as critical timing given the 45th anniversary of the accident and need to communicate further with families on progress with a memorial.

6. CCC Business Unit Consultation

Business Units Impacted by Decision

Unit	Views of Unit
To be determined if proposal progresses	e.g. Parks, Communications & Engagement

Attachments Ngā Tāpirihanga

There are no attachments to this report.

Signatories Ngā Kaiwaitohu

Authors	s7(2)(a) s7(2)(a)
Approved By	s7(2)(a)

Last Thursday it was 45 years since the Erebus disaster. All 257 crew and passengers lost their lives, New Zealand's greatest single loss of life outside of wartime. There is no national memorial. An opportunity to consider Christchurch as the location for this memorial has arisen.

Preference to date has been for the memorial to be located Auckland as the largest proportion of those who died lived there, many Erebus families continue to live in the area, and the flight departed from the city.

Accordingly the Ministry of Culture and Heritage (MCH), the entity tasked to deliver a National Memorial has focused their efforts trying to secure a site in Auckland.

Initially this resulted in the selection of Dove Myre Robinson Park in Parnell. This selection of this site created some strong opinions with local residents and others who were not involved with the project. Ultimately the site became unsuitable owing to cyclone damage last year.

This sent MCH back to the drawing board. A number of other sites in Auckland have been considered with only one of these being found viable to pursue. They also investigated locating the memorial at the Pukeahu National War Memorial in Wellington, but this has now been ruled out.

The site in Auckland that remains in contention is at the Michael Joseph Savage Memorial. This sits on Bastion Point, a significant site for mana whenua. Owing to this significance mana whenua, while welcoming to the idea, need to get consensus across all their members. This will take a significant amount of time that makes this option unsuitable.

Owing to these challenges and the urgent need for the delivery of the memorial, MCH reached out to discuss the possibility of

Christchurch becoming the home for the memorial. This culminated last week with a meeting between the Mayor and CE with the secretary of Culture & Heritage.

There is a strong narrative for Christchurch to be the home of the memorial.

- As New Zealand's Antarctic Gateway we could provide a welcoming home for the memorial.
- The flight was also due to land and refuel on its return, with families across the South Island turning on lights in the hope they could help guide the plane to safety.
- Additionally, as a City we have experienced our own tragedies and as such we understand tragedy and the need for manaakitanga towards those who are suffering as a result.

We now seek agreement for the Mayor to invite the Ministry of Culture & Heritage to consider Christchurch as a home for the Memorial. In doing so it will allow MCH to commence a formal process with families to gauge their enthusiasm for Christchurch to be the home. This would also initiate a process to find the exact location in Christchurch. I am sure all of us could think of possible places, but an expert panel would need to identify suitable locations.

In closing I would like to highlight the level of sensitivity around these discussions and ask all of you to keep this matter strictly confidential until such time as this proposal is made public by MCH, which is likely to happen after they have advised family members and the members of Operation Overdue.

Erebus Memorial Briefing

- **Background:**
 - 45 years since the Air New Zealand DC-10 crash on Mt Erebus, Antarctica.
 - All 257 passengers and crew died, marking New Zealand's worst aviation disaster.
- **Current Situation:**
 - A national memorial is overdue.
 - Initial preference was for Auckland due to the high number of victims from there and the flight's departure point.
 - Efforts to secure a site in Auckland faced challenges, including cyclone damage to the initially chosen site.
 - Other Auckland sites were considered, with only one remaining viable.
 - Wellington's Pukeahau National War Memorial was ruled out.
- **New Proposal:**
 - Michael Joseph Savage Memorial in Auckland is a potential site but requires mana whenua consensus, which will take time.
 - Ministry for Culture & Heritage (MCH) is now considering Christchurch as an alternative.
 - Christchurch is New Zealand's Antarctic Gateway and has a strong narrative for hosting the memorial.
 - The flight was supposed to refuel in Christchurch, and the city has a history of supporting those affected by tragedy.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Seek agreement for the Mayor to invite MCH to consider Christchurch.
 - This will allow MCH to formally gauge family support for the Christchurch location.
- **Confidentiality:**
 - Discussions are sensitive and should remain confidential until MCH makes a public announcement.

PROCEDURE SHEET

CALL BY HON PAUL GOLDSMITH, MINISTER OF CULTURE & HERITAGE MAYOR'S LOUNGE FRIDAY 2 MAY 2025

Dress: Dress of the day.

Present:

The Mayor

Hon Paul Goldsmith

Mr Leauanae Laulu Mac Leauanae

Mary Richardson

s7(2)(a)

Minister of Culture & Heritage

Secretary of Culture & Heritage

Chief Executive

Procedure:

- 1.55pm The Minister and Secretary arrive at Council and are met on arrival by s7(2)(a) who will escort them to the Mayor's Lounge.
- 2.00pm Met on arrival by the Mayor & Chief Executive, offered tea/coffee.
- Discussions on national memorials.
- 2.45pm Discussions conclude, and the Minister and Secretary are farewelled. s7(2)(a) to escort them to reception.

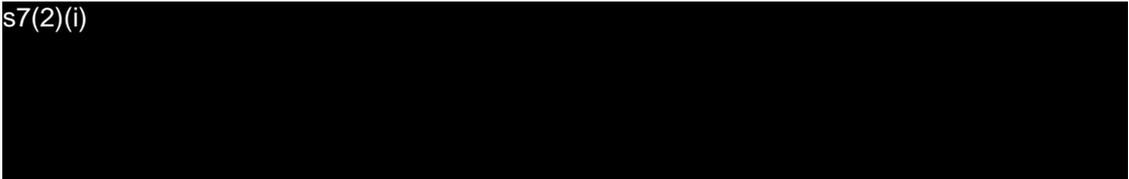
Key Messages:

- Council supports offering the Ministry a site for the National Erebus Memorial.
- We are working with the ministry to identify a site where the memorial could be homed.
- We are working as quickly as prudent, with a view to having a report to the Council with a preferred location by August.
- We are mindful of pitfalls that could be ahead if we cut corners in the process.

Background

- The project team, led by s7(2)(a) of Lincoln University, have conducted a preliminary review of sites. These were in three general areas: Airport, Central City, Port Hills.
- Sites identified for detailed investigation are:
s7(2)(i)
- The project team will need to conduct a preliminary assessment on the s7(2)(i) s7(2)(i) to determine if either merit detailed assessment.
- We have ruled out the following locations:
s7(2)(i)

s7(2)(i)



- Detailed assessment will be conducted alongside of community consultation.
- Aiming to bring to Council a preferred site for consideration by the end of August which can then be formally offered to MCH.
- MCH is responsible for liaison with the Erebus families, but the decision maker of where the memorial will be located rests with the secretary of Culture & Heritage.

7. Erebus National Memorial Update

Reference Te Tohutoro: 25/1099380

Presenter(s) Te Kaipāhō: s7(2)(a)

Confidentiality

Section under the Act:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Sub-clause and Reason:	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.
Public Interest Consideration:	To allow Councillors to receive the briefing ahead of Erebus family members being informed.
Potential Release Review Date and Conditions:	1 July 2025 Once Erebus family members have been informed.

1. Detail Te Whakamahuki

Purpose and Origin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In December last year, Councillors were briefed and agreed that the Mayor write to the Secretary for Culture and Heritage, inviting the Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) to consider Ōtautahi Christchurch as a potential site for the Erebus disaster National Memorial. On 9 December, the Mayor sent this invitation to MCH, noting the Council's willingness to work collaboratively to identify a site that reflects the dignity and significance of the memorial.
Timing	This information session is expected to last for 15 minutes.
Outcome Sought	To update Councillors on progress and seek a broad indication of continued support for the current direction of the project.
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCH will inform Erebus families of s7(2) proposed locations for the memorial. Once family members have been informed, relevant Community Boards will be briefed. Detailed evaluation of each proposed site will follow, alongside targeted community engagement, as required. Following this, a report recommending a preferred site will be brought to Council for consideration. The preferred site may then be offered to MCH as a proposed location for the memorial. This is expected to occur by the Council meeting on 3 September.
Key points / Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A working group—led by s7(2)(a) of Lincoln University and including Council staff and representatives from MCH and Ngāi Tūāhuriri (Whitiōra)—identified and visited potential sites within Christchurch.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In addition, collaboration with Christchurch International Airport Ltd (CIAL) explored potential locations within the airport precinct, which were evaluated by the working group.• Through this process, s7(2)(i) have been shortlisted for detailed evaluation.
Useful Links	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Erebus Memorial Site Selection Documents: https://www.mch.govt.nz/publications/national-erebus-memorial-site-selection-documents

Attachments Ngā Tāpirihanga

There are no attachments to this coversheet.

Signatories Ngā Kaiwaitohu

Author	s7(2)(a)
Approved By	Mary Richardson - Chief Executive

National Erebus Memorial Update



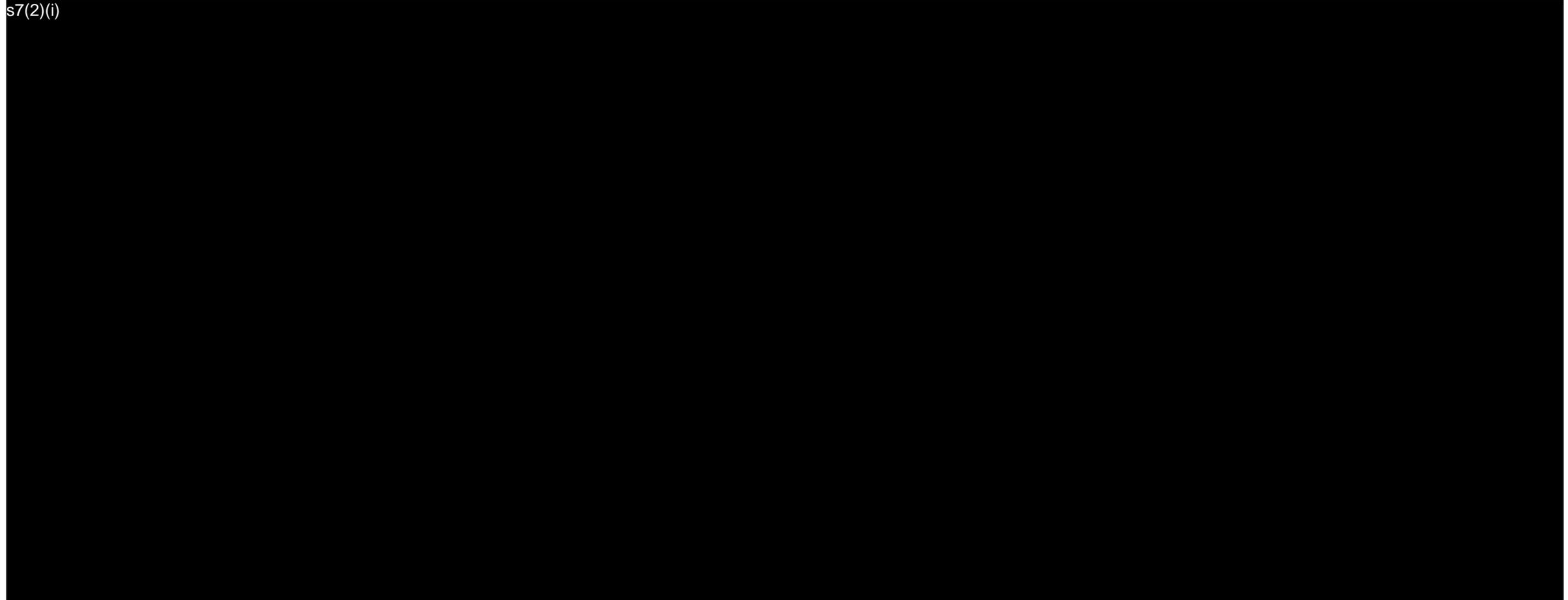
s7(2)(a)

Site Criteria

- Accessible.
- Safe.
- Amenity.
- Own Meaning.

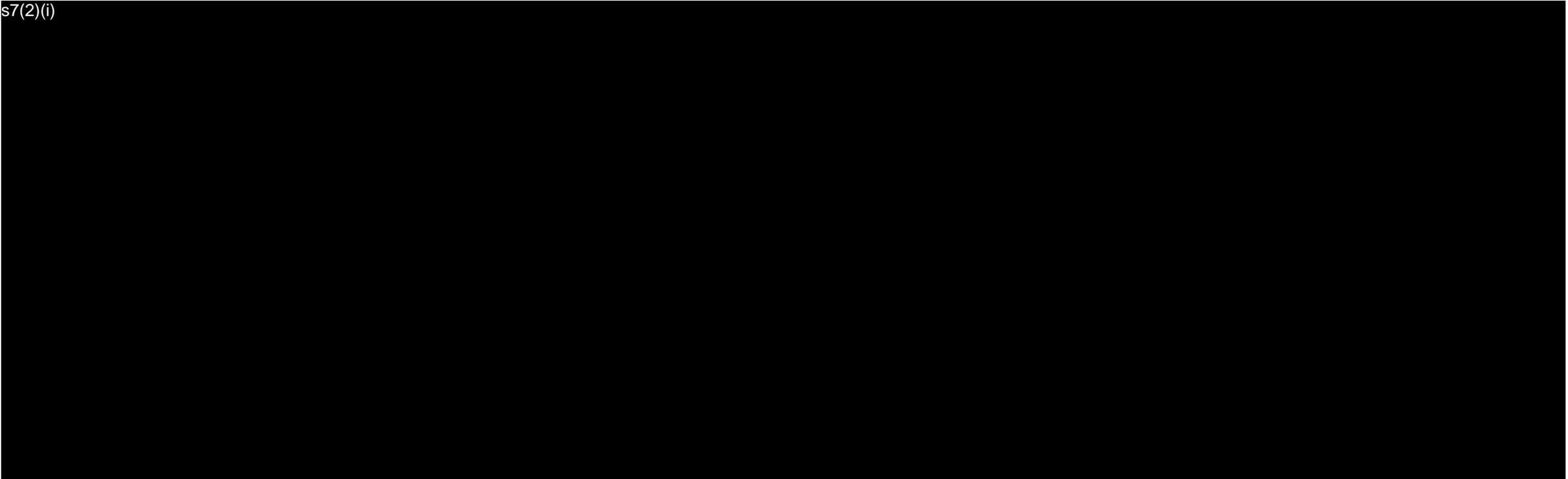
Locations Considered & Ruled Out

s7(2)(i)



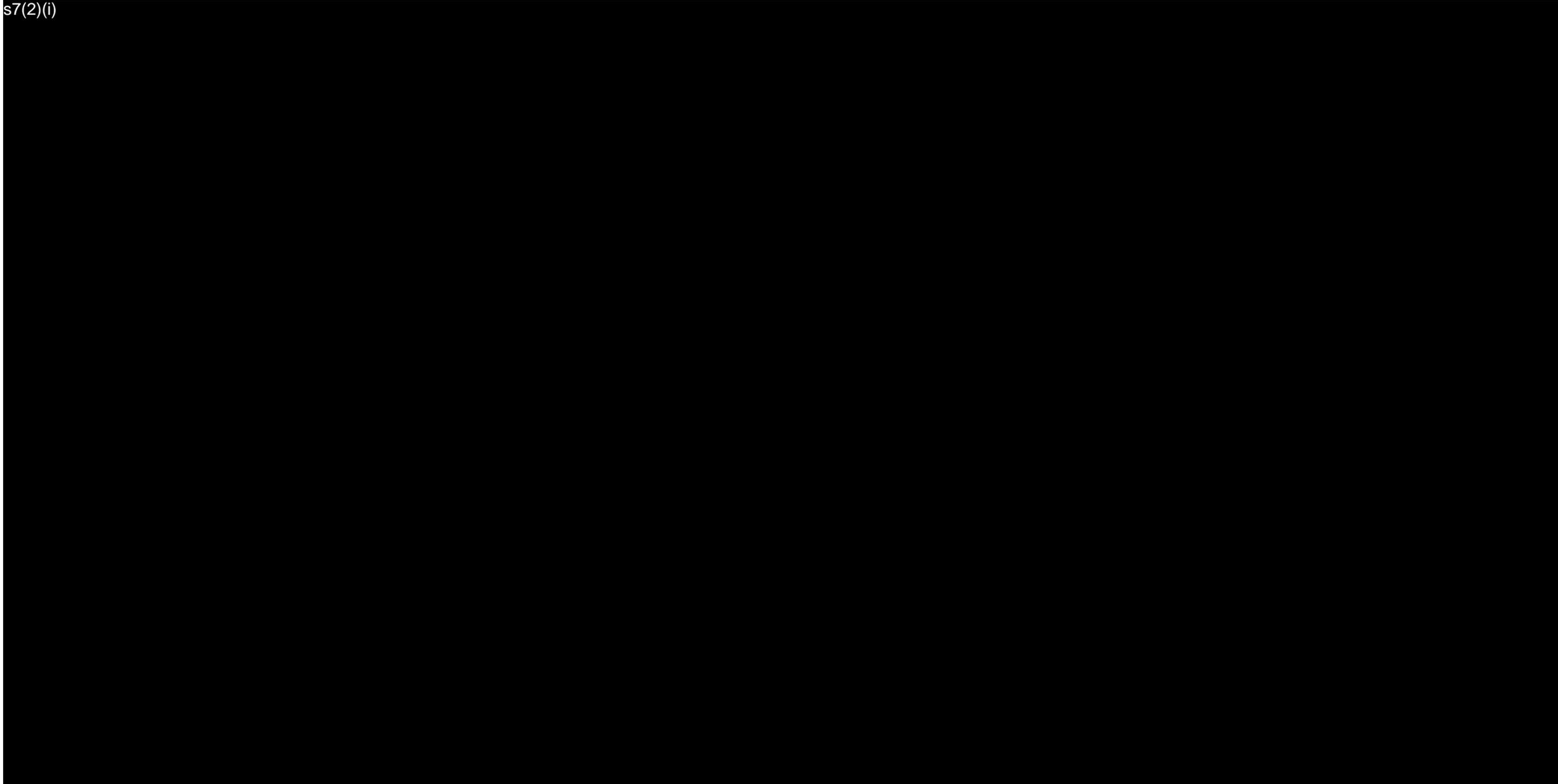
Locations Considered & Visited

s7(2)(i)

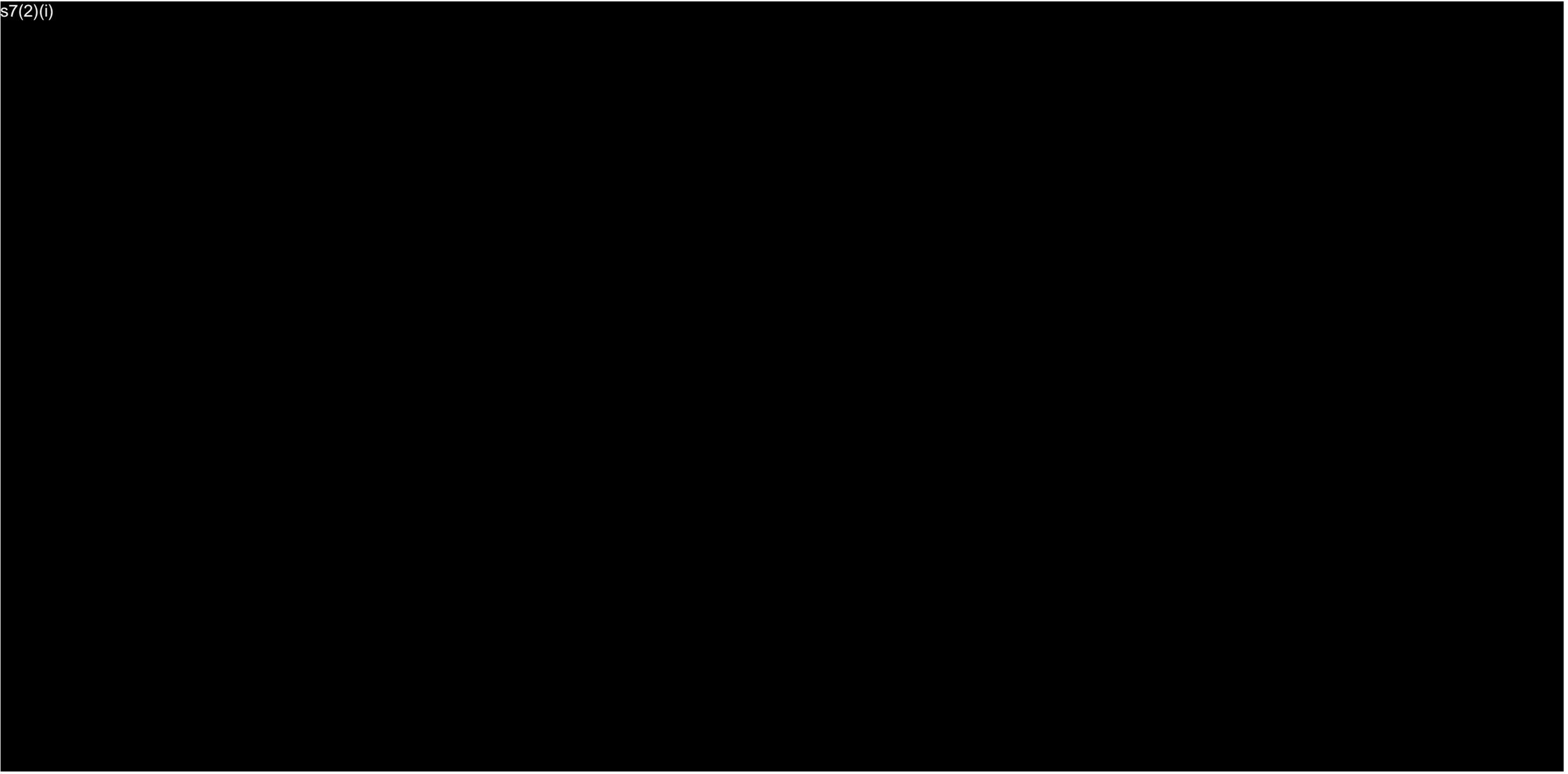


Identified Sites for Detailed Examination

s7(2)(i)



s7(2)(i)



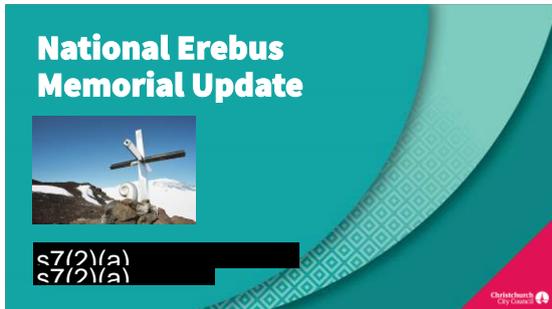
s7(2)(i)

Next Steps

- Discussion with ^{s7(2)(a)} [REDACTED]
- Brief relevant community boards
- MCH advise families of identified locations
- Complete detailed evaluations
- Preferred location identified and brought to Council for consideration

Briefing to Councillors: National Erebus Memorial Update

Slide One



Kia ora and good morning Councillors.

This morning I would like to provide you with an update on progress being made on identifying a site that may be offered to the Ministry of Culture and Heritage for the National Erebus Memorial and to seek your continued support in the project.

As you will remember I briefed you back in December last year on a proposal for the Mayor to write to the MCH inviting them to consider Christchurch as a home for the memorial after their difficulty in finding an appropriate place for the memorial in either Auckland or Wellington.

This offer reflected Christchurch's deep connection to Antarctica and to Flight TE901. Moreover it reflected our community's shared sense of manaakitanga – compassion and care – for those who have lost loved ones in a national tragedy.

Slide Two

Site Criteria

- Accessible
- Safe
- Amenity
- Own Meaning

Within the Council we formed a small team to coordinate the project and work with MCH.

To assess potential locations, we established a working group—led by s7(2)(a) from Lincoln University and including representatives from Council, MCH, and Ngāi Tūāhuriri.

Over two days the group identified and visited a range of sites within the four broad locations of:

- s7(2)(i)
- s7(2)(i)
- s7(2)(i)

• s7(2)(i)

To guide the selection process, the working group applied four primary criteria used in earlier site assessments.

- **Accessible:** Where people can easily get access (public transport / vehicle access) and where the site can be designed to have universal access.
- **Safe:** Avoidance of threats and perceived threats from adjacent structures or landforms with particular attention to geotechnical stability.
- **Amenity:** Connection to features that enhance the setting and/or provides potential for quiet contemplation.
- **Own Meaning:** Can develop its own meaning and significance over time, rather than already having a fixed meaning or known significance.

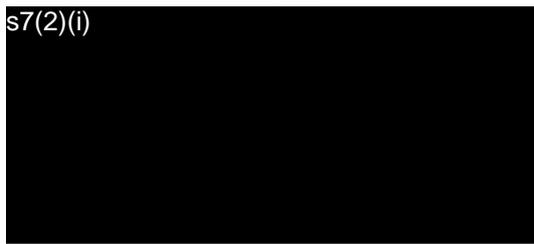
Additionally, the working group kept the design principle of the memorial in mind.

The design must balance the solemnity of loss with the spirit of adventure that defined the Erebus flight. Families have expressed a strong desire for the memorial to include the names of all 257 people on board, allowing for personal connection and remembrance.

Slide Three

Sites Considered & Ruled Out

s7(2)(i)



Orlando
University

Firstly, we considered several potential locations that had either been suggested or could be suggested for a home but were considered unsuitable when placed against the site criteria, or there were other matters that ruled them out.

Sites with strong existing associations—such as s7(2)(i)

s7(2)(i)

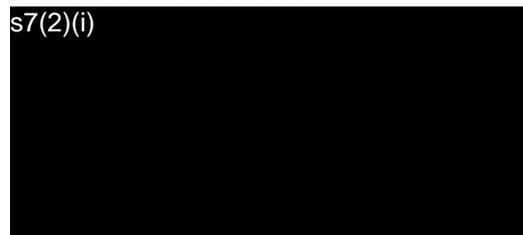
—were excluded. This was to

ensure the Erebus Memorial could develop its own unique identity without being overshadowed or conflated with other events.

Slide Four

Locations Considered & Visited

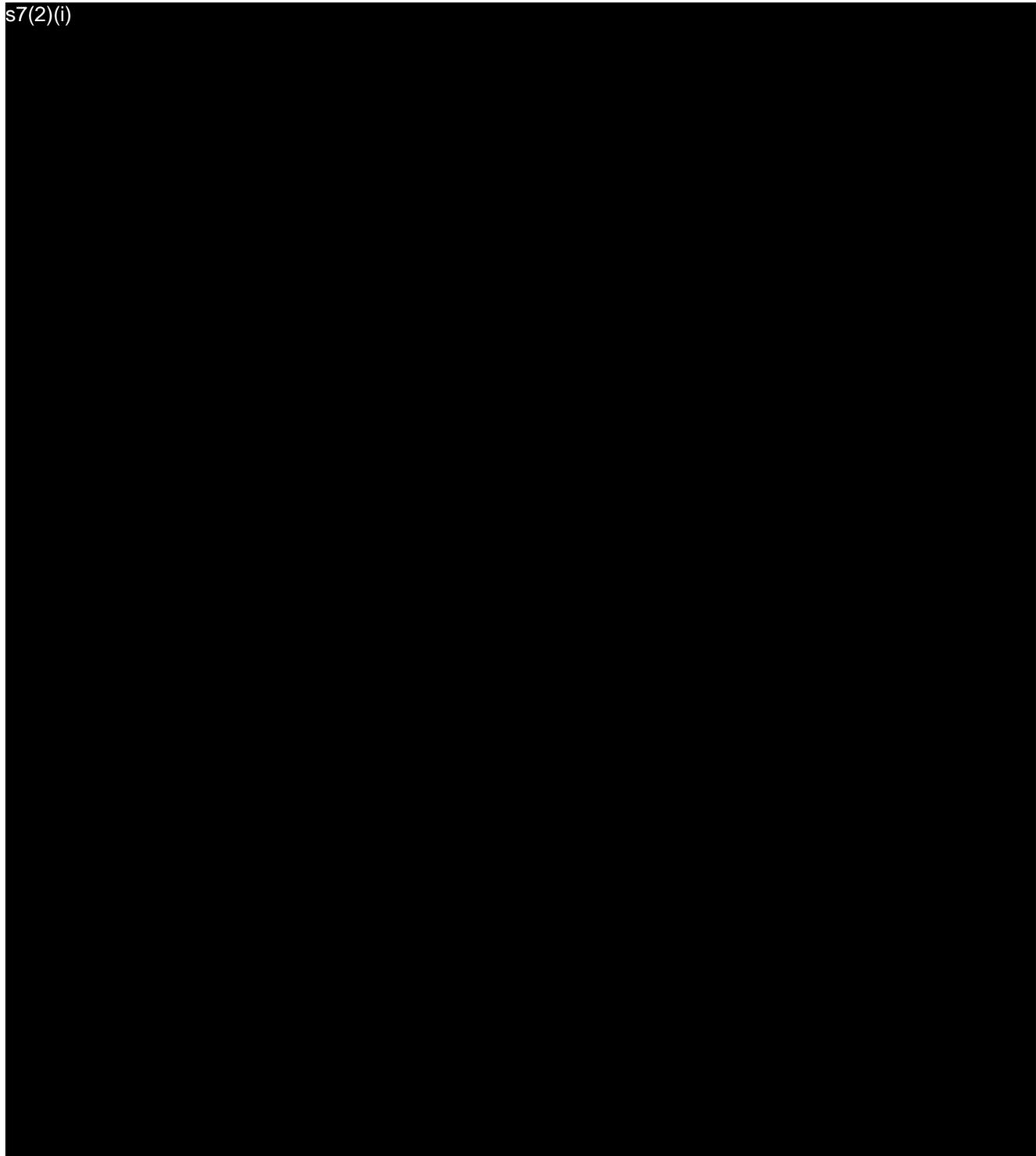
s7(2)(i)



Orlando
University

The working group considered a diverse set of locations, each evaluated against the agreed criteria.

s7(2)(i)

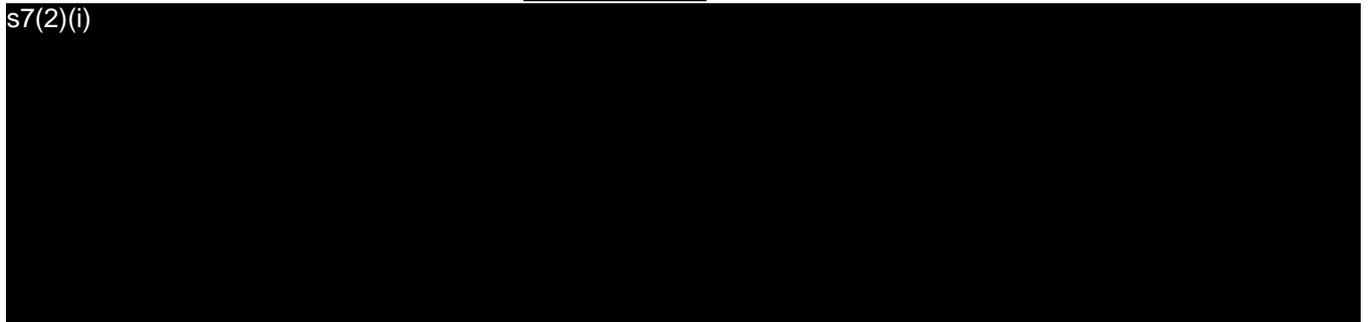


Slide Five

Identified Sites for Detailed Examination

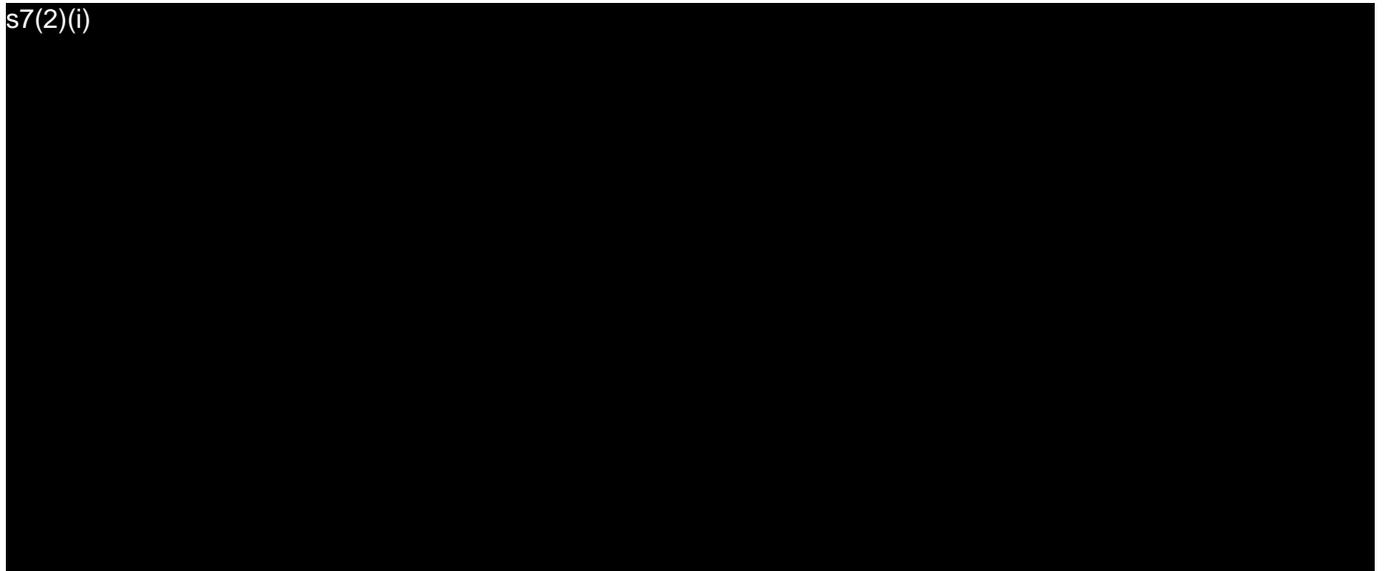
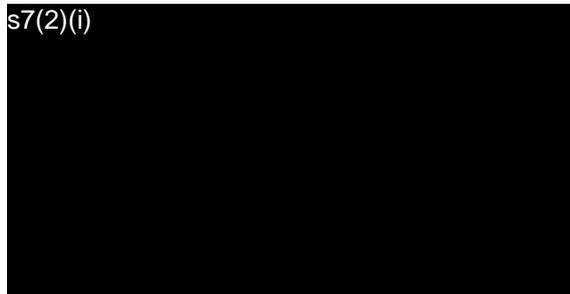


After a comprehensive site assessment, s7(2)(i) emerged as the strongest contenders:



These sites best met the criteria of accessibility, safety, amenity, and the ability to develop their own meaning.

Slide Six

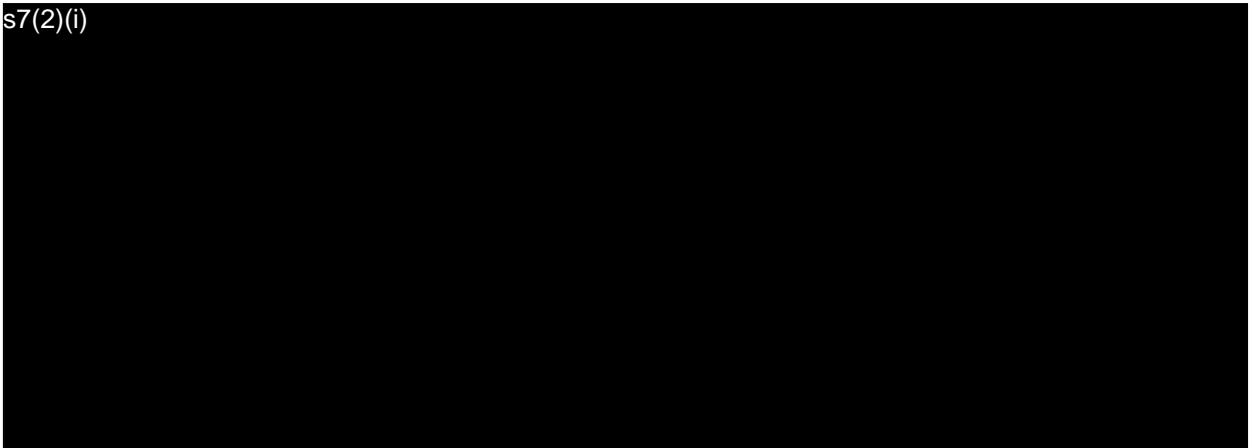


Slide Seven

s7(2)(i)

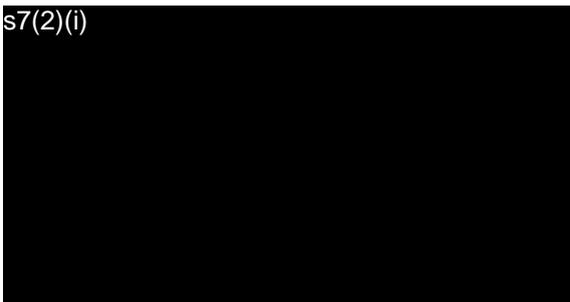


s7(2)(i)

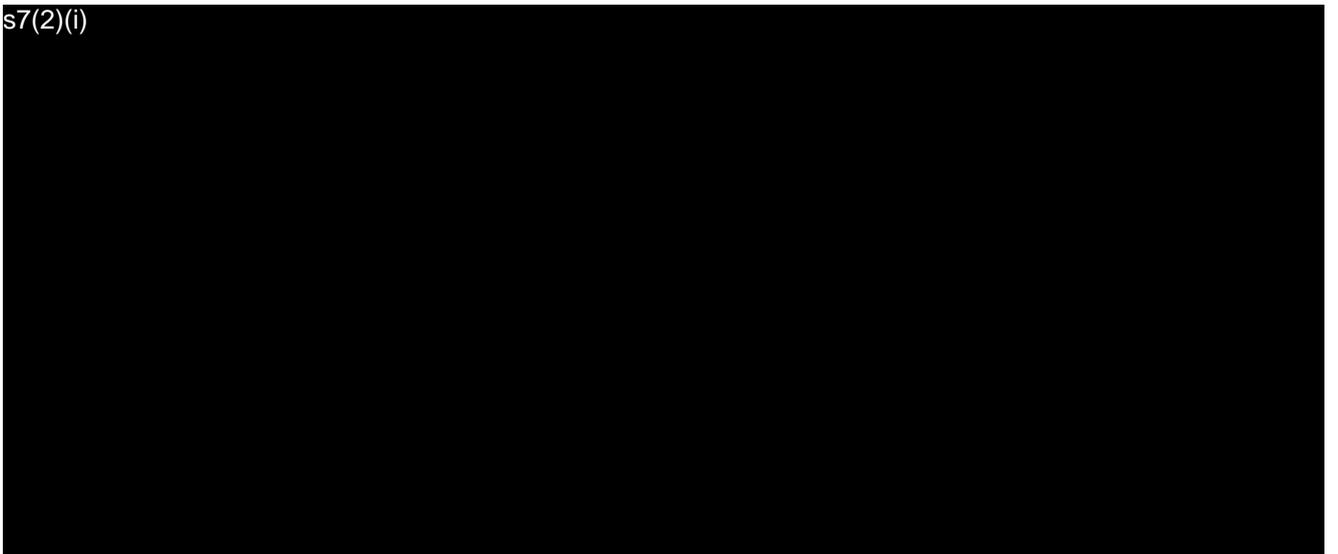


Slide Eight

s7(2)(i)



s7(2)(i)



Slide Nine

Next Steps

s7(2)(a)

- Brief relevant community boards
- MCH advise families of identified locations
- Complete detailed evaluations
- Preferred location identified and brought to Council for consideration

Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri Kōwhiri

9 June 2022

Ōtautahi
Christchurch

Our goal is to identify a site that honours the memory of those lost on TE901, meets the needs of their whanau, and is embraced by the people of Ōtautahi Christchurch.

Over the coming days and weeks we will continue to engage with site stakeholders – including s7(2)(a) and the respective community boards.

MCH will advise family members of the s7(2) possible locations and once this is done we can bring this briefing out of PX.

Targeted engagement will be undertaken with other various stakeholders and we will undertake the detailed site evaluations.

We will then bring to the council a report with a preferred site for your consideration, this will be on or before the Council meeting on 3 September.

In the meantime, I want to thank you for your continued support for this work.

It is deeply meaningful that Christchurch is undertaking this project so we may be a potential home for the memorial after the long and difficult journey MCH and the families have endured in seeking a suitable site elsewhere.

Together, we have an opportunity to offer a welcomed place of dignity and peace – one that honours their loved ones and provides a lasting space for remembrance, reflection and healing.

Memo

Date: 26 November 2024
From: s7(2)(a) Manager OMCS
To: Mayor, Chief Executive

Meeting with Secretary of Culture & Heritage: 29 November 2024

Introduction

This memo is to provide key discussion points for the meeting with Leauanae Laulu Mac Leauanae, Secretary for Culture and Heritage and Chief Executive of the Minister of Culture and Heritage at 12.00pm on Friday 29 November 2024 at the Commodore Hotel.

Purpose

The purpose of the meeting is to introduce the Secretary to the Mayor and CE and to discuss the national memorials for Christchurch

Discussion Points

Erebus Memorial

The primary area of focus for the Secretary will be the Erebus Memorial. 28 November is the anniversary date for the Erebus disaster with 2024 being the 45th anniversary. MCH is under considerable pressure to deliver a national memorial for the disaster.

To date the plan has been for the memorial to be in Auckland. However, there was strong community division on the initial location. This location subsequently became unsuitable after cyclone damage last year. MCH has then looked at a number of other locations in Auckland as well as the Pukeahu National War Memorial in Wellington.

After these investigations they have been left with only one potential site in Auckland at the Michael Joseph Savage Memorial at Bastion Point. Owing to the history of this site local iwi have indicated that they will need consensus from across their membership before agreeing to the memorial being constructed here. MCH believe this will be a lengthy process that will not meet their hopes for the delivery of the memorial.

MCH has now turned their focus towards Christchurch as a potential site for the memorial. There is a compelling narrative of why Christchurch would be suitable. Christchurch is the Antarctic gateway for New Zealand, the aircraft was due to return to Christchurch for refuelling and a crew change before travelling on to Auckland, and there is the story of how people across the South Island turned their house lights on to guide the aircraft back to Christchurch when it was announced the aircraft was missing.

Arguments against the memorial being housed in Christchurch surround a narrative that we could be seen as the disaster/tragedy city and the sequencing of this memorial against a memorial for the victims of the 15 March terror attacks.

The key questions to put to the Secretary on the proposal to establish the Erebus Memorial in Christchurch are:

- How will MCH get agreement from the families?
- What fallout will there be with Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei if the memorial is to no longer be established at the Michael Joseph Savage Memorial Park.
- What are the timelines for completing the memorial?
- How does establishing this memorial affect the 15 March memorial?
- What does MCH need from us?

NATIONAL EREBUS MEMORIAL

Initial identification of locations *(draft and for internal use only)*

Ōtautahi Christchurch, January 2025

A staged process is proposed to identify potential sites for the National Erebus Memorial if this were to be progressed in Ōtautahi Christchurch. This document captures initial ideas discussed by CCC staff based on the project objectives, high-level site assessment criteria, and knowledge of local places and communities. Further refinement and desk top assessment would be required to complete a long list for detailed assessment and preliminary engagement.

As Christchurch has not previously been considered a potential location for the memorial there is no existing list of sites, other than mention within recent media articles of adjacency to the airport and Antarctic Centre.

Initial identification is based on staff knowledge. Desk top assessment would need to be undertaken to provide further analysis and inform comments against the high-level criteria, followed by site visits as part of a fuller assessment process.

Drawing from the full site assessment criteria, four criteria have been applied to initial consideration of locations in Christchurch. Three of the criteria (*Access, Safety, Amenity*) were those used in the first stage of the long list assessment process undertaken for sites in Auckland (Barker & Associates Long List Site Assessment, January 2024). A further criterion was identified as important to consider, particularly within the Christchurch context (*Own Meaning*).

Accessible: *People can easily get to it (public transport / vehicle access) and can be designed to have universal access.*

Safe: *Avoidance of threats and perceived threats from adjacent structures or landforms with particular attention to geotechnical stability.*

Amenity: *Connection to features that enhance the setting and/or provides potential for quiet contemplation*

Own Meaning: *Can develop its own meaning and significance over time, rather than already having a fixed meaning or known significance*

Noting that the preference is for the memorial to be located in Auckland, the criteria and priorities may differ slightly when applied to the Christchurch context. For example, with 'Access' it would be a purposeful trip to Christchurch for many and the city is smaller in area. That could mean that, although universal access at the site remains critical, how ease of access to the site is considered might vary.

The existing memorial design was noted in terms of its key elements and overall scale, along with the commitment to utilise the principles of this design and adapt it to a new site (*Criteria: Designers Intention*).

Ngāi Tahu involvement will be discussed further with the Council's Treaty Partnerships team and the relevant runanga. This would include input to the process of site selection. Ngāi Tahu narratives and place names may reveal further potential connections and meaning which could support suitable locations.

Natural hazards have not been assessed in detail and at this stage considered broadly in relation to risks of coastal inundation, flooding, liquefaction and fire.

A number of locations were considered to be unsuitable for the Erebus National Memorial which included heritage listed urban squares and spaces s7(2)(i) and sensitive sites related to the earthquakes (including former CTV and PCG building sites and adjacent to Oi Manawa Canterbury Earthquake National Memorial) s7(2)(i)

AIRPORT AND SURROUNDS

Christchurch International Airport has been identified as a potential location primarily as this would offer proximity to the airport for visitors and a direct connection to the Antarctic Centre.

<p>Russley Road / SH1 / Memorial Avenue</p> <p>Christchurch International Airport Ltd (Owner)</p> <p>Ngāi Tūāhuriri runanga</p> <p>NZTA</p> <p>Community board:</p>	<p>Close proximity to airport. On frequent bus route to central city. Open and flat area. No known / identified safety or hazard constraints. No adjacent structures or landforms of note. SH1 bridge feature.</p> <p>Industrial nature of surrounding area. Nearby food outlets. Noise from SH1 and airport.</p> <p>Area not yet developed which offers potential. Proximity to and strong association with the airport may be a limitation.</p> <p>Currently has a plaque commemorating an air accident the occurred on 21 Nov 1957 in the vicinity.</p> <p>Former location of the Brevet Club.</p> <p>CV: \$2,000,000</p> <p>Note: Design and landscaping would need to buffer adjoining land uses and create suitable space.</p>
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<p>International Antarctic Centre</p> <p>Christchurch International Airport Ltd (Owner)</p> <p>Ngāi Tūāhuriri runanga</p> <p>Antarctica New Zealand</p> <p>Community board:</p>	<p>Close proximity to airport. On frequent bus route to central city. Open and flat areas. No known / identified safety or hazard constraints.</p> <p>Dependent on site within the area – likely not affected by adjacent structures or landforms.</p> <p>Industrial nature of surrounding area and noise from airport.</p> <p>Proximity to and strong association with the airport and Antarctic Centre, and adjoining uses, may be a limitation (or strength?).</p> <p>Note: Design and landscaping would need to buffer adjoining land uses and create suitable space.</p>
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<p>St James Church, Harewood Road - land east of the church</p> <p>Church Property Trustees (Owner)</p>	<p>Close proximity to airport. On frequent bus route. Open and flat area. No known / identified safety or hazard constraints.</p> <p>No adjacent structures or landforms of note. Minimal road noise.</p> <p>Church has held anniversary events. No other known associations.</p>
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Roto Kohatu Reserve – north of Christchurch International Airport. Greywacke Road / Sawyers Arms Road / Johns Road.

Christchurch City Council

Ngāi Tūāhuriri Runanga

Community board:

Close proximity to airport. Parking areas.

Adjoining water body / lakes.

Lakes and reserve area.

Walking tracks within reserve.

Noise / activity – jetskis (Canterbury Jet Sports Club) on first lake. Kart raceway adjoining.

Existing reserve status and recreational uses.

Note: Activities adjoining and on the lakes limit potential for quiet, contemplative space.



CENTRAL CITY

Avon Ōtakaro riverbank - near Scott Statue. Could be either side, although not within statue reserve/immediate surrounds.

Christchurch City Council
Antarctic Heritage Trust

Centrally located. Highly accessible via private vehicle, bus, walking and cycling. Tram route adjacent.
 Adjoining river.
 Adjoining waterway and surrounded by reserve.

City and traffic noise.
 Existing reserve status.

Recreational and event use may be impacted.

Kate Sheppard memorial improvements proposed in close proximity.



Avon Ōtakaro riverbank
 Number of potential locations, e.g. along river towards red zone / Avon Loop

Christchurch City Council zone
 Former residents.

Adjoining river.
Avon Loop CV \$1.05M



<p>Botanic Gardens – noting magnetic observatory</p> <p>Christchurch City Council Friends of the Botanic Gardens Antarctic Heritage Trust</p>	<p>Centrally located. Accessible via private vehicle, bus, walking and cycling. See Management Plan and identification of areas and objectives?</p>
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<p>Hagley Park – woodland, rotunda area</p> <p>Hands Off Hagley</p>	<p>Centrally located. Accessible via private vehicle, bus, walking and cycling.</p> <p>Management Plan being reviewed – memorialising aspect of this.</p> <p>s7(2)(i)</p>
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PORT HILLS

<p>Awaroa / Godley Head</p> <p>Dept of Conservation (Owner), Godley Head Trust Ngāti Wheke</p>	<p>Vehicle access via Summit Road from City. Walking tracks on headland and from Taylors Mistake. No bus route. No known issues with safety of the existing facilities / car park area / campground. Would need to ask DoC for information. Elevated site, opportunity for expansive sea views from headland. Existing historical and educational meaning. Historic reserve status. Captain Scott’s hut located within the area.</p>
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Port Hills / Summit Road - looking south, rather than into harbour.

Christchurch City Council, Summit Road Societys(s) and others
Selwyn District Council
Ngāti Wheke

Vehicle access via Summit Road and Port Hills walking tracks. No bus route.
 Dependent on site, however would be more remote and CPTED important.
 Elevated site, opportunity for expansive views south / to the mountains.
 Opportunity to provide sense of connection through orientation and sense of adventure.
 Opportunity for future reserve development / replanting.
Areas under consideration are all in SDC.



Port Hills / Greenwood Park – top of Mount Pleasant
Council
Ngāti Wheke

Vehicle access. Bus route to Sumner on flat only.
 Expansive views north.



RESERVES AND PARKS			
Red zone – with expansive views / views of hills e.g. Dallington reserve	Christchurch City Council	Existing connections to the earthquakes.	
Halswell quarry – elevated section towards the top	Christchurch City Council	Vehicle access and parking off Kennedys Bush Road. Bus route to near Halswell school. Existing connections with sister cities - botanical collections and walkways.	
McCleans island / wider area	ECAN Christchurch City Council CIAL	Close proximity to airport.	
			
Styx Mill / Styx River Conservation reserves		Relatively close to airport.	
			
Avonhead Memorial Cemetery / Park		Association with earthquakes	
			
Sparks Road open spaces (stormwater retention & recreation)	Christchurch City Council		
Bottle Lake	Christchurch City Council	Vehicle access. Several bus routes nearby.	Landfill site, sensitive connection

Wigram – near the airforce museum	NZ Defence Force	Relatively close proximity to airport and near frequent bus route.	
			
Otamahua / Quail Island – recreation reserve	Dept of Conservation	Ferry access. Adjoining water with elevated views.	Relationship with Antarctic history.
Diamond Harbour – Stoddart Point	Christchurch City Council	Ferry or road access. Adjoining water with elevated views.	
Te oka reserve – southern bays			

Potential alignment and locations:

Flight path into Christchurch from Antarctica

Consider viewing angles from Port Hills and other locations – and what best aligns with criteria and views of families and operation overdue

Include driving distance / time from central city?

Comments:

Not too urban

Expansive

Quiet, contemplative

Southern aspect, towards Antarctica

Background links:

<https://ir.canterbury.ac.nz/server/api/core/bitstreams/48987cfa-596f-473e-8c83-27b153348ac0/content>

Resource Consents Unit

Memo

Date: 26 May 2025
From: s7(2)(a) Senior Planner, Resource Consents Unit
To: s7(2)(a) Team Leader Urban Design, Planning & Consents

Subject

Planning context to inform site selection for National Erebus Memorial in Christchurch

Introduction

This memorandum is to provide information to inform site selection for a national Erebus Memorial in Christchurch. The s7(2)(a) sites detailed below have been chosen for further review from a long list. The planning context of each site will help to assess that site against the following site selection criteria and detailed evaluation against the full set of criteria once a short list has been identified¹:

- Certainty
- Adjacencies
- Sensitivity
- Safe

List of Sites

	Site name	Address	Aerial map
s7(2)(i)			

¹ Refer to the National Erebus Memorial – Refined Site Selection Criteria [National-Erebus-Memorial-Refined-Site-Criteria.pdf](#) (accessed 13 May 2025)

	Site name	Address	Aerial map
s7(2)(i)			

	Site name	Address	Aerial map
s7(2)(i)			

Summary

When considering the site selection criteria above:

- The sites with the most permissive and therefore most **certain** authorising environments are (in no particular order) s7(2)(i). A public memorial is generally permitted at these sites, though there are rules affecting the size and location of a structure and the extent of permitted earthworks for any site preparation. It is considered that, with written approval provided by mana whenua (Ngāi Tūāhuriri) or s7(2)(i), respectively, resource consent may be obtained relatively easily for either of the s7(2)(i).
- The surrounding environments (**adjacencies**) of all the sites differ markedly given the range of rural, urban and residential contexts. s7(2)(i) likely to be the most **sensitive** to any change, as they are located adjacent to well-established residential neighbourhoods. However, the authorising environment may mean that no resource consent is required for a memorial in this location, which could mitigate this sensitivity to some degree. The least sensitive site is considered to be the s7(2)(i).
- **Safe:** The s7(2)(i) of the District Plan. s7(2)(i) which may require consideration of land stability for any preparatory earthworks. No other sites have natural hazards or other geotechnical constraints identified in the District Plan.

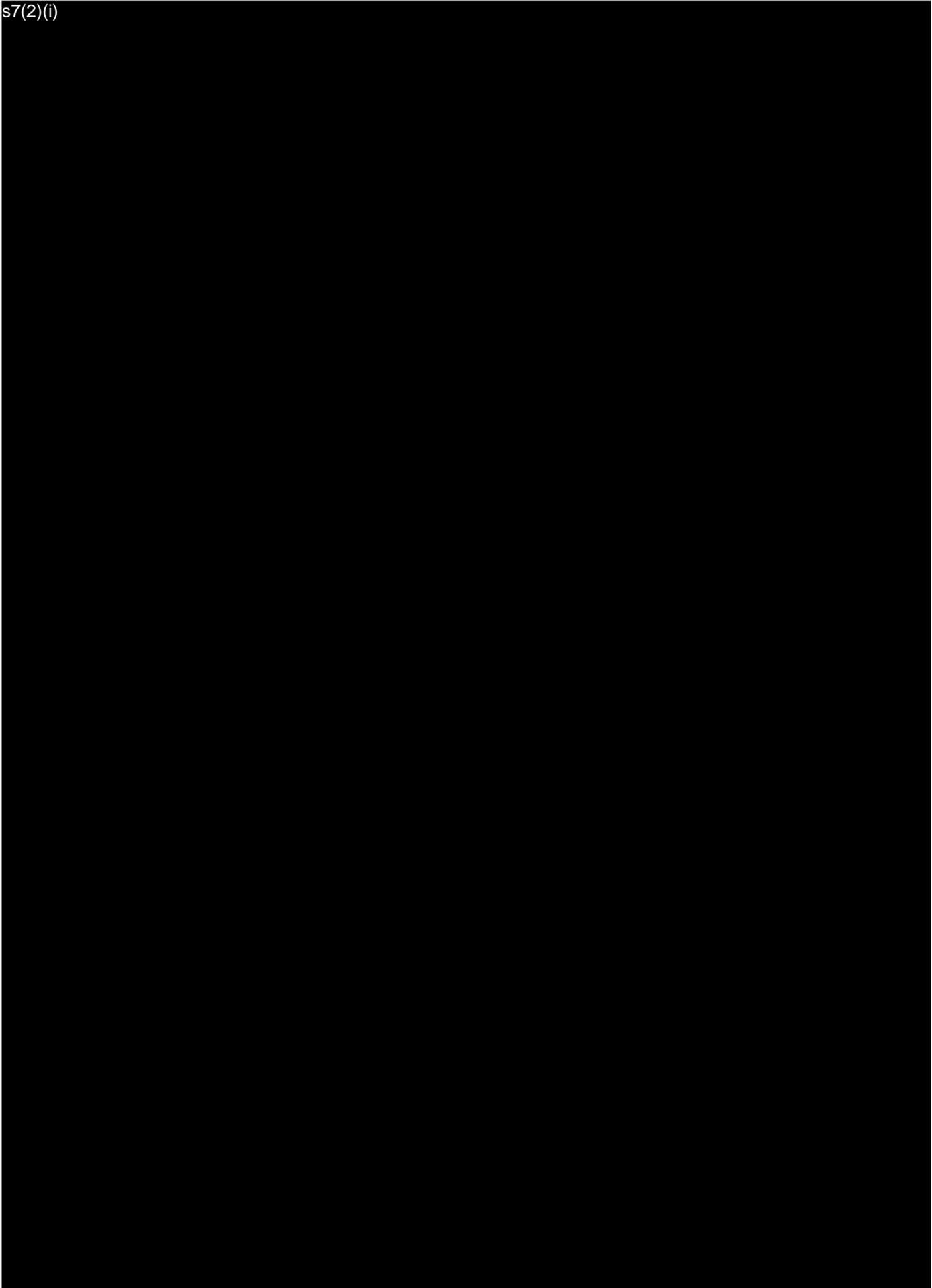
Individual Site Assessment

s7(2)(i)			
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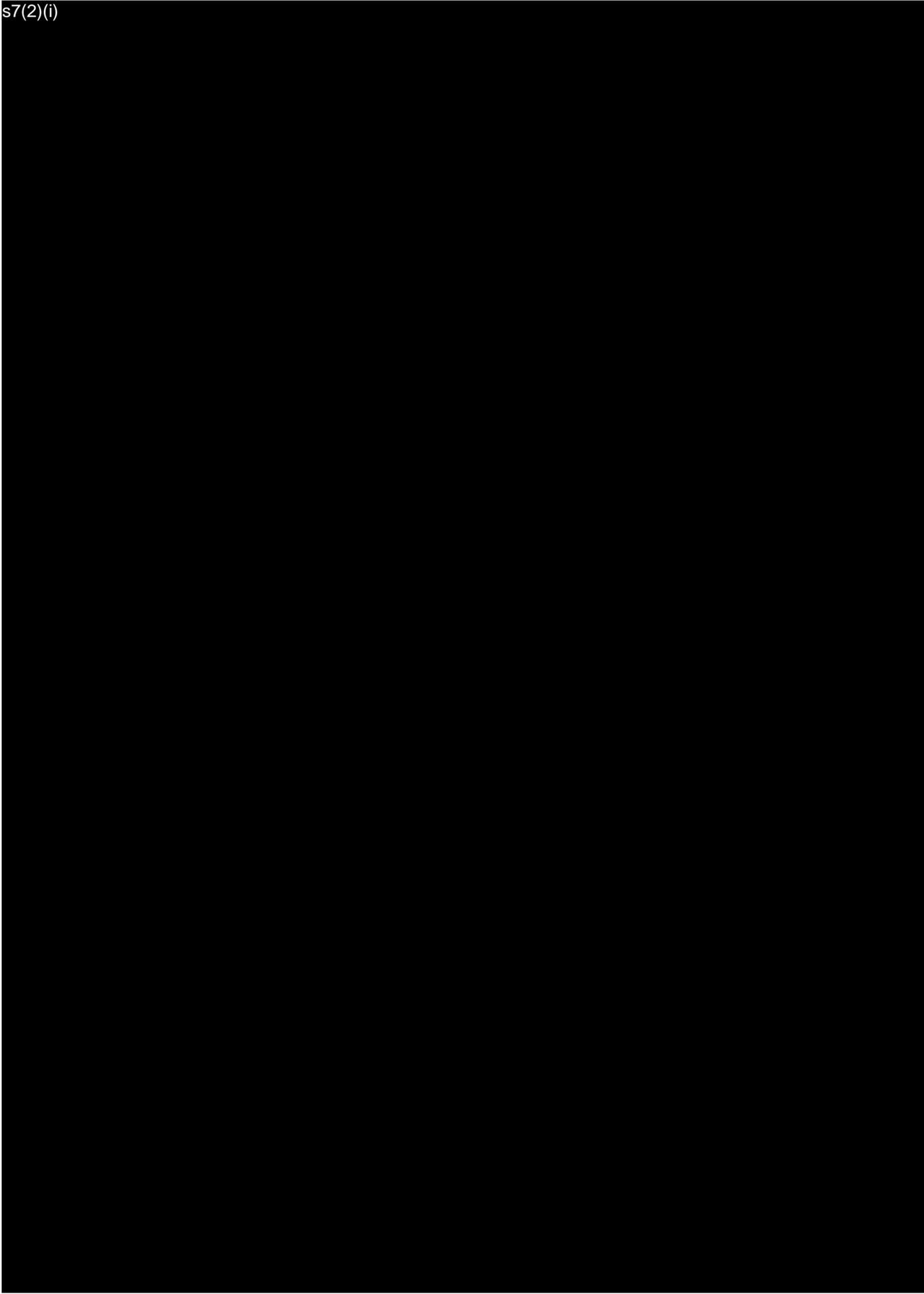
s7(2)(i)



s7(2)(i)



s7(2)(i)

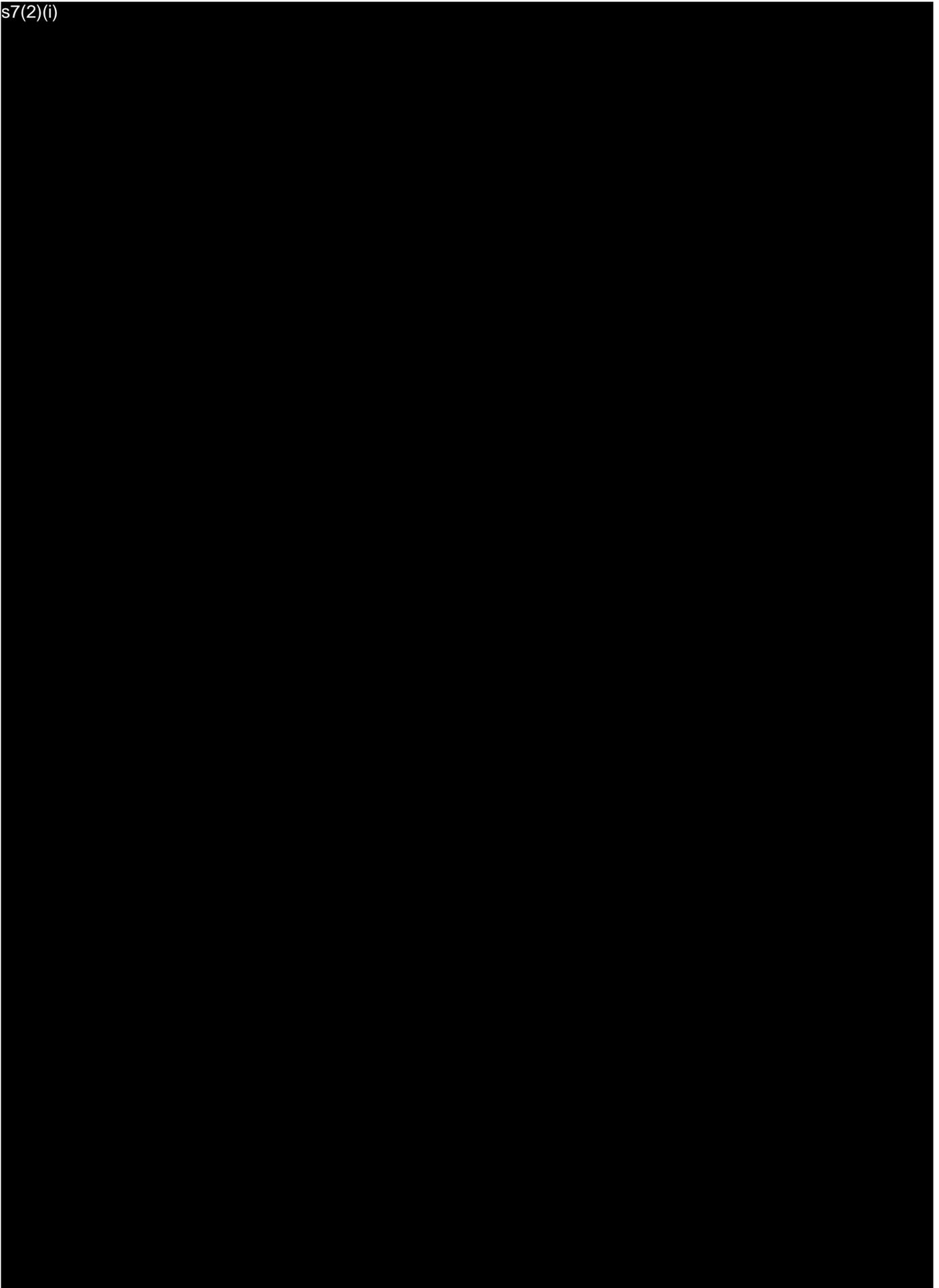


s7(2)(i)

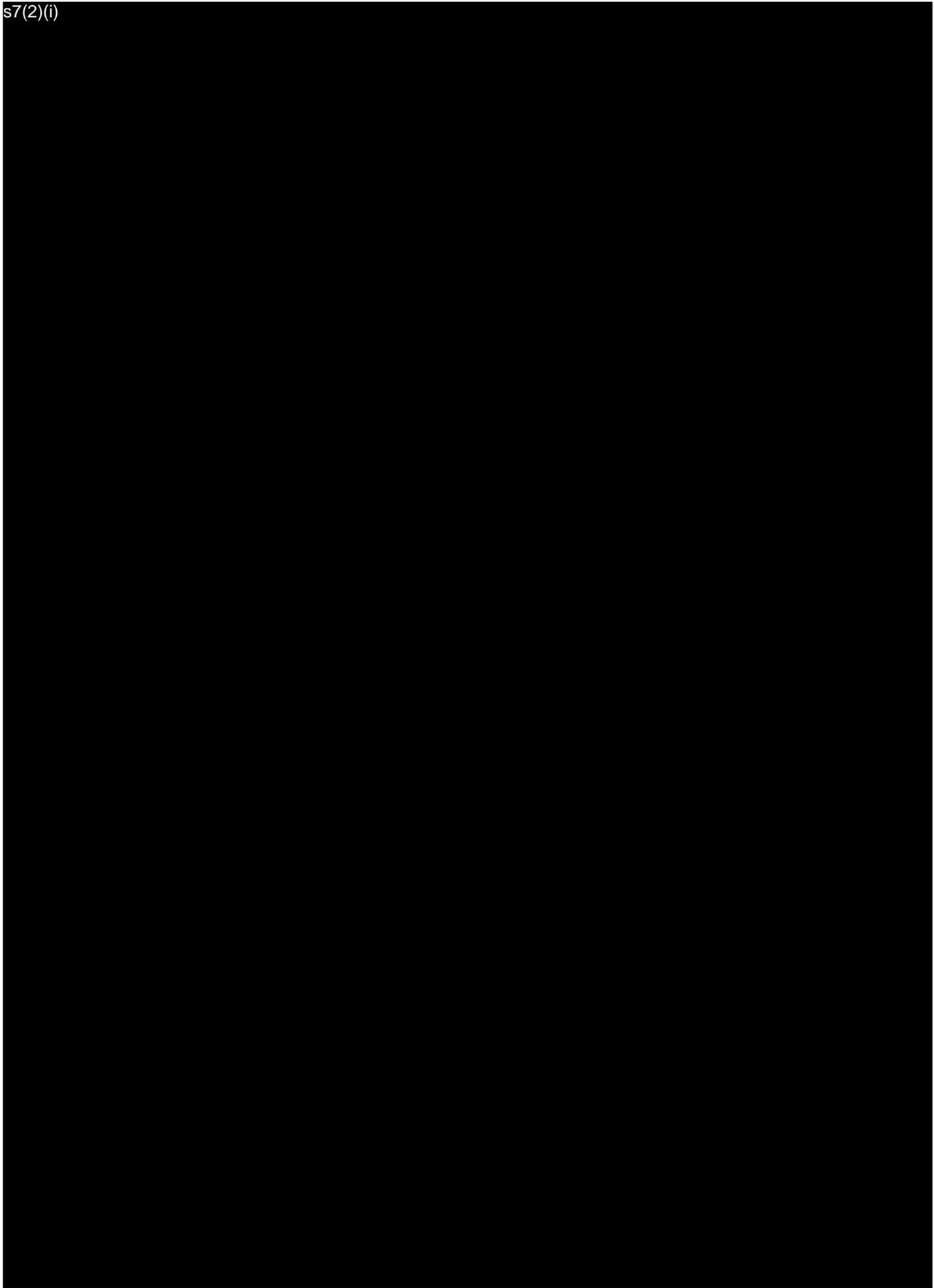


Appendix 1 – Heritage Aerial Maps

s7(2)(i)



s7(2)(i)



National Erebus Memorial

Site Selection
Working Group

20 & 21 March 2025



Karakia

Whakataka te Hau

Whakataka te hau ki te uru

Whakataka te hau ki te tonga

Kia mākinakina ki uta

Kia mātaratara ki tai

E hī ake ana te atakura

He tio, he huka, he hau hū

Tīhei mauri ora!

Cease the winds from the west

Cease the winds from the south

Let the breeze blow over the land

Let the breeze blow over the ocean

Let the red-tipped dawn come with a
sharpened air.

A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.

National Erebus Memorial

Site Selection Working Group

- Welcome & Introductions
- Overview (*MCH, CCC*)
- Working Group & Process
- Site Selection Criteria (*Barkers*)
- Memorial design (*Studio Pacific Architecture*)
- Key considerations Ōtautahi Christchurch (*CCC, Whitiora, all*)
- Potential locations (*CCC*)

Day 1 - afternoon

- Review criteria & list of potential locations
- Identify gaps & agree site visits for Day 2

Day 2 - site visits

Overview 1/2

- 28 November 1979 - Air New Zealand flight TE901 crashed into lower slopes of Mt Erebus. All 257 people onboard died.
- It remains the worst civil accident in NZ history.
- Operation Overdue - the identification, investigation and recovery after the crash.



Overview 2/2

- Government has committed to a national memorial.
- 45 years & yet to be realised.
- Erebus families have showed a preference for a peaceful, park-like setting.
- Auckland site challenges.
- Exploration of potential sites in Auckland, Wellington & Christchurch.
- Erebus families & Operation Overdue.

The Why



- Everyone deserves a space to remember their loved ones
- Strong & enduring connections between Christchurch, Antarctica & Flight TE901
- Christchurch has a deep understanding of what it means to honour those who have passed in tragic circumstances, alongside its strong community spirit.

Site Selection Working Group

s7(2)(a) Lincoln University (convenor)

s7(2)(a), Ministry for Culture & Heritage

s7(2)(a), Whitiora

s7(2)(a), Whitiora

s7(2)(a), Christchurch City Council

s7(2)(a) Christchurch City Council

Support team:

s7(2)(a) Christchurch City Council
Ministry for Culture & Heritage

Site Selection – Key Stages

Stage One – Initial idea of Ōtautahi Christchurch as a host for the memorial

= letter from the Mayor of Christchurch to host the Memorial

Stage Two – Identification of broad locations and process for site selection

= Port Hills, Central City, Airport & surrounds, Reserves & Parks.

Stage Three – Potential areas/sites within locations identified

= list of potential sites/areas that can inform a long list for assessment.

Stage Four – High level Assessment of potential sites

= Site Selection Working Group meets to conduct high level assessment (desk top & site visits).

Notes provided & questions/queries noted to inform prioritised list.

Engagement with key landowners & stakeholders to ascertain support levels. Ongoing through stage five.

Erebus whānau & Operation Overdue update. Council elected member briefing on progress.

Stage Five – Detailed Assessment of potential sites (April/May)

= site assessments applying full site selection criteria.

Stage Six – Report to Council on preferred site(s) selection (July)

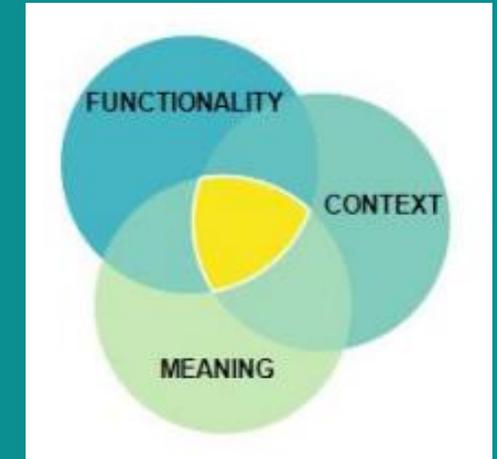
= report on preferred site(s) for Council endorsement, mana whenua letter of support.

Communication to Minister offering the preferred site.

Site Selection Criteria

- Post decision to withdraw from Dove-Myer Robinson Park, original site selection criteria refined with support of ^{s7(2)(a)} [REDACTED], TBIG & shared with Erebus families & Operation Overdue
- Barker & Associates was engaged to undertake a search & site assessment
- 36 sites identified in Auckland & one in Wellington

Site Selection Criteria



Functionality

Accessible:	A location / site that is accessible - so people can easily get to it (Public transport / vehicular access) and that can be designed to have universal access.
Flexible:	A flexible space allowing for formal and informal events, accommodate significant numbers as well as creating a more private, intimate experience.
Safe:	Avoidance of threats and perceived threats from adjacent structures or landforms with particular attention paid to geotechnical stability.

Context

Co-location:	The extent to which larger gatherings can utilise adjacent spaces particularly if the site itself is restricted. Co-location can mean a smaller Memorial site could be workable / appropriate.
Adjacencies:	Compatibility with existing and potential future adjacent development / activities.
Relevance:	A site that is located somewhere that is conceptually connected to the function or purpose of the memorial.
Certainty	A site that has sufficient certainty in relation to security of tenure, iwi/hapu support, and authorising environment, to ensure an enduring context for the Memorial.

Meaning

Sensitivity:	A site where the memorial will not affect / compromise existing cultural or social sensitivities.
Own meaning:	A site that can develop its own meaning and significance over time, rather than a site which already has a fixed meaning / symbolism or known significance.
Designer's intention:	A site which can support the core concepts of the selected design.
Amenity:	Whether the site has connection to features that enhance the setting – views, water, trees, shelter, aspect with particular attention to the site qualities expressed in the selected design in relation to views and connections to the sea and sky.

Site Selection Application of Criteria

- Long listing (37 sites)
- Short listing & detailed assessments (of 4)
- Key learnings

Memorial Design

- Developed in 2018/19: Te Paerangi Ataata – Sky Song
- Studio Pacific Architecture in collaboration with artists Jason O’Hara & Warren Maxwell – following a national design competition.
- White concrete & mirrored stainless materials to evoke stark beauty of Antarctica.
- Ice wall – 257 names. Lines from the poem ‘Erebus Voices’ by Bill Manhire.
Snowflake Wall – 257 unique digitally grown snowflakes.
- 175m² footprint for structure & path. Up to 500m² works area.
- Adjust / redesign for selected site (i.e. walkway 17m, 1:20 incline to end, cantilevered last nine metres)

Original Memorial Design



Memorial Design

- Underlying design principles – *"Along with sadness and loss, the design also evokes the sense of adventure the crew and passengers are almost sure to have enjoyed as they boarded the flight."*
- One continuous wish from Erebus families is for the Memorial to display the names of everyone onboard, so they can touch the names of their loved ones
- Adaptive approach to design
- Influence of site context

Key Considerations

- Key considerations Ōtautahi Christchurch - discussion

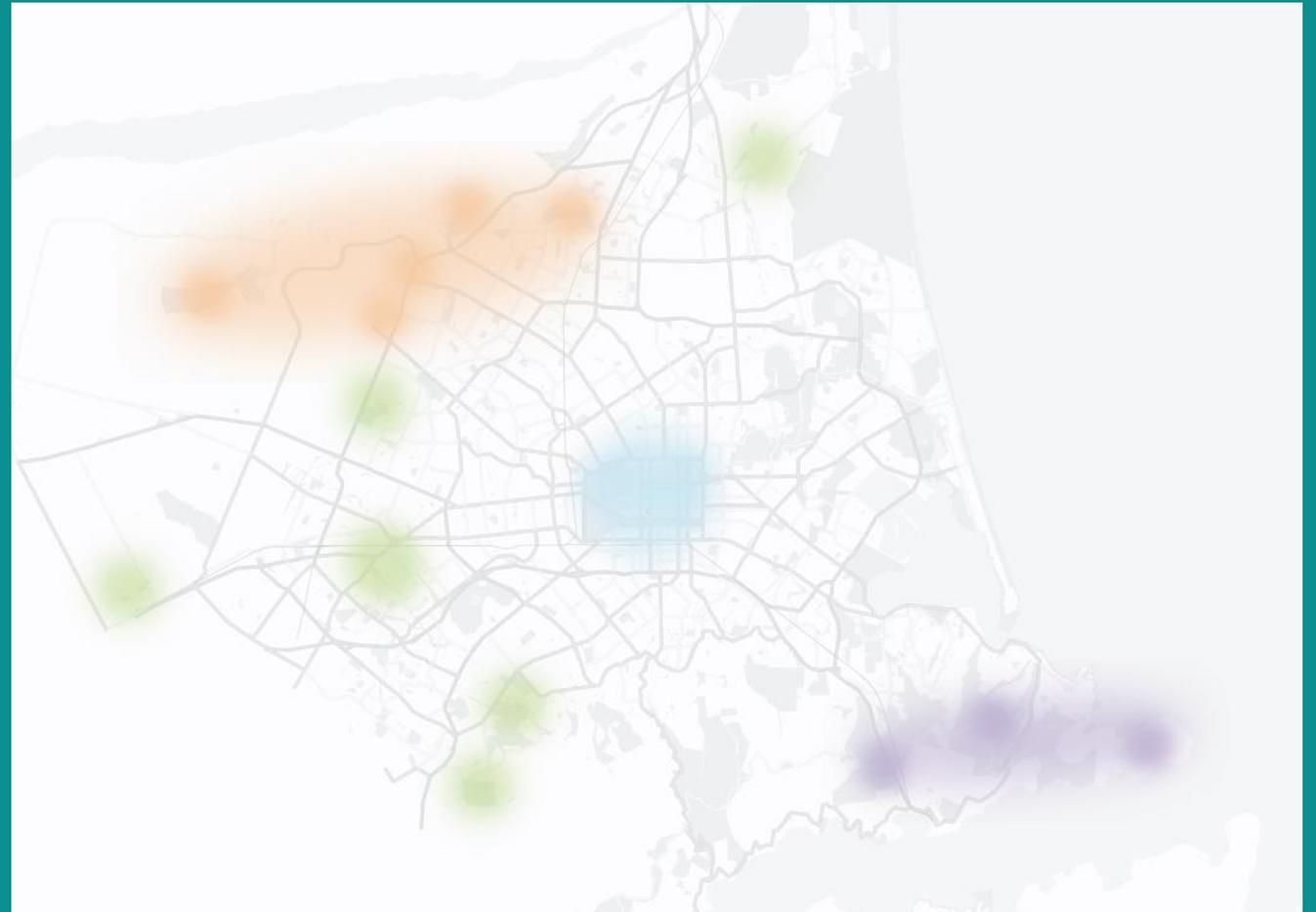
Potential Locations

Airport & Surrounds

Central City

Port Hills

Reserves & Parks



Waiata

Te Pua Rau Okioko - Ricky-Lee Mitai

- Waiata tangi written for Erebus families in 2024 as part of a broader programme of work to ensure the Erebus story is understood and recognised by all New Zealanders.
- Composed by Ricky-Lee Mitai of Haumi to support the reflective element of looking back to Erebus, and remind us that the journey to the memorial is multi-faceted.



Te pua rau mahara ka kapohia...

At the forefront of my thoughts, we remember you

Tau rawa iho ki te rua okioki

You who have departed but will never be forgotten

Te rua i ua waipuketia

A constant reminder when the rain falls

Te rua hautangi i wairangitia

A constant thought when the wind blows

Te rua ka pikitia, ka rapangia

A constant struggle to reset and release

Tē rua ki raurangi rā ia

But to not burden our children

He pua aroha e

The flower of remembrance

Nei rā ka hiki ake

I raise the flower high

I te pua kanohi kia mātaitia rā

Lifting my face, gazing towards the horizon

Te wehenga o te pō, te aranga mai o te rā

And farewell the old, welcoming the new

Kei tua, kei te paerangi rā ia

Beyond the suffering there's calm

He puaotanga mō matarau nui mā

Signalling a clearer pathway forward for all

Mō kāhikitia rā, mō kāhapāinga

We acknowledge the past, for the future is bright

Ā puawairangi e

My strength and vitality will blossom

Ka puhia e te hau nā

Time passes, time flies

Ka noho mai koe

You will always remain

Ko tō kakara ka rongu tonu

As your essence stirs the air

He pua rere moana, He pua rere hau

Transported by the sea, captured by the winds

He pua rere runga, He pua rere tau

Elevated to the sky, flowing across the ground

He pua kai manawa, He pua rerenga wairua

A flower most precious, journeying with the leaping spirits

Te pua o maumahara

Kept forever in my thoughts

Haere rā e hika

Farewell our beloved

I ngā hau nui, i ngā hau roa

Elevated by the winds

Haere rā e hika

Farewell our beloved

i ngā tai nui, tai roa,

flow with the tidal waters

i ngā tai o aroha

within the currents of love

Nei rā te pua okioki e.

Here the flower of remembrance blossoms.

End

Moe mai rā koutou
i runga i te aroha.
Kei te pae o mahara,
kei te kokonga ngākau
hoki koutou e noho
ana mo ake tonu atu.

With love, rest easy.
You remain in our
thoughts and our
hearts for evermore.

Long list assessment of sites within Ōtautahi Christchurch

Overview & Methodology

A staged process is being undertaken to identify potential sites for the National Erebus Memorial in Ōtautahi Christchurch. This document captures the assessment undertaken over two days by a working group in March 2025, along with further information gathered from stakeholders and relevant databases/existing resources following the workshop. Some additional sites were considered in the following weeks that were also investigated and are included in the information below.

The working group was comprised of staff from Christchurch City Council and the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, a landscape architecture and memorials expert from Lincoln University, and mana whenua representatives (Ngāi Tūāhuriri). Over two days the group identified and visited a range of sites within the four broad locations of:

- Airport and Surrounds
- Central City
- Port Hills
- Parks and Reserves

The group were briefed by the Ministry and advisors (including designers and urban planners) regarding the objectives established with Erebus families and Operation Overdue and processes for site selection previously undertaken.

The Memorial will provide Erebus families with a dedicated place of remembrance. It will recognise the effects of the tragedy on a national scale given the reverberations of the accident still felt today. The Memorial will provide a place for Erebus families, Operation Overdue and New Zealanders to gather, remember and reflect on the accident. (Ministry for Culture & Heritage, www.mch.govt.nz)

The memorial design Te Paerangi Ataata – Sky Song was outlined along with recognition that the design will need to be adapted to a new site and context with the intention to carry through as many of the design principles and elements as possible, space to hold the 257 names being a critical element.

Drawing from the full site assessment criteria, four criteria have been applied to initial consideration of locations in Christchurch. Three criteria (*Access, Safety, Amenity*) were those used in the first stage of the long list assessment process undertaken for sites in Auckland (Barker & Associates Long List Site Assessment, January 2024). A further criterion was identified as important to consider, particularly within the Christchurch context (*Own Meaning*).

Accessible	<i>People can easily get access (public transport / vehicle access) and can be designed to have universal access.</i>
Safe	<i>Avoidance of threats and perceived threats from adjacent structures or landforms with particular attention to geotechnical stability.</i>
Amenity	<i>Connection to features that enhance the setting and/or provides potential for quiet contemplation</i>
Own Meaning	<i>Can develop its own meaning and significance over time, rather than already having a fixed meaning or known significance</i>

Application of the criteria was noted as differing slightly when applied to the Christchurch context. For example, with 'Access' it would be a purposeful trip to Christchurch for many family members and the city is relatively small in area. Generally, locations that have been considered which are within the Christchurch urban area, north of the Port Hills, which provide for reasonably good access, including via public transport. This area falls within the takiwā of Ngāi Tūāhuriri.

It is understood that the project budget and timeframes would not extend to land acquisition therefore the focus has been on land which is in public ownership or held by organisations that may be willing for locations to be considered.

As Christchurch has not previously been considered a potential location for the memorial there was no existing list of sites, other than mention within recent media articles of adjacency to the airport and Antarctic Centre.

A number of locations were not considered to be suitable for the Erebus National Memorial including heritage listed urban squares and spaces **s7(2)(i)** **s7(2)(i)** and sites closely related to the earthquakes (including former CTV and PCG building sites and adjacent to Oī Manawa Canterbury Earthquake National Memorial). Any locations associated with the 15 March mosque attacks or in close proximity to these places are also considered unsuitable.

It was clearly acknowledged that this step in the process is occurring to inform further assessment and engagement with Erebus families and Operation Overdue at the appropriate stage in the process.

As noted above, following the workshop, further information has been sourced regarding particular sites and this has led to some sites (e.g. Antarctic Centre) not being progressed further even although the sites in question may have been initially assessed in a positive light.

Legend

Green	Indicates a site “performs well” against the criterion
Orange	Indicates the site “performs okay” against the criterion
Red	Indicates the site “performs poorly” against the criterion
Grey	Not progressed to further assessment
Overall	Overall assessment then assigned using the above categories
Sites visited	

Location / site	Access	Safety	Amenity	Own Meaning	Overall
<p>AIRPORT & SURROUNDS</p> <p><i>Christchurch International Airport and surrounds</i> has been identified as a potential location for the Erebus National Memorial primarily as this would offer proximity to the airport for visitors and the International Antarctic Centre. Whilst a number of potential sites would be within the immediate surrounds of the airport, opportunities for more expansive, quiet locations in close proximity have also been considered.</p> <p>Advice from Christchurch International Airport in relation to their masterplan and development intentions has been reflected in the assessment. This results in some sites being discounted from further consideration.</p> <p>Sites nearest to the airport present a number of common challenges, in particular the existing amenity of a site, nature of adjoining development, and the overall experience that could be anticipated. Further from the airport, for example adjoining rural and undeveloped land, access and safety issues arise and sense of these areas being more isolated and of less prominence.</p>					
<p>Site 1 Russley Road / SH1 / Memorial Avenue</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>				
					
<p>Context: Prominent, highly visible location. Site of the former Brevet Club. Good viewpoint from the overbridge. Design language of a memorial could work well with the overbridge artwork. Site would have visibility in the wider landscape and, while people may wonder what it is, a memorial here could become a signature of the place. This is likely a safe location within a highly developed landscape, including geotechnical considerations.</p> <p>Experientially it would be challenging to create a tranquil and contemplative space at this location, because of a number of contextual factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Busy corner, on the state highway and on road to airport; 					

Location / site	Access	Safety	Amenity	Own Meaning	Overall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amenity is challenged by airport and ambient noise, and mitigating the noise issue through planting buffers is challenging in the airport setting because of the need to avoid attracting birds; • Though in a public space, accessibility is quite low; access off two busy roads is difficult. Nearest bus stop 200m from edge of site, beside Spitfire Square to the west. • Near busy Spitfire Square shopping centre on Memorial Ave, including McDonald’s and KFC with associated fast food cooking smells; • Nearby industrial imposes on the site. <p>The ability to watch flights taking off to Antarctica and the airport as a ‘place of return’ may be perceived as positives or negatives.</p> <p>In relation to own meaning, there is potential tension with Memorial Avenue which is a WWII Memorial. The plaque denoting this memorial is located at the beginning of Memorial Avenue, at the Clyde Road end, so is quite some distance from the airport and, arguably, not a competing meaning.</p>					
<p>Site 2 International Antarctic Centre – central courtyard</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>				
					
<p>Context: This site owned by Christchurch International Airport Limited is located in the central courtyard of the Antarctic Centre complex. The close proximity to the runway means that there is airport noise, which could be considered part of the ‘identity’ of this site but makes it challenging to create a tranquil and contemplative space. The courtyard area is surrounded by low rise office buildings which are predominantly white and glass, giving an icy feel to the</p>					

Location / site	Access	Safety	Amenity	Own Meaning	Overall
<p>amenity aspect. Being within the Antarctic Centre space reinforces the identity of the memorial, although it is worth considering the consequences of any future change of use.</p> <p>There is the potential to make a walking route connection to the Airport Terminal, e.g. through the snowflake motif.</p> <p>Good potential to support large gatherings, as well as general visits, with facilities available in Antarctic Centre.</p> <p>s7(2)(i)</p> <p>s7(2)(i)</p>					
<p>Site 3 International Antarctic Centre – external area adjacent to road</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>				
					
<p>Context: This site owned by Christchurch International Airport shares some of the same contextual qualities of the Antarctic Centre central courtyard, but is more exposed to the road, and perceptually feels more exposed to aircraft noise. This site is also bordered by the Haglund ride area – a small area of steep terrain for a visitor experience. Nearby, though may be infrequent or could stop track earlier if a memorial was in place. North plot could have more noise. s7(2)(i)</p> <p>s</p> <p>Identity of nearby Antarctic Centre supports identity for memorial. Spaces support large gatherings, sympathetic purpose. Plenty of carparking, nearby facilities. Industrial look of surrounds relates to airport.</p>					

Location / site	Access	Safety	Amenity	Own Meaning	Overall
<p>Could have a connection between domestic and international airport with snowflakes (original memorial design), similar to one in the terminal with mountains.</p> <p>Considerations included future status of Orchard Road (continued operation or change in function / closure) and development plans for adjoining land, recognising there is a lot of space currently in this area, which could influence the experiential qualities of this site.</p>					
<p>Site 4 Adjacent to totem pole - between Richard Pearse Road and Memorial Avenue</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>				
					
<p>Context: This site is a small linear space sandwiched between two roads. It is very exposed to traffic on Memorial Avenue, with limited opportunities for mitigation. Although there is the potential for the site to extend further back from the road, the rear area is surrounded by a number of adjacent land uses which would require considerable mitigation/buffering to create a tranquil and contemplation space. It is also important to consider the relationship between a memorial to Aotearoa’s most fatal aviation disaster and the route to the airport. s7(2)(i)</p> <p>s7(2)(i)</p>					

Location / site	Access	Safety	Amenity	Own Meaning	Overall
<p>Site 5 Adjoining state highway</p>	s7(2)(i)				
					
<p>Context: Undeveloped area adjoining State Highway (further along from Site 1). While a visible and large area in close proximity to the airport, accessibility and amenity are low. Similar comments also apply as for other airport sites relating to the context and potential challenges. High uncertainty regarding the nature and form of adjoining future development.</p>					

Site 6
St James Church

s7(2)(i)



Context:

This site owned by the Church Property Trustees is near the Harewood Road roundabout on a busy road. However, the site itself is set back from the road, and has the potential to be tranquil and contemplative. Some facilities are available on site including toilets, meeting space and small kitchen and, there is a carpark.

Although adjacent to the church and cemetery there is sufficient space for the site to develop its own meaning. At heart this is an available space in reasonable proximity to the airport, although not easily accessed via public transport or on foot from the airport.

Landscape modification may be required to visually contain the memorial within an expansive flat area.

<p>Site 7 Roto Kohatu Reserve</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>
 	
<p>Context: An extensive site created from landfill, with rolling terrain and two lakes. Considerable opportunity for views of the sky, and views South. Access has been developed by the Council, including stormwater, pathways and toilets for Lake Rua.</p> <p>Amenity (noise and access) is poor. No public transport to location. Industrial uses nearby could impose on the sites. Southern lake closer to site is for jet skis (too small for boats). Northern lake is for non-motorised craft. Lake Rua has had overcrowding including access road with poor road quality, resulting in the change to access which is now off Outlook Place.</p> <p>Walking distance to the Groynes from lakes. Scout camp located nearby.</p> <p>The amenity is potentially further compromised by being sited on a landfill, and the connotations this brings. It may also have functional limitations in terms of building a structure (depending on formation of membranes etc protecting the landfill).</p> <p>Additional considerations included the leases on the site and frequency of use for water sports. Public access to Lake Tahī was also queried, which is primarily for maintenance. The masterplan is in progress with an aim to increase biodiversity.</p>	
<p>Site 8 McLeans Island</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>

s7(2)(i)	
Site 9 Off Pound Rd	s7(2)(i)
Christchurch International Airport owned in part, not reserve status. A bit further away from airport, hard to get to. Pound Rd becoming more used as route to south west. Amenity value low. This is also in the area west of the runway which is proposed by CIAL as a solar farm, known as Kowhai Park.	

CENTRAL CITY

In the central city, the banks of the Avon Ōtakaro offer an environment that supports reflection and contemplation, and already has two National Memorials (Oi Manawa and Kate Sheppard). The presence of water provides a continuously evocative memorial element, but also brings the challenge of flooding.

The sites considered in this area were all constrained by their position with the Promenade space, creating narrow, linear sites between the river and the infrastructure/built form of the city. In some instances this also means potential shading from nearby buildings. The corridor is also the location for many established trees, providing some challenges in locating a sufficiently sized space.

Some of the sites are also in close proximity to roads, with the intrusion of traffic noise.

Site 1

Avon Ōtakaro
riverbanks – Scott
statue, Scape sculpture
(Amundsen)

s7(2)(i)



Context:

This section of the river has connections to Antarctica. On the true right bank, the Scott statue faces north (with the explorer forever on his homeward journey), could be interesting location to face memorial south. This side of the river includes one of the Whāriki mats – “Woven Mats of Welcome” – and this particular Whāriki is “Pūtake Aronga: Whānau permeates everything we do.” There is also a small pond with a plaque recognising its installation by the Christchurch Beautifying Society. Given the presence of these multiple elements (one of which is consistent with the Erebus Memorial theme – the Scott statue), there are questions around the challenge of being able to develop the specific meaning of the memorial, and it is therefore indicated as orange for ‘own meaning’.

Good space, easy to get to, memorial needs to be designed to fit narrow space. Given the memorial needs to accommodate 257 names, and have sufficient space to not feel ‘crowded’ or have a negative impact on the existing amenity value of the space, this would be a challenging location. Quiet and peaceful place, this side of the river is quieter as it is further from Durham St. On the opposite bank a sculpture by Brett Graham, developed as part of Scape, recognises the journey of Roald Amundsen in the Antarctic.

Very high amenity value, with significant established trees, and the river

Wider question is about river becoming a memorial precinct, Oi Manawa, Henry Nicholas VC, Scott, Kate Sheppard, Memorial Bridge. Is the area being over memorialised? Or could be considered positive. High concentration of national memorials here. Potential for a Memorial Walk.

Overlapping cultural issues, mahinga kai, formal burial sites. Puari Pa – so would be welcome to a memorial (welcome home). Across the street was tapu, but it has been cleared

Durham St traffic can get congested. It is a 30km zone, so traffic is relatively calm.

Considerations:

- Opportunity for lighting in this location to add to cityscape as city becomes nighttime attraction with lighting. People able to visit memorial sites at night should be considered.
- Vandalism/graffiti needs. That could be considered as part of memorial design.
- White concrete of memorial, skateboards and scooter marks.
- Design will need to be amended to smaller footprint because of space and tree protection.

Considerations include the heritage values and status of the reserve, including around the Scott statue. The pond has been recently upgraded and ideally would not be altered - a design challenge to integrate alongside this and locate within available area. Interests of Beautifying Society in this area. Adjoining development anticipated to be of a larger scale than currently, which could create overlooking and shading.

Site 2
Avon Ōtakaro
riverbank Central City
/adjacent to Carter
land, across from Band
Rotunda

s7(2)(i)



Context:

Long stretch of riverbank with strong amenity values. Riverbank area across river from Edmonds Band Rotunda. Quiet and tranquil. Site offers a big skyline and trees, nice scale, South-facing. Parallels to Oi Manawa in terms of site orientation. Memorial could be designed for flooding.

Victoria Square is nearby, and has considerable memorial content (Queen Victoria, Mana Motuhake, Captain Cook, Bowker Fountain), but sufficient separation to allow for the development of own meaning at this site. The PGC Sensitive Site is across the river. PWC black-billed gull colony.

Waka on Avon site – resource consent for tourist activity – adds to uses of site. s7(2)(i)

s7(2)(i)

Armagh/Gloucesterc. 10 year carpark consent. No development plans. No Antarctic connection, but is quiet with water nearby. Ambition to extend New Regent St to river.

The Erebus Memorial’s own meaning could develop in this area, as it has separation from other nearby memorials (in contrast to the Scott statue area).

Potential challenges with Geotech and flooding.

A key consideration is the extent of adjoining sites currently undeveloped and certainty regarding future form and activities. s7(2)(i)

s7(2)(i) Adjoining development anticipated to be of a scale which could create overlooking.

Site 3
Avon Ōtakaro
riverbank Central City /
Avon Loop

s7(2)(i)



Context:

This site sits within Red Zoned land, and has the sense of being very residential/suburban, and currently feels neglected. There is no elevation on site, feels quite hemmed in. The space is transitioning as part of the development of cycle/walkway – current plans are to restore the space to native

vegetation. Very large space. Bus access possible from Barbadoes Street (and also noise from that direction), but generally is a bit more remote for visitors. 24m high Retirement home development planned adjacent.

Western edge likely out of bounds. Western fringe of Tautahi pā - designation local and national Madras to Salisbury St. Also near Firefighters Memorial and cemetery reserve.

A nearby playground has sparked discussions about adding youth-friendly features like swings or a pump track, though Lancaster Park could also be an option for such activities. The site presents interesting design challenges, especially given its connection to the city-to-sea cycle route.

‘Own meaning’ would be difficult in this area, as it has an indelible meaning related to the earthquakes. Emotional tension from former residents possible if proposed to add a memorial here. Could fall to the covenants for a decision.

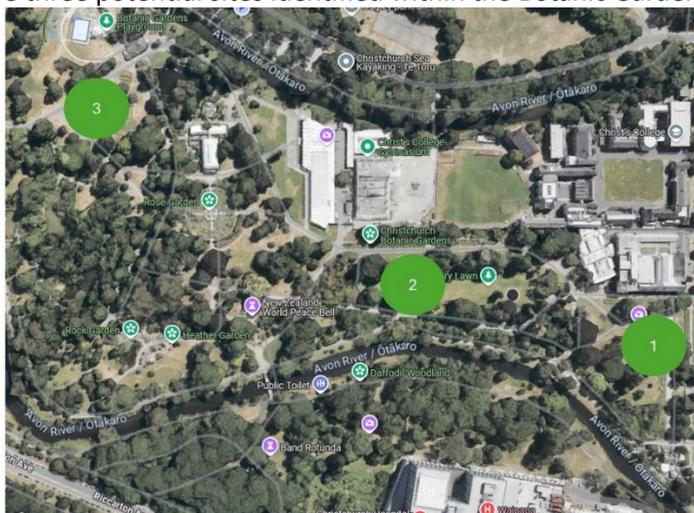
A large retirement village complex has been consented adjoining the area.

Site 3
Botanic gardens

s7(2)(i)

Context:

There are three potential sites identified within the Botanic Gardens:



1. At the eastern end, near Rolleston Avenue, near the Moorhouse memorial and Peacock Fountain; (potential conflict with fountain, and already a number of elements in this area);
2. Archery Lawn (potential impacts on the many events that occur in the open lawn area);
3. Adjacent to the Magnetic Observatory (need to be mindful of children’s garden and Gondwana garden upgrades).

Overall, there are strong Antarctic connections in the Botanic Gardens, including Canterbury Museum having the largest Antarctic collection in the country and has a significant Erebus element. Memorial here could be part of an Antarctic Trail, creating a visitor experience to the area. Museum will strengthen Antarctic display once reopens. The setting of the Magnetic Observatory was recently upgraded and this facility was used by Antarctic explorers and scientists.

There are no other memorials in Botanic Gardens, and the focus is on botany/horticulture, supported by the management plan. Peace Bell in the gardens/compatible purpose to memorial.

The amenity value is very high for this setting, with mature trees, vistas through the gardens, but there is no elevation. The Gardens are centrally located and locked at night, which restricts public access but also reduces potential for vandalism. Well utilised for events and day to day visitation.

s7(2)(i)

s7(2)(i)

Site 4a

Little North Hagley

s7(2)(i)

Notes: Little North Hagley is not part of sports area. It has extensive tree planting, with open areas below the canopy It looks densely forested but there is some open area beneath tree canopy for possible memorial location. A lot of space and accessible. Nice seasonally. Key transport path for cyclists, pedestrians. Experiential qualities support tranquil contemplative space. Carlton Mill corner original Māori reserve camp, tie horses to trade. DP registered wahi tanga. Existing plaques within the area. Part of Hagley Park Management Plan, a Garden Heritage Park.

s7(2)(i)

Site 4b

Hagley Park

s7(2)(i)

Notes: Extensive sports fields, golf course. Although extensive amenity value and connections to the Museum and the Antarctic context, there are tensions with the uses of the Park, notably through the Hands Off Hagley group. During assessment process need to consider how long will it take to get

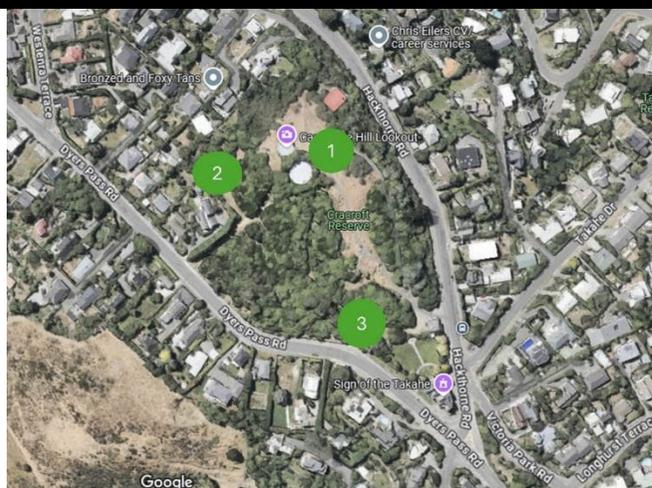
through. If several years-long process, then may consider somewhere else that may not score as highly but will have an easier way forward. Park of Hagley Park Management Plan.

s7(2)(i)

PORT HILLS	
Site 1 Awaroa / Godley Head	s7(2)(i)
<p>Notes: Beautiful vista but not facing south. There are strong positive aspects to amenity, with spectacular view, horizon, sky, but the remoteness is challenging in relation to access and potential vandalism. Scott Hut relocated to there (Antarctic connection), but this location is arbitrary (i.e. not original location). Camping ground at site, so facilities available.</p> <p>The road access is very narrow, and although accessible by car it would not be possible to take tourist groups in buses. No public transport.</p>	
Site 2 Port Hills / Summit Road	s7(2)(i)
<p>Notes: Amenity aspects include elevated sites, big sky, terrain could be used to support memorial expression. Volcanic history echoes Erebus as well. Can face South.</p> <p>Cultural consideration along Summit Road, shared interest with Rapaki/Ngāti Wheke.</p> <p>Approval required from Summit Road Protection Authority – Proposal to fit with purpose of the Summit Road Protection Act</p> <p>Accessibility is the weak point, visitors would struggle to get there. Better to stay away from the top of road.</p> <p>Isolated. Easily vandalised. Iwi have stopped developing commemorative monuments in this area as they have all been stolen or vandalised.</p> <p>Difficult to build a carpark.</p> <p>Road closed at Rapaki before Mt Pleasant. Rockfall risk.</p>	
Site 3 Port Hills / Greenwood Park	s7(2)(i)
<p>Notes: Large area. Similar challenges of access as to other Port Hills</p>	

Site 4:
Cracroft
Reserve/Cashmere Hill
Lookout

s7(2)(i)



Context:

This area is adjacent to the Sign of the Takahe, and includes a walkway, two water tanks, and a panoramic lookout on the top of the northernmost tank. There are a number of potential memorial locations on this site, as shown below.

Multiple pedestrian access points to site from multiple locations, crisscrossing the site. Nearby amenities include: public toilets, Sign of Takahe which could offer catering, Sign of the Takahe lawn for events. Ample street parking. Coach parking. No carpark. On bus route.

Southern outlook. See airport, sea, view to mountains, nice boulders. Backdrop of trees make space feel cozy. The site is an existing place for reflection. The te reo name of the hillside: Puke Atua te-tihi-O-Kahiukura (Maori sky deity) – connection to Sky Song. No iwi issues with this site. Site already has active users, i.e. pedestrians crossing the site, tour bus guests.

Biodiversity and conservation to consider. Consider fire risk. Design could include native vegetation buffer. The site appears scrubby and needs enhancements, which could be done as part of the memorial install. The track is accessible and could be made wheelchair accessible. There are houses far enough away but offers a sense of safety. There are likely no scheduled trees on the site.

If a memorial was delivered here, it would have a sense of arrival after walking down the path toward the lookout, where the view opens up. This part of the reserve doesn't have own identity, a memorial could be embedded into landscape.

CPTED/vandalism will be an issue to consider. There is a lot of passive surveillance through visitors and surrounding area is densely occupied.

Water tanks are in use and a drawback but could be managed. Further information will be needed to consider the implications for location of a memorial and access. Existing access for maintenance is via via Hackthorne Road, including for water tankers and construction vehicles. Sufficient space must be allowed to provide for vehicle turn around. This access is potentially useful in the construction and ongoing maintenance of a memorial on this site.

Locations 2 and 3 - SW glade potential location, feel enclosed, south facing. Road noise could be mitigated with plantings. Geotechnical reports / information would be needed to understand potential risk.

Site 5:
Naval Point

s7(2)(i)

Although not on the city side of the Port Hills, the area was identified given the Antarctic connection. Ships left from here and still leave to go south to Antarctica, including cruise ships. Access primarily by car with a lot of parking. Bus access to adjoining road, not directly to the area. Connection with Lyttelton Memorial Museum on Simeon Quay. Carpark area support activities and is dominant in the proposed plans for Naval Point that are well progressed, which will impact amenity.

Although there is a bus to Lyttelton, site feels remote and access therefore challenging. The approach along Godley Quay passes through the tank farm and dry dock. Seal level rise adaptation a consideration, with work underway in the area. Land ownership Christchurch City Council, and Lyttelton Port Company adjoining.

Site 6: Huntsbury Hill

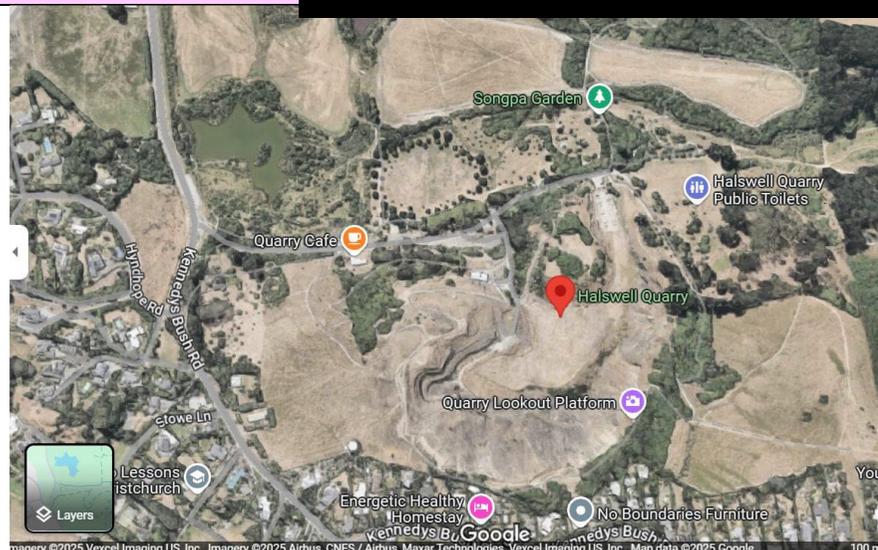
s7(2)(i)

Nice views, near winery, not too far out of city, popular for walking and biking, a bit further up than from where bus stops, and terrain becomes steeper at this point. Feels a bit far away, and no facilities available.

RESERVES AND PARKS

Site 1
Halswell Quarry Park

s7(2)(i)



Context:

Regional Park. The park already includes a wide variety of elements and activities, and already challenging to manage.

Bus route nearby/Cashmere Rd. Residential nearby. But within the Quarry Park it can feel quite isolated.

Park has high and low elevation.

Good views at the top would have vista to sky/mountains. North side where there is a slope would be south-facing. Would be a trek to walk to the top.

Area down below has well established garden setting with many sister city connections, through a lot of space remaining for possible memorial. Sister City connection with Japan, Australia connects to the international passengers. There is an established feeling in the park with tree planting.

	<p>The fact that the park has different zones – does that dilute or add to Erebus connection?</p> <p>South/flats – access by car (orange). Feels like a memorial zoo, with a lot happening. Old Māori campsite.</p> <p>Knoll – secluded. Walking access up hill, no southern view. Different interpretation of bringing the sky down and look to the horizon. Creates sense of introspection. Reimagining of the memorial could have two parts, one lower and one higher.</p> <p>Top of hill via road access - Too isolated, no amenity, could face opposition from Kennedy’s Bush residents</p> <p>Friends of Halswell Quarry Group active.</p>
<p>Site 2 Wigram</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>
	<p>Notes: Aviation connection, big skies with open areas.</p> <p>Defence Force-owned land. Airforce Museum not enamoured with the idea of memorial here. Aircraft there with Antarctic connection. Ministry chatted with museum director early on. s7 could follow up with director. What is the operational status of this land? Recreational aviation activity.</p> <p>No known cultural sites on the area. If memorial located here, would feel like middle of nowhere, large brown field and in a very modern setting. Overwhelming large. To create a tranquil space and experience, it would take a lot of landscaping.</p> <p>Ngai Tahu RFR – if Defence Force divested, iwi would look to RFR.</p>
<p>Site 3 AVON River Corridor</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>
	<p>Notes: Iwi have interest in some areas, but rest of corridor per plan. Dallington could be possible. Area has its own EQ meaning. Having been residential, sense that it is a broken landscape to put something else in. Meaning would then be difficult as it carries the heavy EQ meaning. Consider climate hazards.</p>
<p>Site 4 Styx Mill</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>

<p>Notes: Peaceful. Nice area but off beaten track of city, open, quiet, flat, feels quite rural/countryside. Hard to make an argument for a memorial here. Meaning of this area reflects ongoing work by the annual artist-in-residence scheme, architectural interventions etc, related to cultural and ecological context.</p> <p>Airport connection. Near Willowbank and residential. Some area is not predator controlled. School and university visits re conservation.</p>	
<p>Site 5 Avonhead Memorial Cemetery</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>
<p>Notes: Cemetery nearly full, sports ground and childcare area. Powerlines run through. Cemetery doesn't have connection to Antarctic memorial. Memorial for earthquake victims, and therefore already has a strong meaning associated with this site.</p>	
<p>Site 6 Sparks Road open spaces</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>
<p>Notes: Three Waters Asset. Used to be Te Kuri swamp. Houses surrounding. But there are spaces for reflection, with some amenity attributes.</p>	
<p>Site 7 Bottle Lake</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>
<p>Notes: Off the beaten track</p>	
<p>Site 8 Globe Bay Reserve</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>
<p>Notes: Doesn't work due to location</p>	
<p>Site 9 Nunweek Park</p>	<p>s7(2)(i)</p>



Context:

On one hand, unremarkable location, but it offers the potential for a tranquil and contemplative space. Airport bus goes along Harewood Rd. Styx (symbolic of death) River no longer flows through, but the channel remains. Southern part busy with hockey, but linear park so potential to carve out large space for memorial. Red for amenity, as although a green park, the flatness and lack of other visual interest/connections means that there is little to work with in terms of developing a memorial here.

Nearby land zoned for industrial, so neighbourhood could change in time. Airport noise contours may change as well so some land (further north) could be opened up to residential?

Considerations:

Are there any facilities beyond toilets?
 Future of unfinished Orthodox Church?

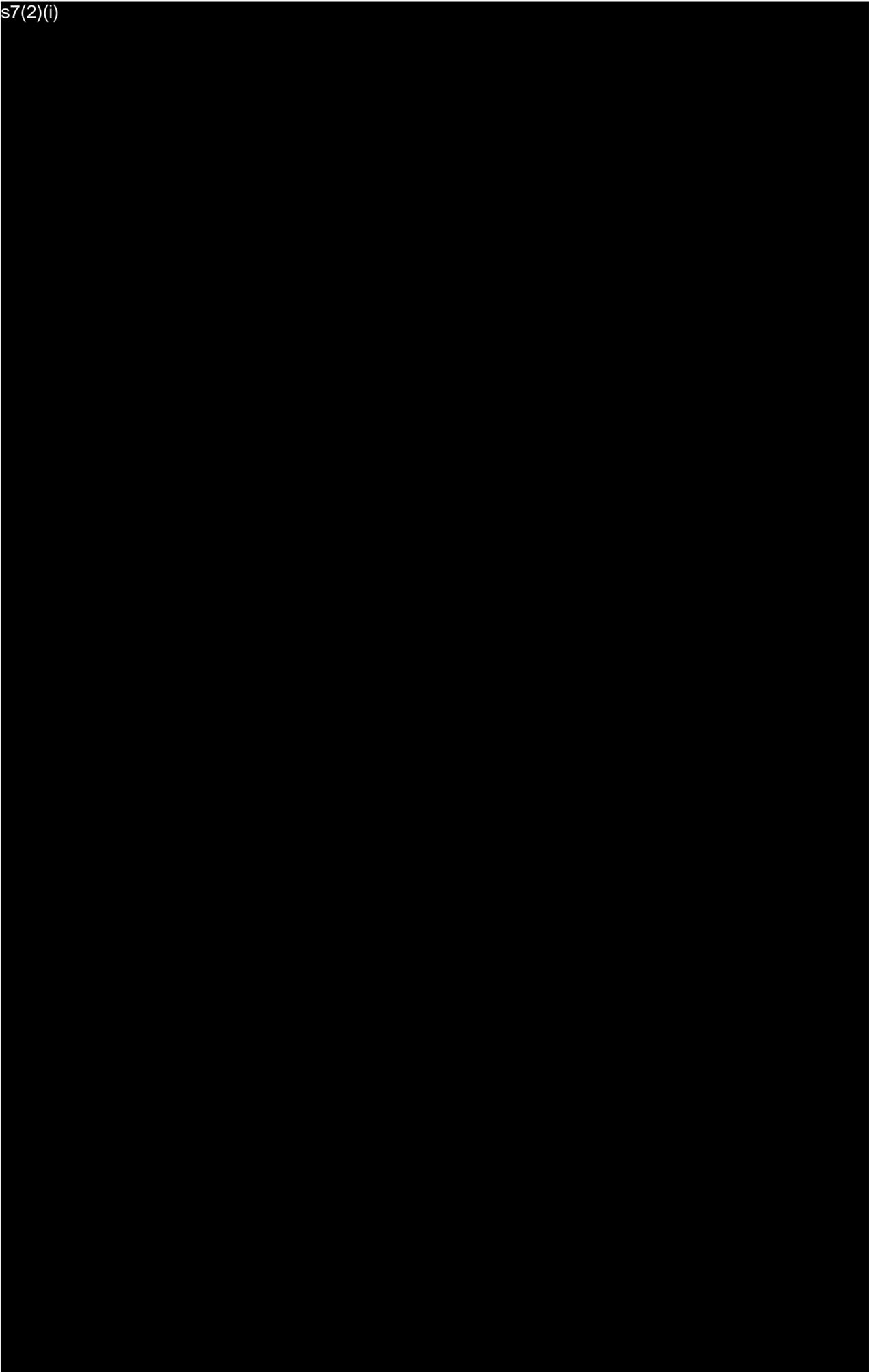
Site 10

Riccarton Bush – near house

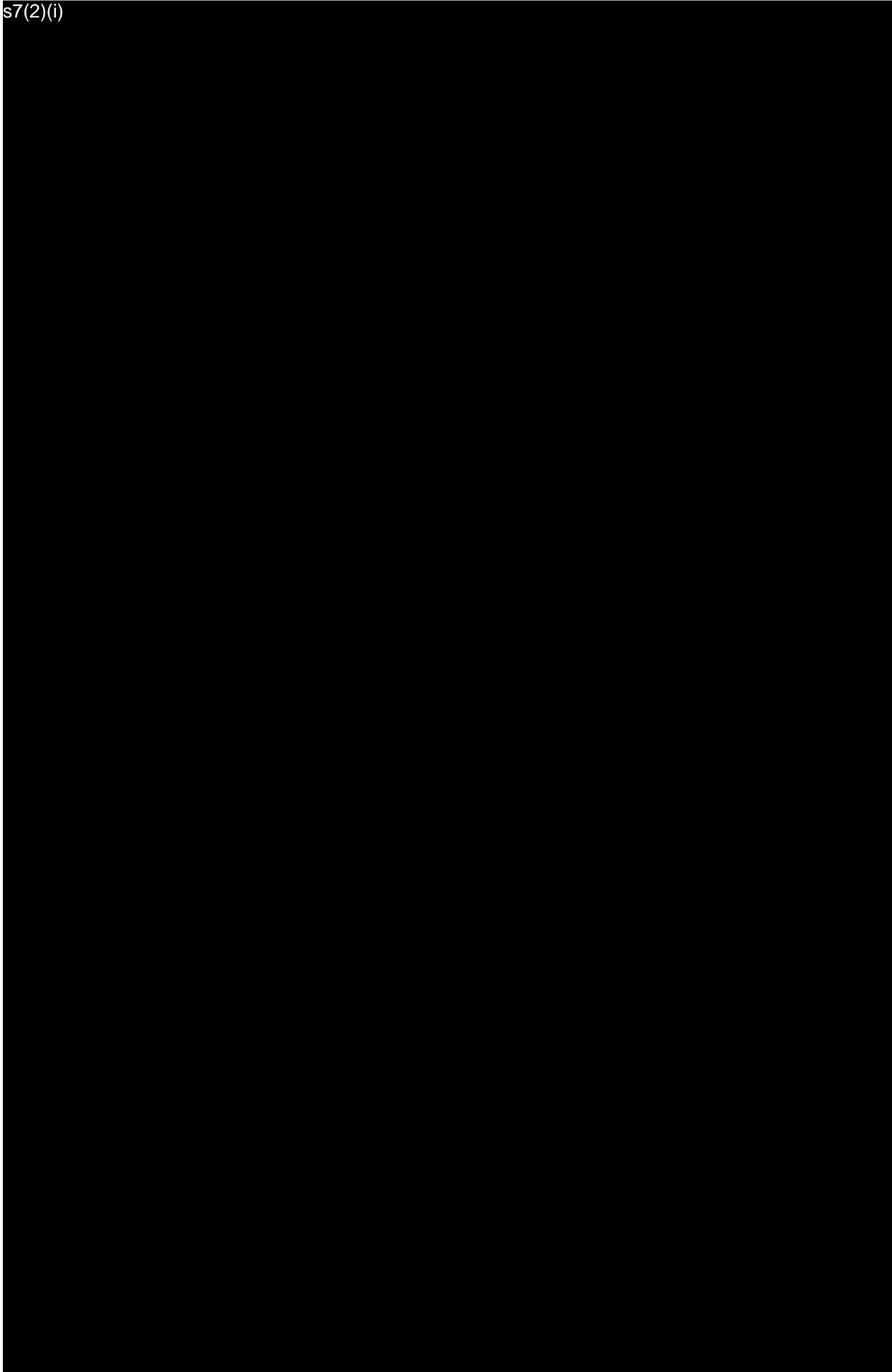


Not enough space, established trees – Red indicating that there isn't an accessible space for the memorial because of the density of tree planting.

s7(2)(i)



s7(2)(i)



Urban Design Team, Planning and Consent Group

Memo – urban design

Date: 5 June 2025

From: s7(2)(a)

To: s7(2)(a)

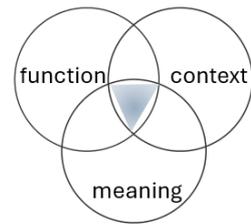
Site analysis to identify key qualities and contextual conditions

This is a targeted urban design context and site analysis to support the process of site identification for the National Erebus Memorial. The purpose is to support the offer of potential sites to the Ministry of Culture and Heritage to consider and discuss with families alongside sites identified in Auckland.

For this exercise, connections and access points, boundary conditions, relationship with other activities and structures and crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) have all been considered.

National Erebus Memorial Refined Site Criteria¹. Highest rated criteria in bold.

- Function (accessible², flexible³, **safe**⁴)
- Context (co-location⁵, **adjacency**⁶, relevance⁷, **certainty**⁸)
- Meaning (**sensitivity**⁹, **own meaning**¹⁰, designer’s intention¹¹, amenity¹²)



Ōtautahi Christchurch Process to date

A staged process is being undertaken to identify potential sites for the National Erebus Memorial in Ōtautahi Christchurch. The process included an assessment undertaken over two days by a working group in March 2025. Drawing from the full site assessment criteria, four criteria were applied to initial consideration of locations in Christchurch.

- Accessibility (Function)
- Safety (Function)
- Amenity (Meaning)
- Own meaning (Meaning)

¹ <https://www.mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-07/National-Erebus-Memorial-Refined-Site-Criteria.pdf> (accessed 30.5.25)

² Accessible for ease of travel and universal accessibility

³ Flexible to accommodate intimate as well as ceremonial experience

⁴ Safe from structures or land instability, particularly as the memorial relates to a traumatic event

⁵ Co-locatable to use other nearby spaces for large gatherings

⁶ Adjacency for compatibility with existing and potential development and activity

⁷ Relevance with conceptual connection to the function or purpose of the memorial

⁸ Certainty of tenure, iwi support, regulatory for an enduring context

⁹ Sensitivity with respect to existing cultural/social sensitivities

¹⁰ Own meaning can develop overtime rather than sites with existing symbolism, meaning

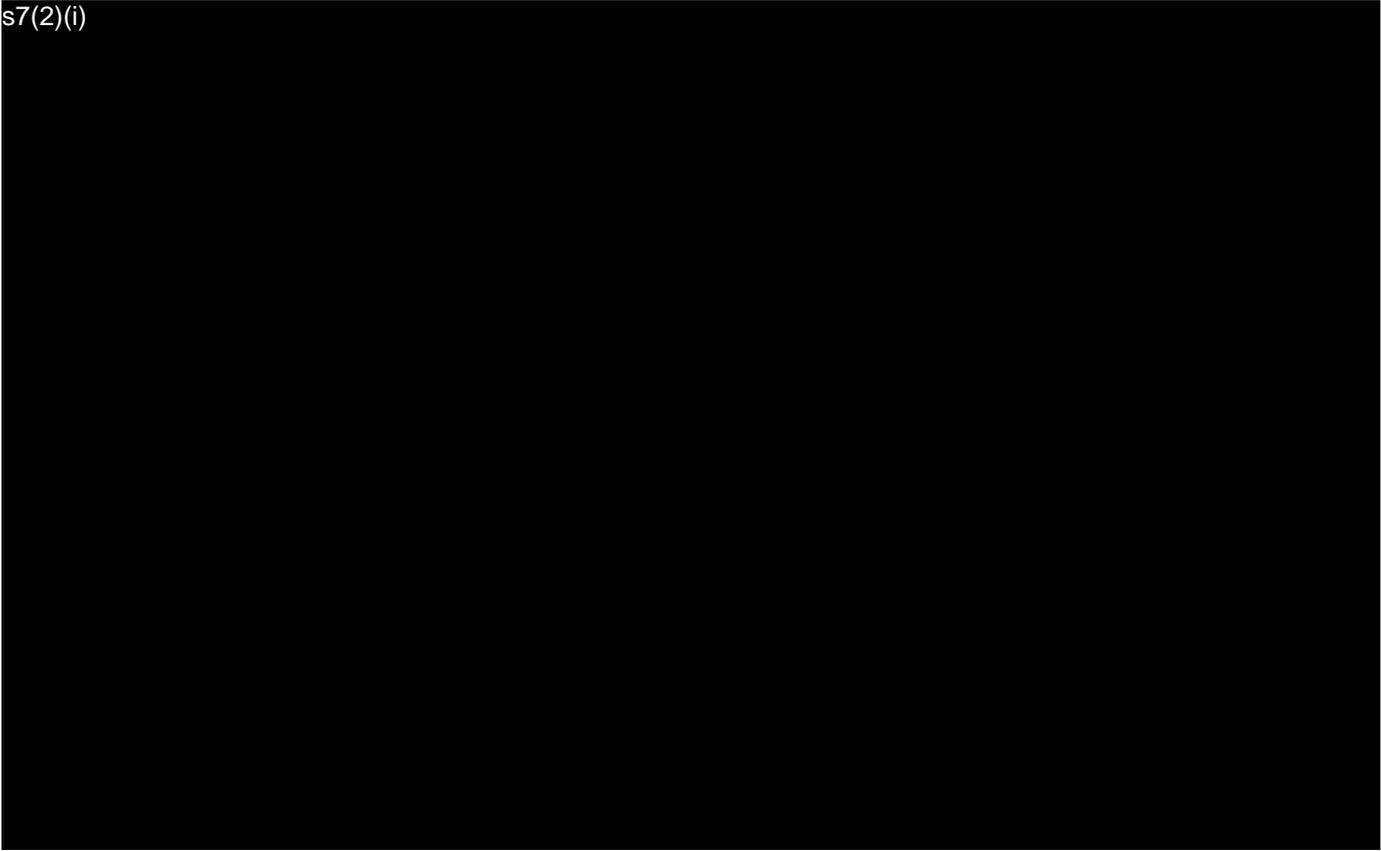
¹¹ Designer’s intention to mean core concepts of the selected design can be applied

¹² Amenity includes features such as views, water, trees, shelter, especially connection to sea and sky

Ōtautahi Christchurch potential sites

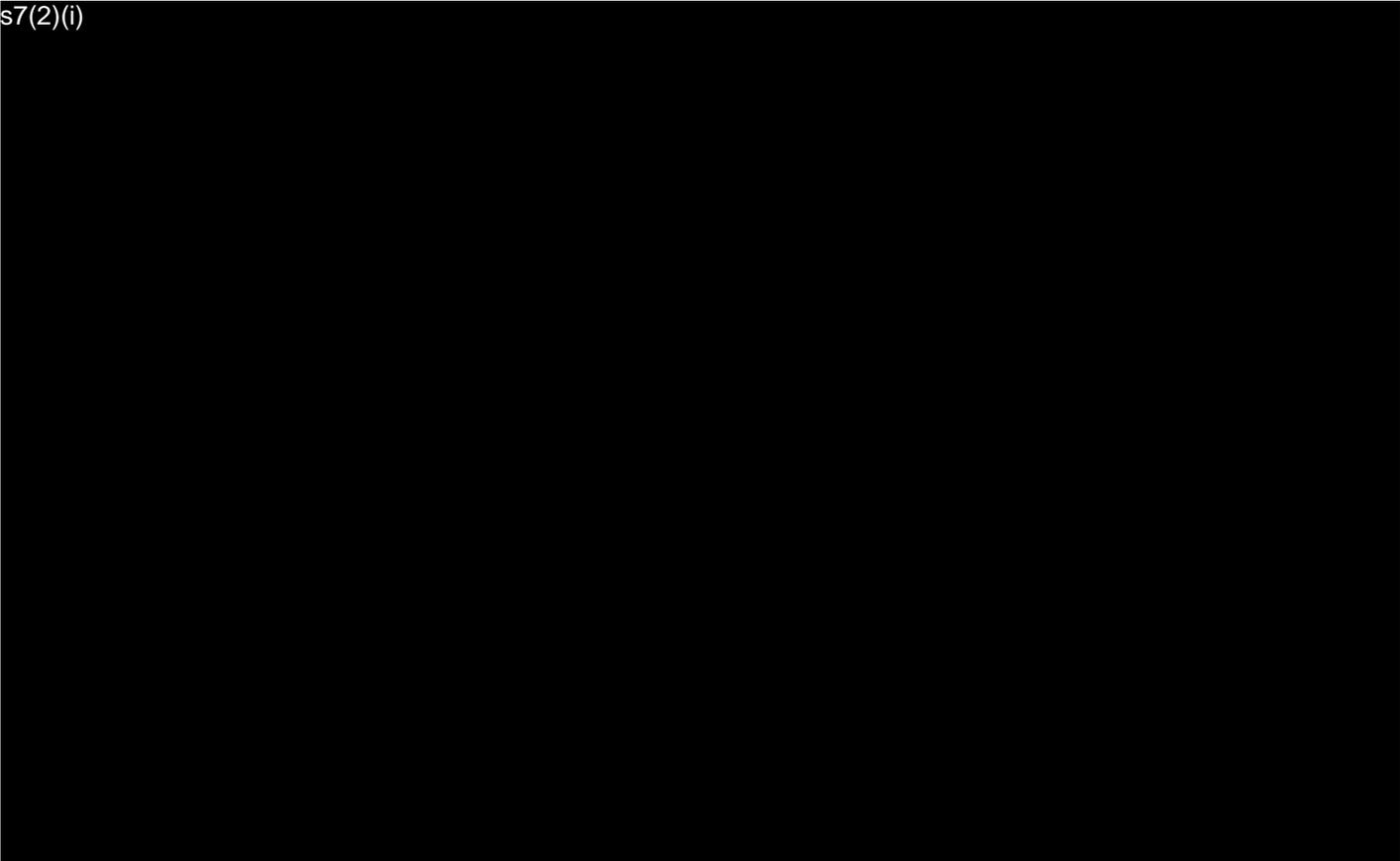
Site analysis has been requested for s7(2) potential locations identified by the Ōtautahi Christchurch working group, each has multiple possible sites for a memorial within:

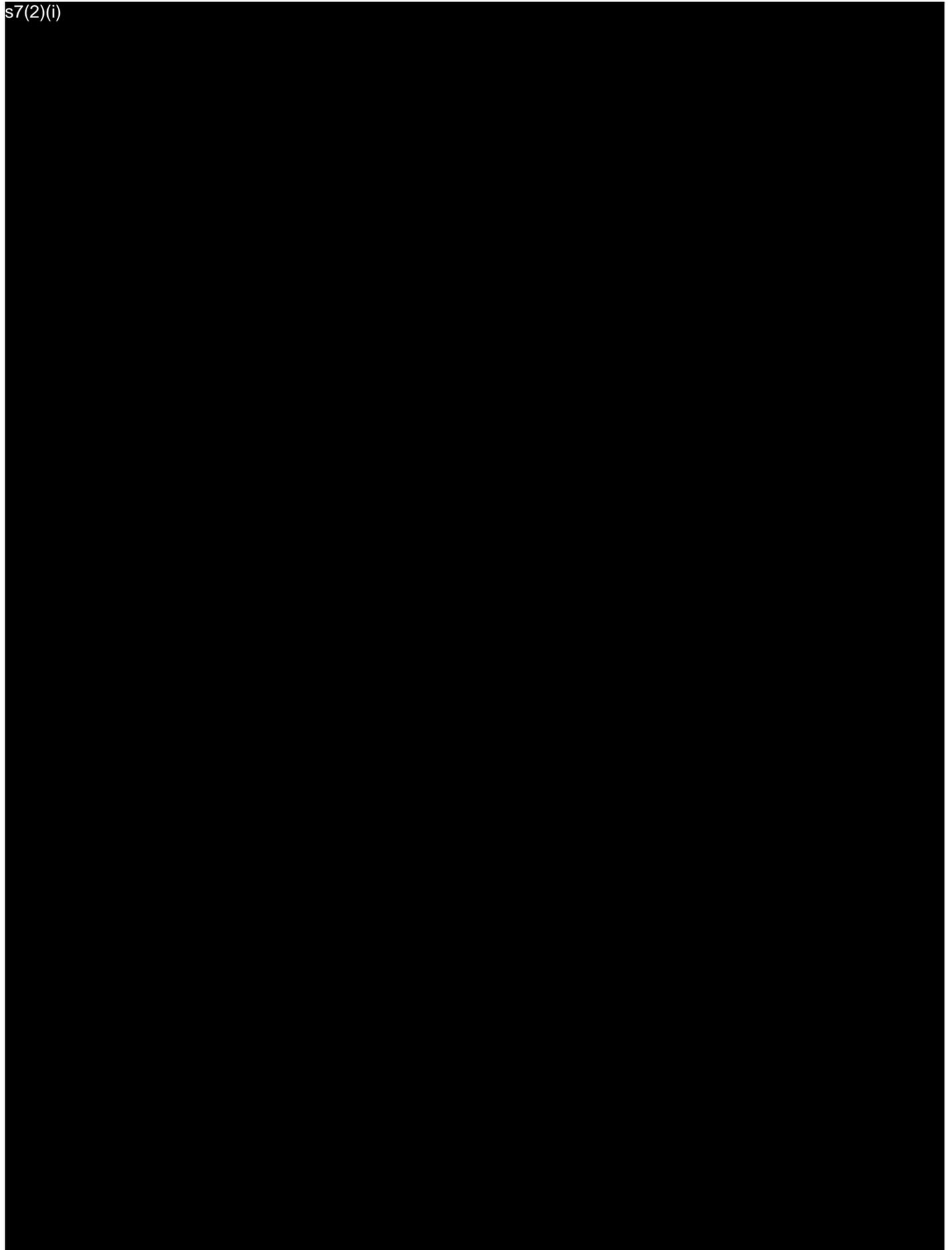
s7(2)(i)



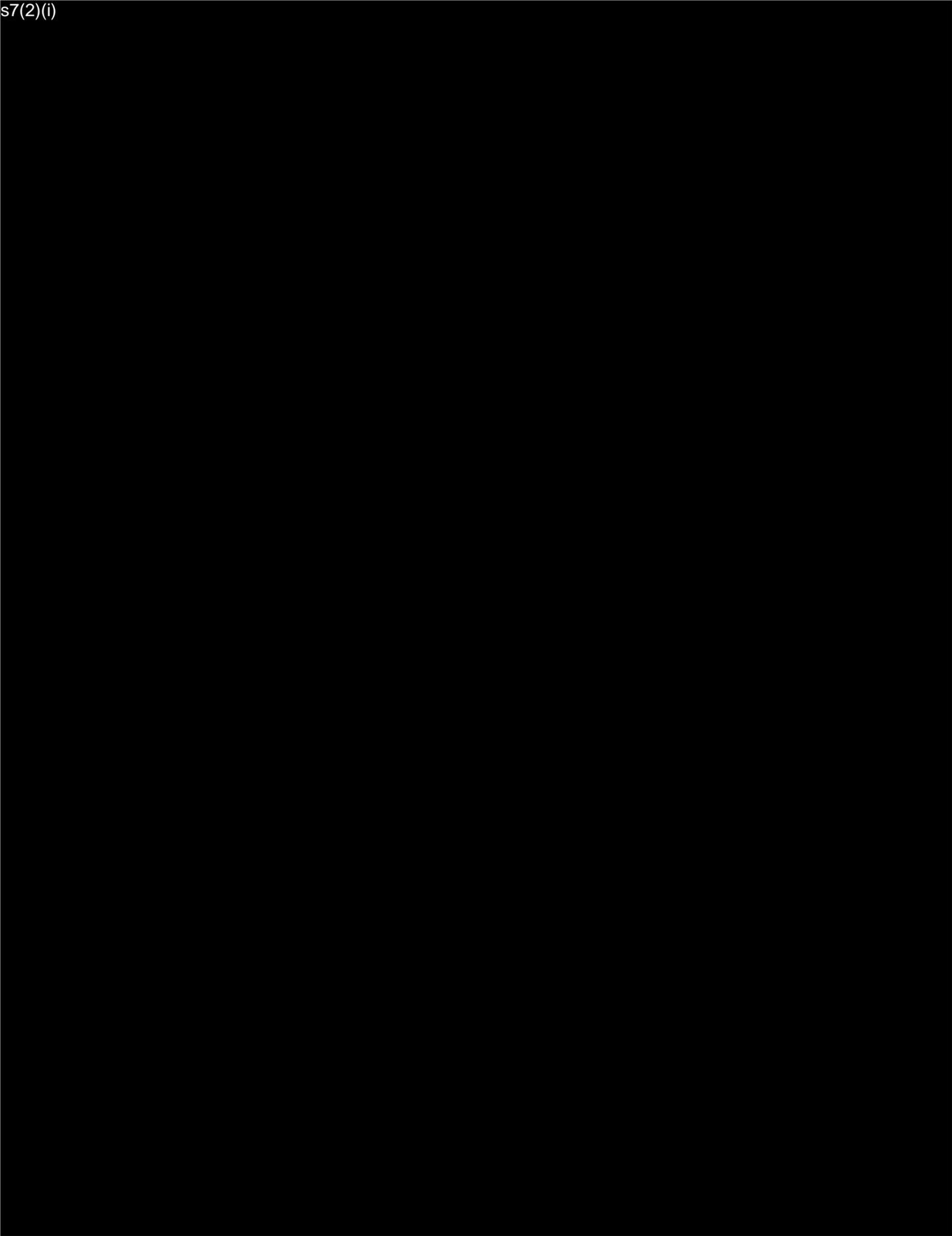
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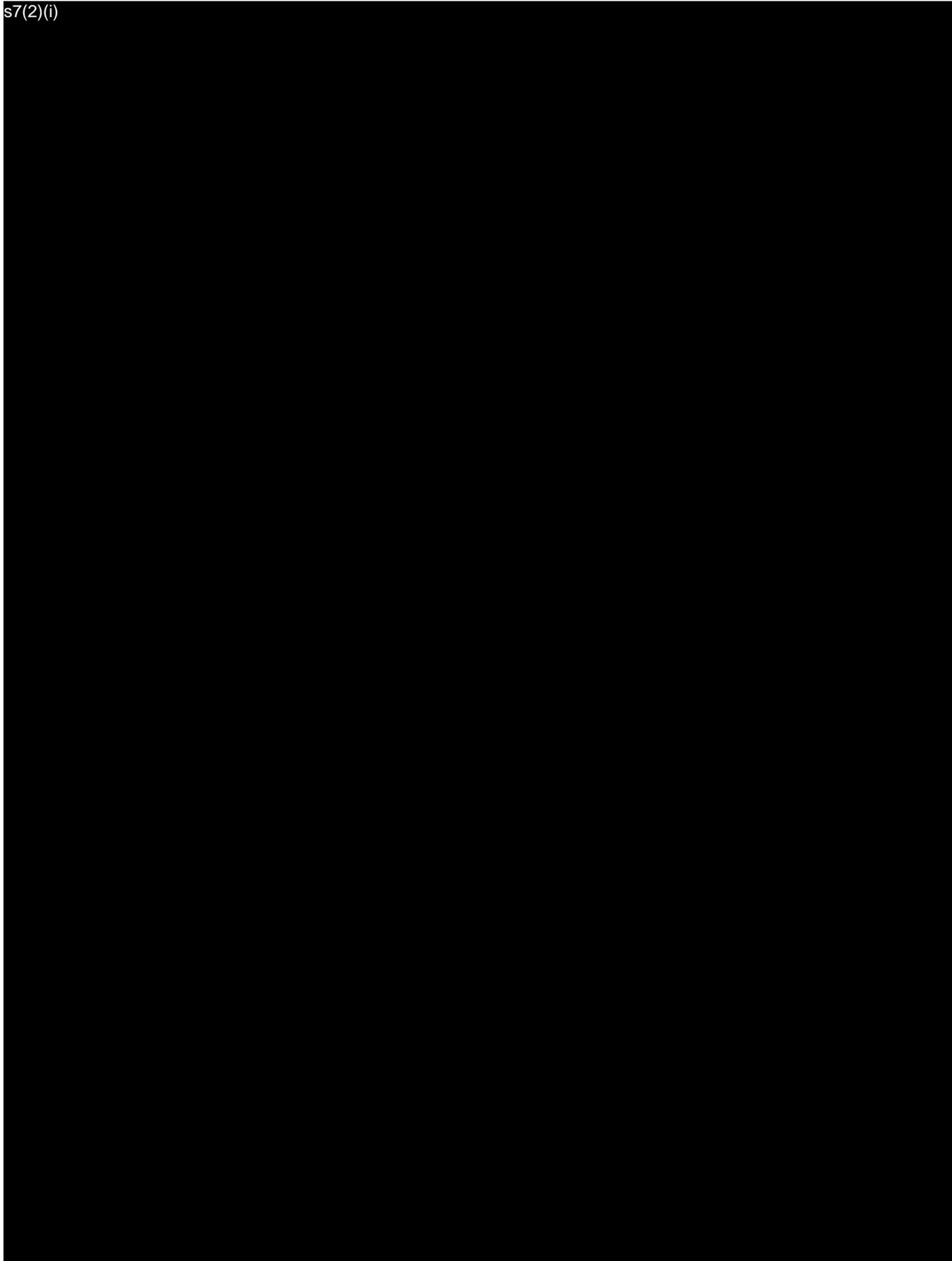
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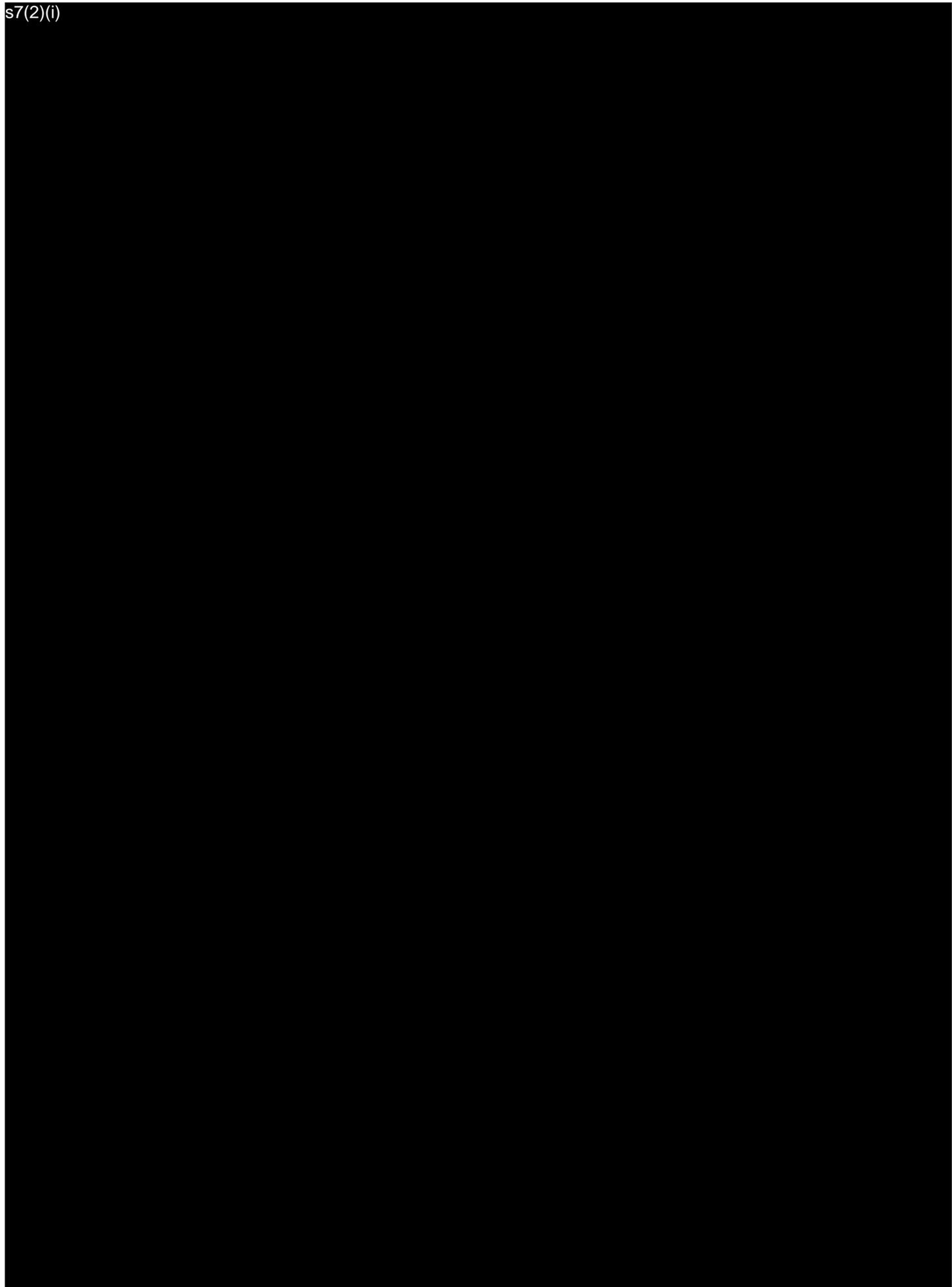




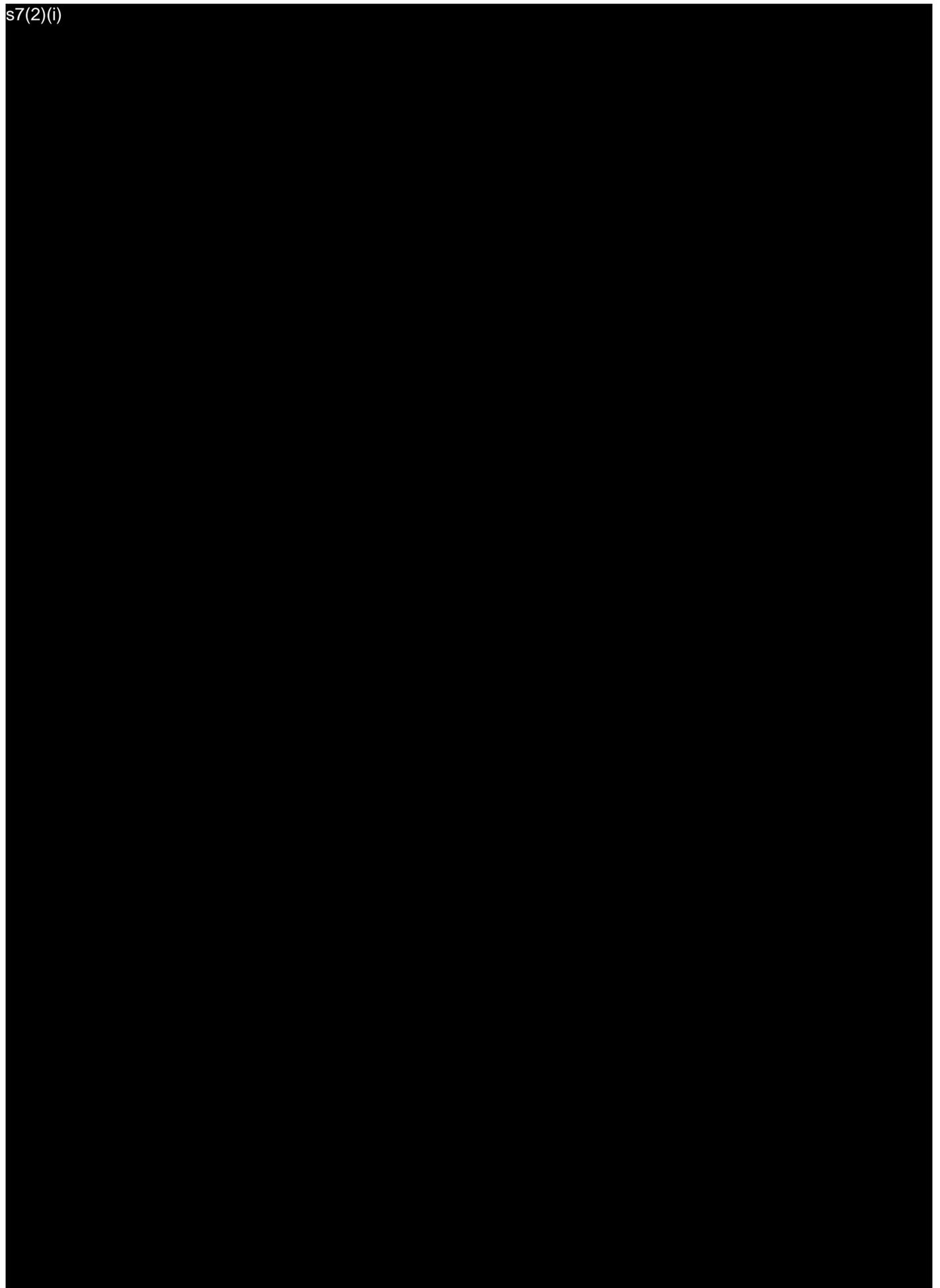
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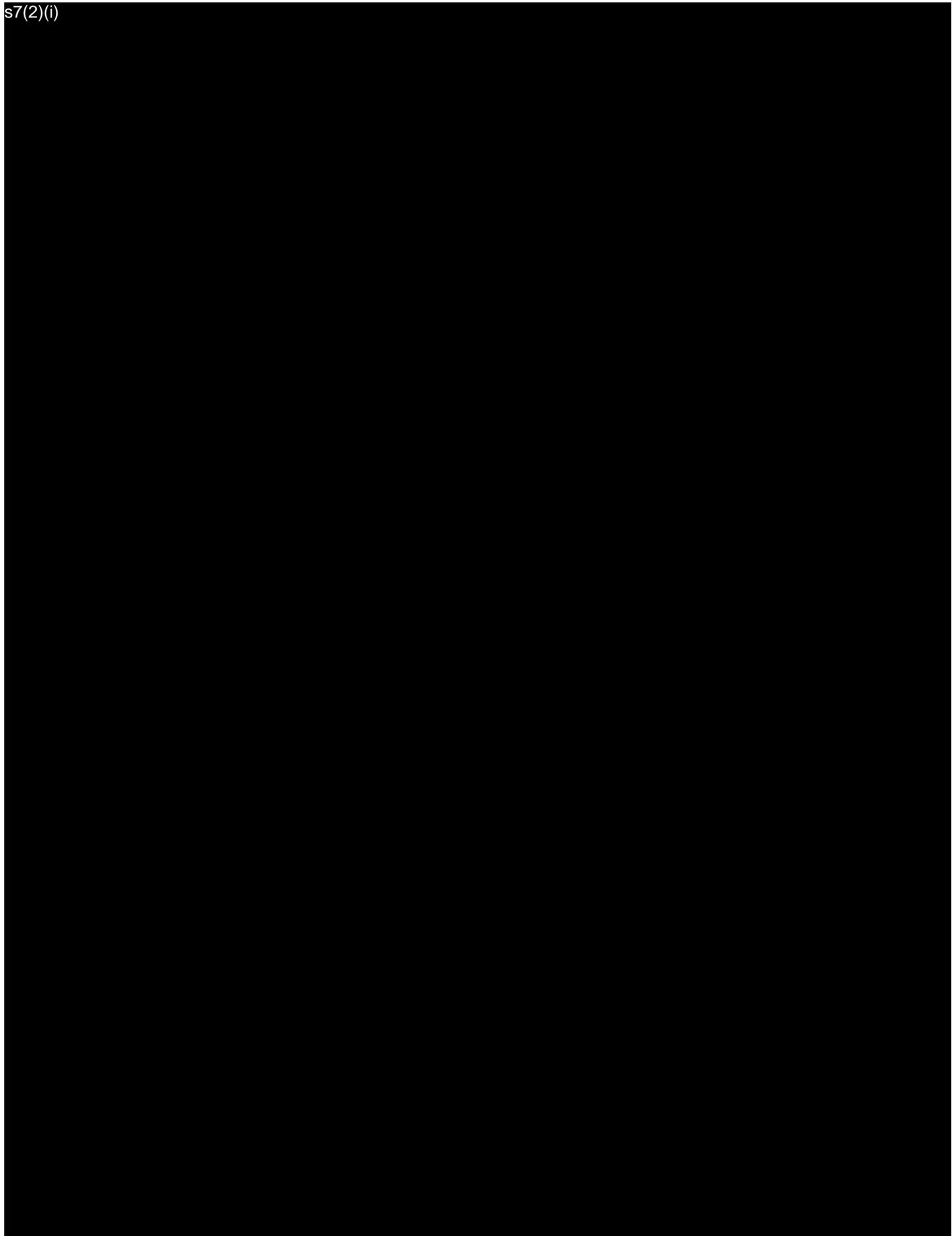




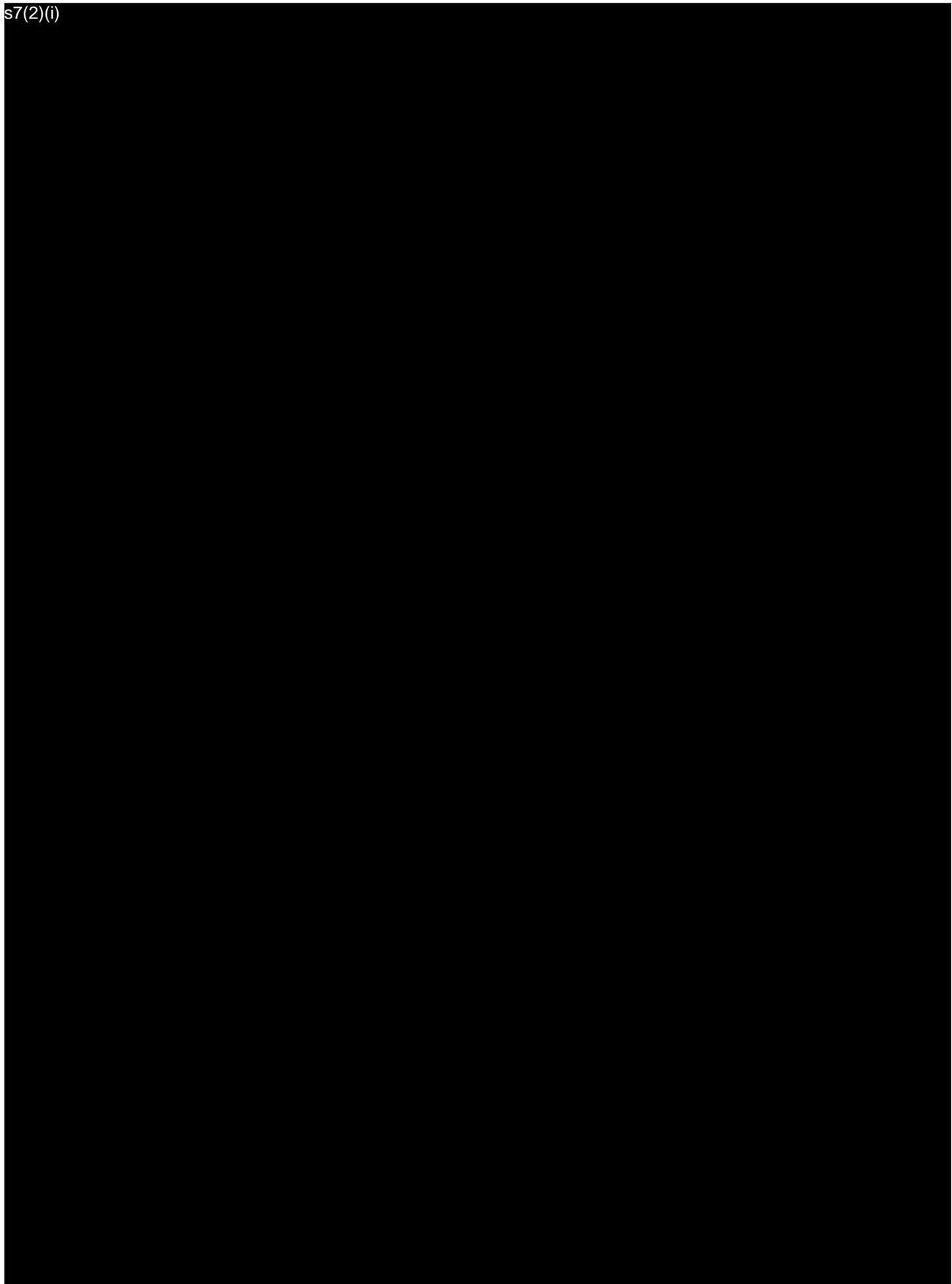


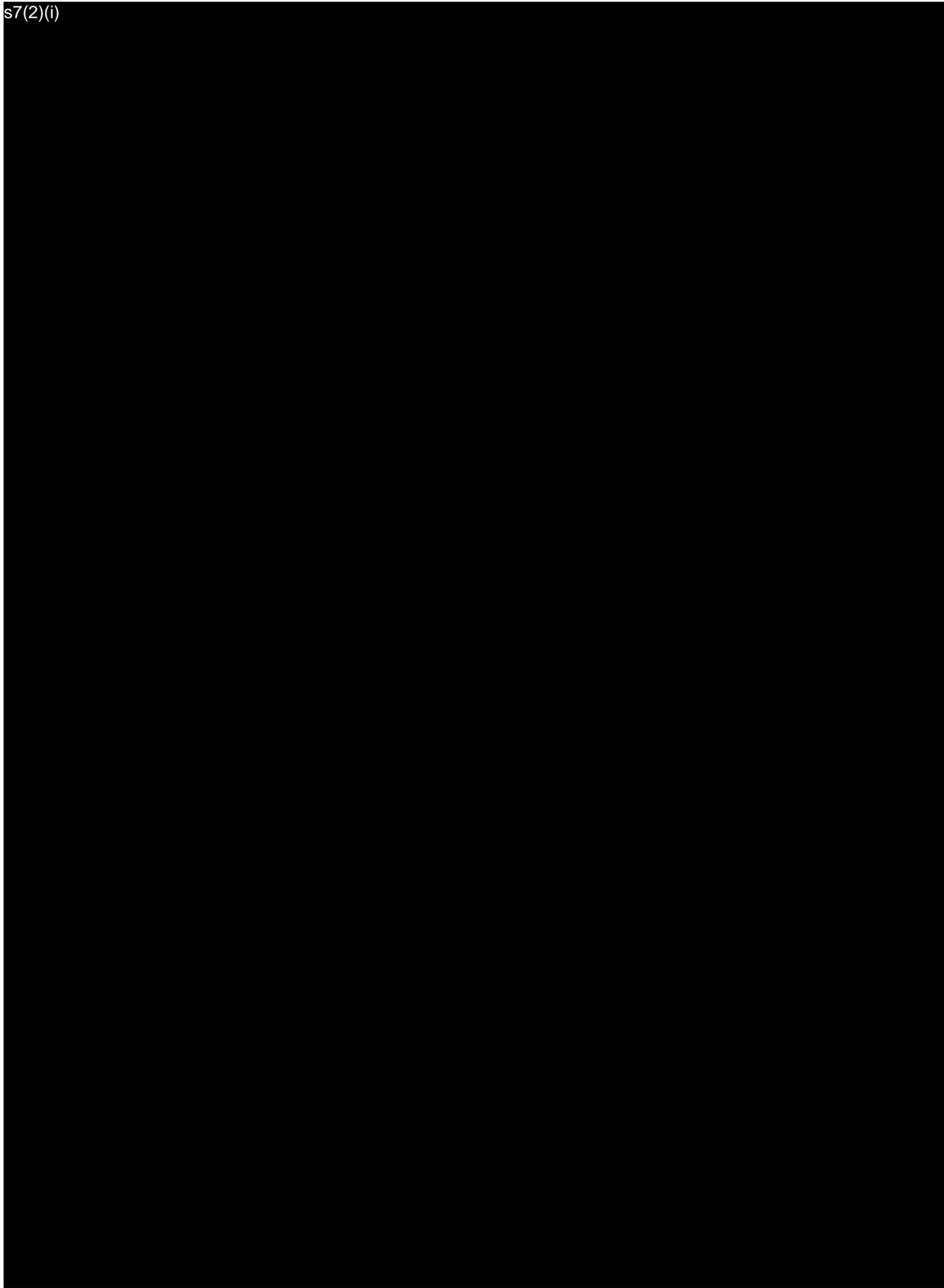
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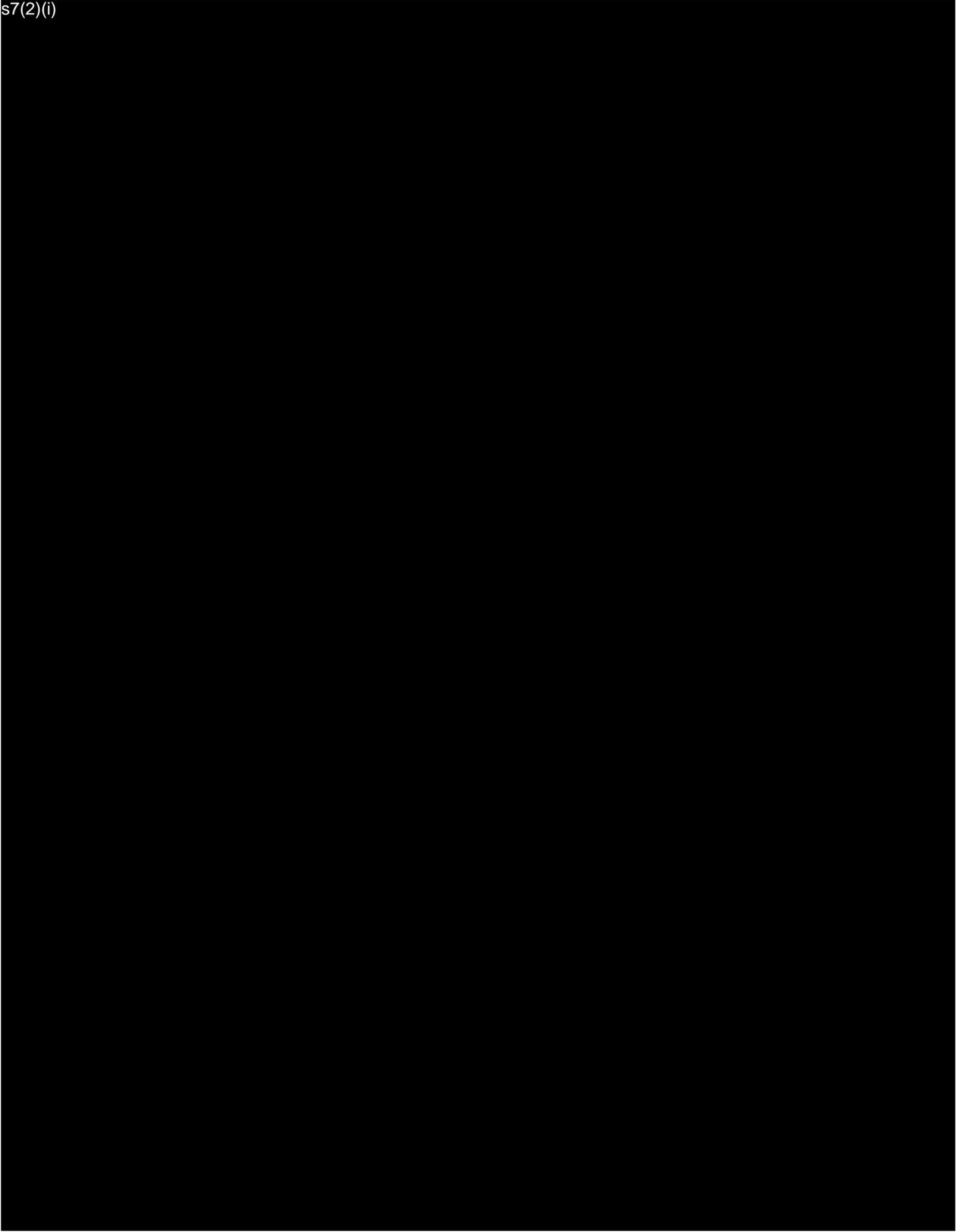
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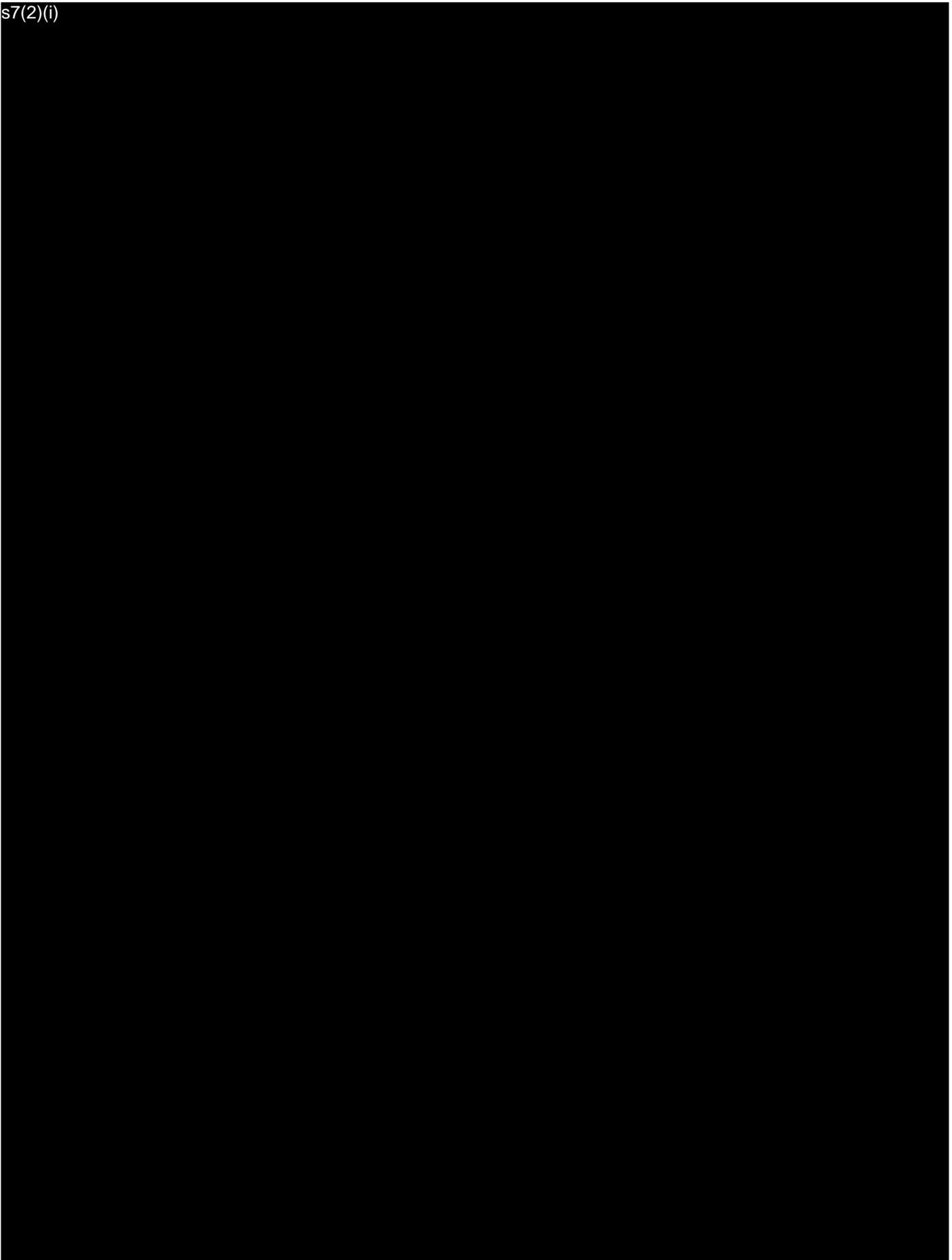
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s7(2)(i)



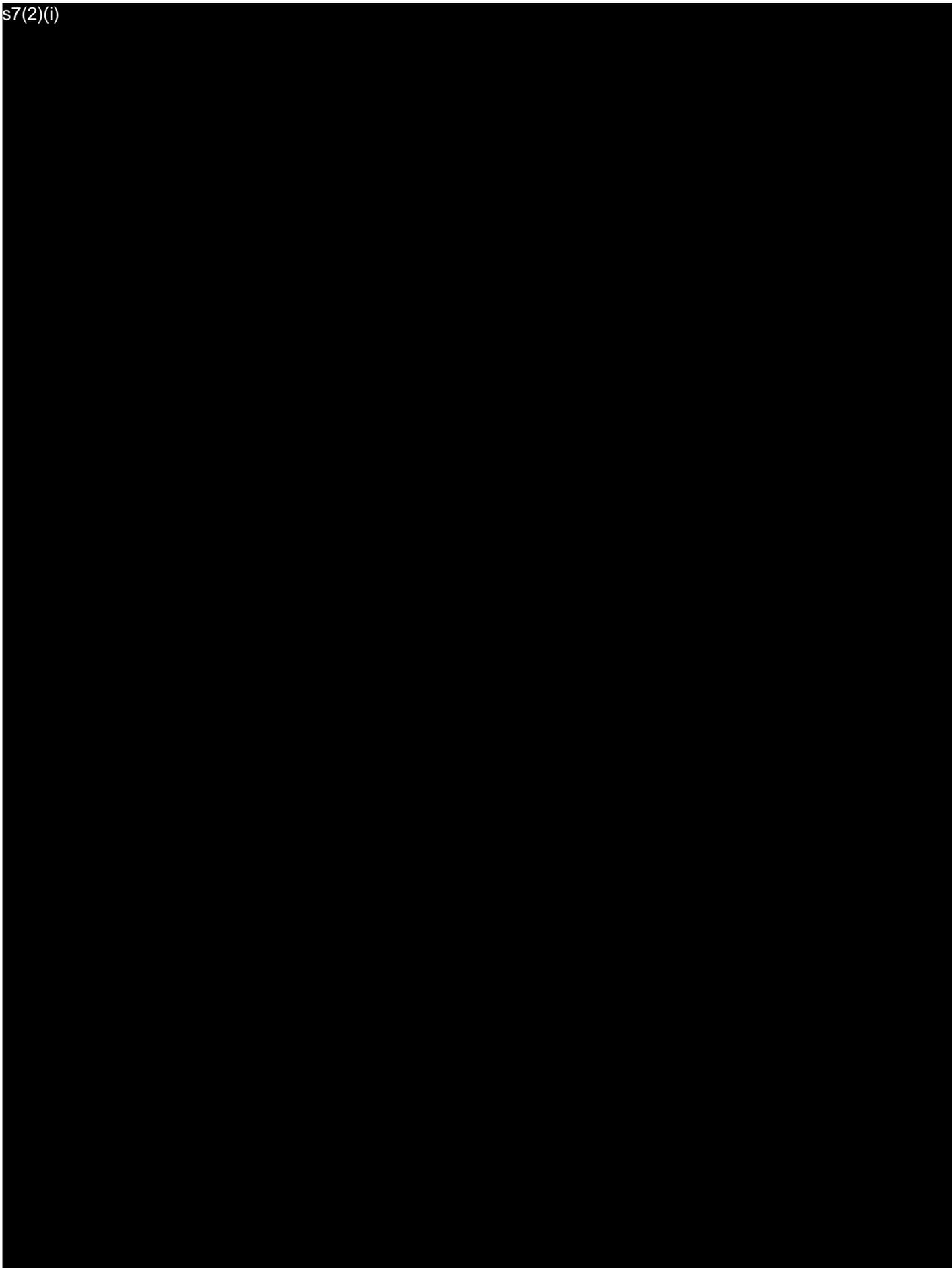
Appendix 2

s7(2)(i)



Appendix 3

s7(2)(i)

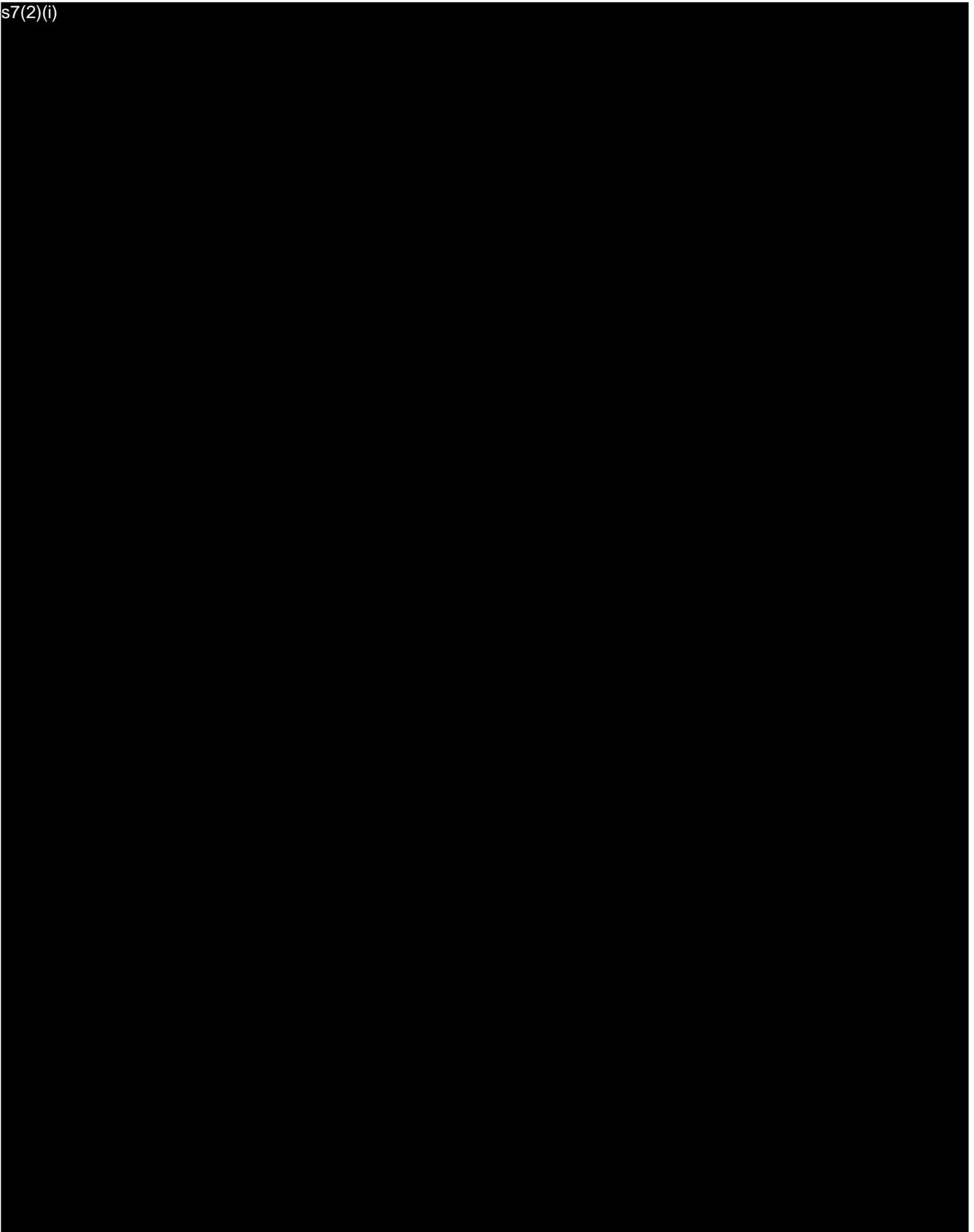


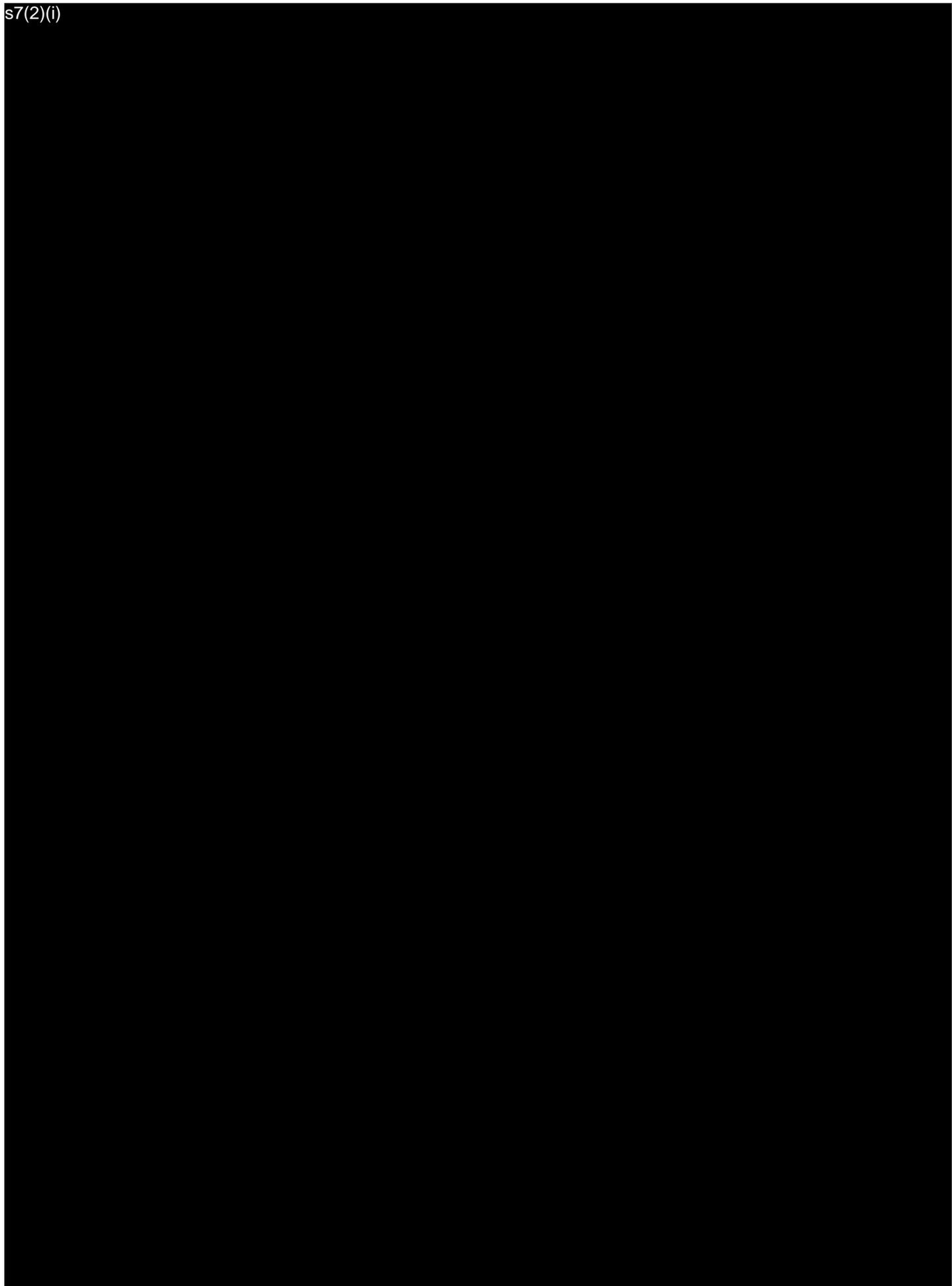
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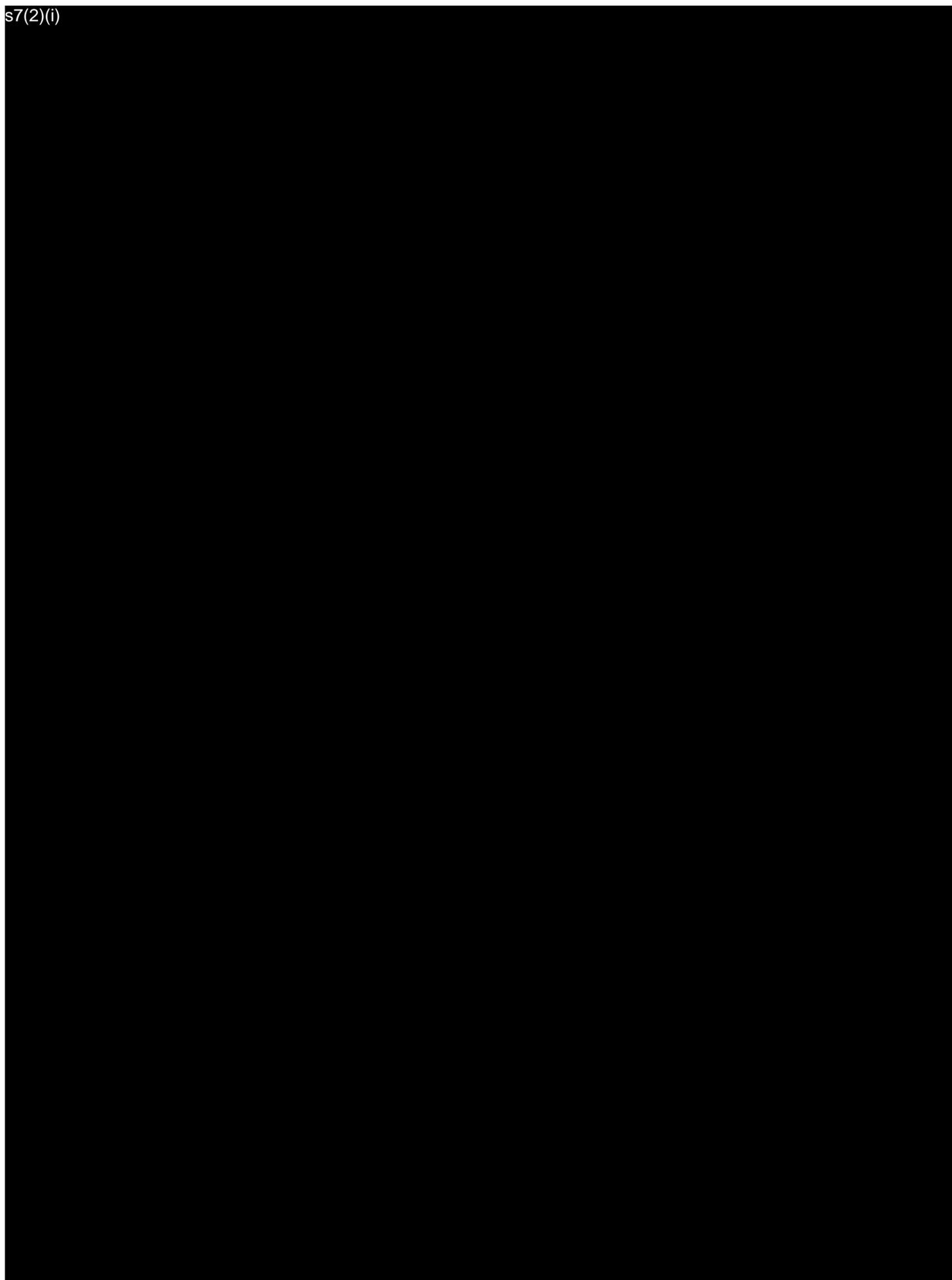
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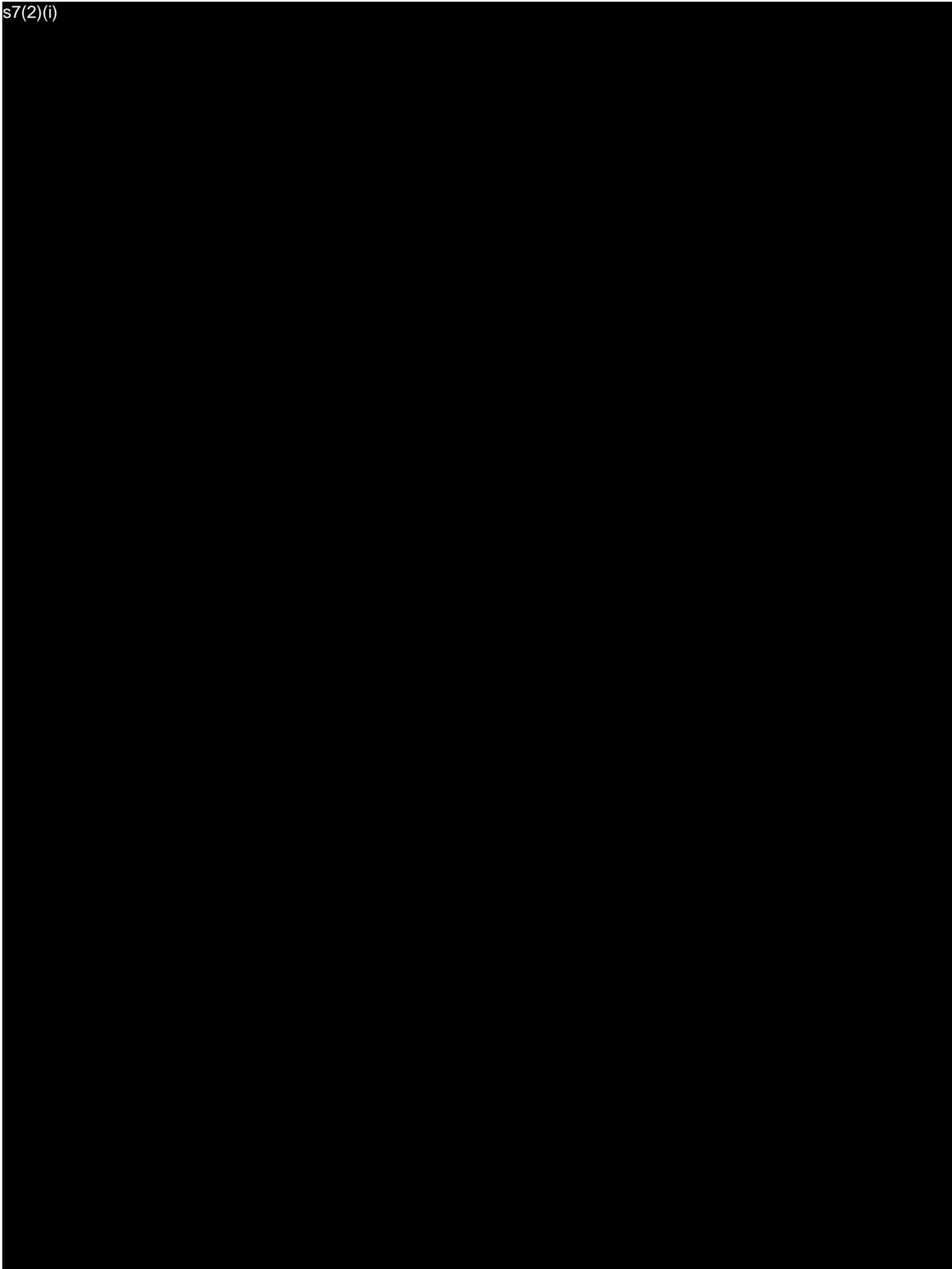
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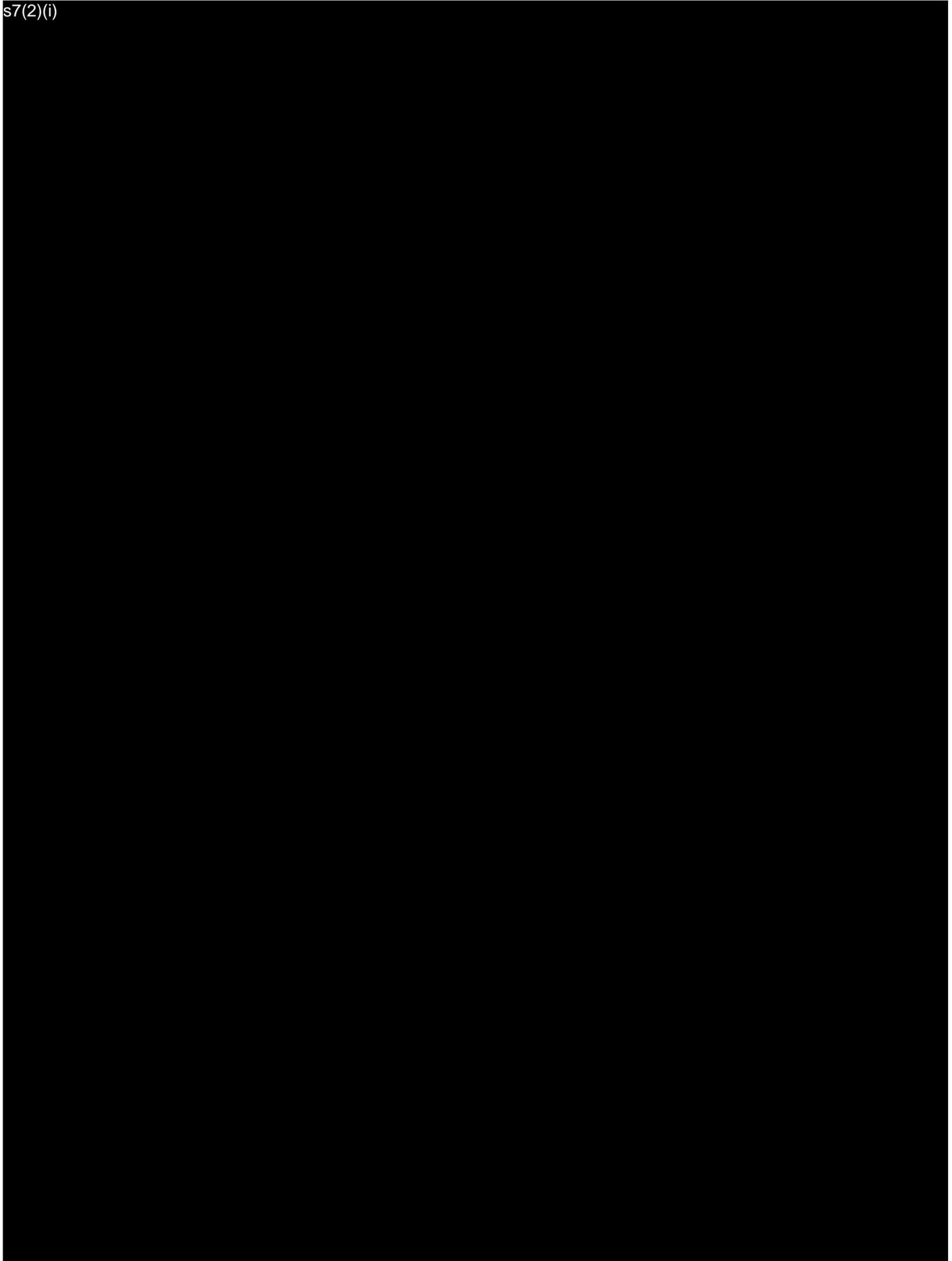
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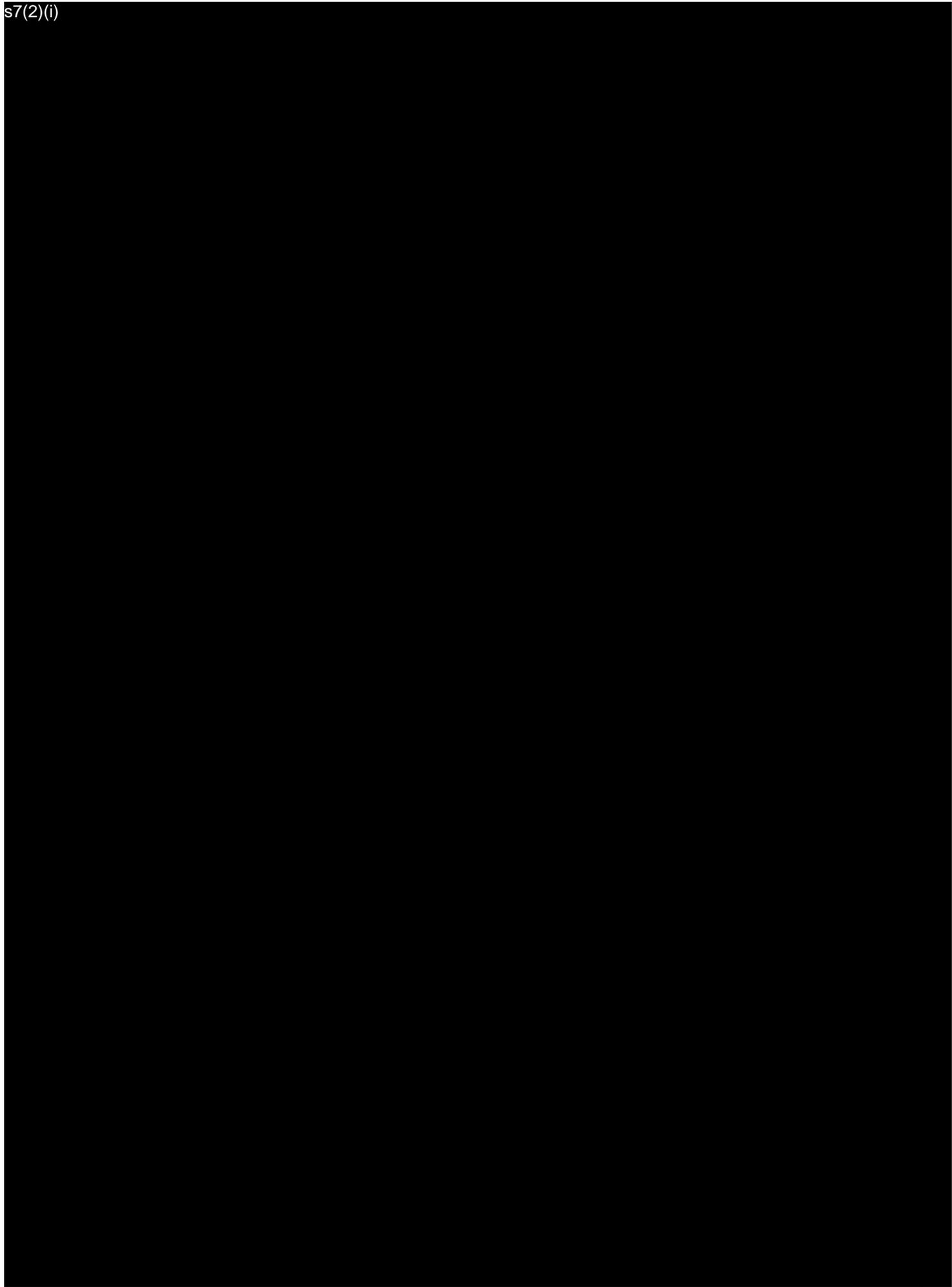








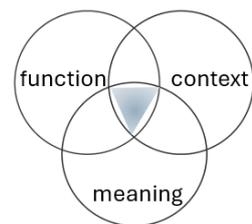




Criteria reference

National Erebus Memorial Refined Site Criteria¹. Highest rated criteria in bold.

- Function (accessible², flexible³, **safe**⁴)
- Context (co-location⁵, **adjacency**⁶, relevance⁷, **certainty**⁸)
- Meaning (**sensitivity**⁹, **own meaning**¹⁰, designer's intention¹¹, amenity¹²)



¹ <https://www.mch.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-07/National-Erebus-Memorial-Refined-Site-Criteria.pdf> (accessed 30.5.25)

² Accessible for ease of travel and universal accessibility

³ Flexible to accommodate intimate as well as ceremonial experience

⁴ Safe from structures or land instability, particularly as the memorial relates to a traumatic event

⁵ Co-locatable to use other nearby spaces for large gatherings

⁶ Adjacency for compatibility with existing and potential development and activity

⁷ Relevance with conceptual connection to the function or purpose of the memorial

⁸ Certainty of tenure, iwi support, regulatory for an enduring context

⁹ Sensitivity with respect to existing cultural/social sensitivities

¹⁰ Own meaning can develop overtime rather than sites with existing symbolism, meaning

¹¹ Designer's intention to mean core concepts of the selected design can be applied

¹² Amenity includes features such as views, water, trees, shelter, especially connection to sea and sky

Information Only

MEMO TO: s7(2)(a) - Manager Office of Mayor & Civic Services

MEMO ISSUED: 15/10/2024

COPY TO: s7(2)(a)

MEETING: Executive Leadership Team Meeting of 14/10/2024

Please note for your information only:

National Memorials Update

STAFF REPORT 24/1782308

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

INITIAL DUE DATE OF ACTION - **Note:** This applies to **For Action** items only, not to **For Information** memos.

NOTE

National Memorials Update

That the Executive Leadership Team:

1. Received the information in the National Memorials Update Report.
2. Provided endorsement for continued conversations with MCH regarding the National Erebus Memorial and undertaking engagement with Elected Members and Ngāi Tūāhuriri on a confidential basis.
3. Identified key matters to address for an indication of support, or otherwise, to be provided to Erebus families and Operation Overdue through MCH.

[View Item in Minutes Document](#)

This action sheet has been automatically produced by an administrator using **Infocouncil**.

Please note: if this item is *for information*, no updating in Infocouncil is required.



If the item is *for action* then click on the **Actions** button on the InfoCouncil Toolbar to update the outstanding action.

- If the action is completed - please close the action off in the Actions window, including a brief explanation of how the action was completed
- If the action is not completed please update the notes and the target date (if it needs to be different from the noted target date).

Please continue to update the notes and the target date in Infocouncil until the matter has been finalised, and then close it off in the Actions window.

Some reasons for the suitability of the National Erebus Memorial being located at Christchurch (specific site possibilities unknown at this point)

- Christchurch is the official New Zealand hub and gateway to Antarctica (and one of the world's five Antarctic Gateway Cities). See: <https://www.christchurchnz.com/christchurch-antarctic-gateway>
- Antarctic New Zealand is based in Christchurch - the government agency responsible for carrying out New Zealand's activities in Antarctica, supporting world leading science and environmental protection. See: www.antarcticanz.govt.nz As is the New Zealand Antarctica Society Inc, with their building in Montreal Street. See: <https://antarcticsociety.org.nz/> and <https://www.christchurchnz.com/christchurch-antarctic-gateway/christchurch-antarctic-network/new-zealand-antarctic-society>
- The city has an Antarctica consciousness - and amenities - including the 'International Antarctic Centre' established in 1992, museum displays (Canterbury Museum, National Air Force Museum, Ferrymead Heritage Park), statue of Captain Robert Falcon Scott (unveiled in 1917) etc.
- A range of Antarctica programmes including other nations (e.g. Italy, South Korea) use Christchurch as their entry to Antarctica.
- Prominent is the United States Antarctic Program (USAP) - "Deep Freeze" which in 2025 marks 70 years of having a Christchurch base.
- Christchurch International Airport was opened in 1950 – the first international airport in New Zealand. It has regular services to 16 airports domestically and more than 140 international arrivals and departures every week. The International Antarctic Centre is located nearby, on the airport campus.
- Air New Zealand Flight TE901 was due to land at Christchurch International Airport just after 6pm on 28 November 1979. 53 passengers were to disembark before the aircraft was to fly on to Auckland after its Antarctic sight-seeing flight. It was at Christchurch Airport that waiting relatives were first told of the disaster

While tragically the DC-10 did not land at Christchurch, the welcome, unveiling and dedication of the Erebus National Memorial coming to the city could well be appropriate.

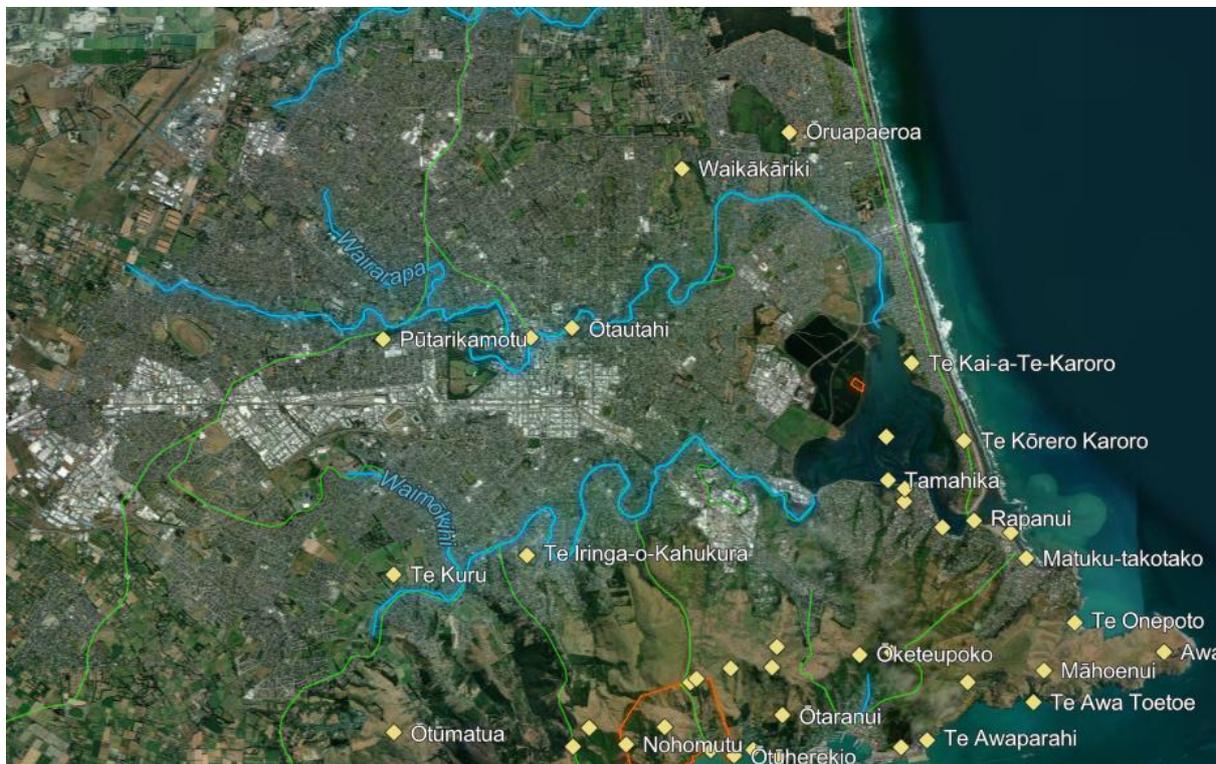
Schedule 1: Statement of Works

This statement of works is an annexure pursuant to the Master Agreement dated 29 January 2024 between Christchurch City Council (CCC) and Whitiora Centre Limited (WCL) and accordingly will be read subject to the terms and conditions of that Master Agreement as applicable. This scope of works may be amended by written agreement between Whitiora and the Council.

Project:	Erebus National Memorial
Council Contact:	s7(2)(a) [REDACTED] Manager Office of Mayor & Civic Services s7(2)(a) [REDACTED] Urban Design Team Leader
Council Unit:	Cross-council project (Lead units: Office of Mayor & Civic Services, Planning & Consents, Parks) Note: project is led by the Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage

1. Location

City wide locations will be considered. Due to the accessibility criteria, potential locations are to be identified to the city / northern side of the Port Hills Summit Road.



2. Context and background

November 2024 saw 45 years since the worst aviation accident in Aotearoa New Zealand's history. An Air New Zealand DC-10 crashed into the slopes of Mt Erebus in Antarctica. All 257 crew and passengers lost their lives, New Zealand's greatest single loss of life outside of wartime. A national memorial is long overdue. An opportunity to consider Ōtautahi Christchurch as the location for this memorial has arisen.

Preference to date has been for the memorial to be located in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland as the largest proportion of those who died lived there, many Erebus families continue to live in the area, and the flight departed from the city. It is also a major gateway for international passengers if they visit. However, the progression of sites in Auckland continues to beset with a number of challenges which has led to broader consideration of options.

In late 2024 contact was made by the Manatū Taonga Ministry of Culture and Heritage (MCH) regarding consideration of Christchurch as a potential location. Discussion with the Mayor, Chief Executive, Council and Ngāi Tūāhuriri [REDACTED] s7 s7(2)(a) [REDACTED] led to a letter (see **Appendix One**) being provided to MCH in December 2024 with an invitation for Christchurch to be considered as a potential location for the Erebus National Memorial.

As New Zealand's Antarctic Gateway there is the opportunity to provide a welcoming home for the memorial in Ōtautahi Christchurch, further strengthening these connections and creating a special place within the city. Every year a commemoration is held for those that have lost their lives in Antarctica, including the 257 lives lost in the Erebus accident. The flight was also due to land and refuel on its return in Christchurch, with families across the South Island turning on lights in the hope they could help guide the plane to safety.

Consideration of a site outside of Auckland has now been raised with the families and members of Operation Overdue (the recovery effort). Given the challenges faced in Auckland and likely timeframes, alongside the welcome from our city, there is a level of support for the memorial to come to Christchurch. Information on potential sites will be needed to fully consider this.

A number of prominent locations have been considered to date with manawhenua closely involved and welcoming of families which has been significant within such a long and challenging process.

Current status of the project for Ōtautahi Christchurch

In January discussions commenced with MCH staff to understand the process for site selection, largely consistent with that applied in Auckland.

Ultimately any decision on a site will be made by the Minister of Culture & Heritage, however it is intended that Council will offer up a site(s) for consideration by mid-2025.

Working back from mid-2025, the process for identifying sites needs to be underway in March. Manawhenua are invited to work collaboratively with CCC from the outset, alongside MCH, to identify cultural considerations and support identification and assessment of potential sites. The tasks set out below are the anticipated steps in this process.

3. Project Objectives

Undertake a site selection process which is consistent with the criteria previously agreed by the MCH with families (see **Appendix Two**).

The offer of a site(s) by mid-2025 which could be progressed within a reasonable timeframe if Christchurch were to be the location for the Erebus National Memorial.

4. Services requested

Manwhenua are invited to work alongside CCC and MCH to progress consideration of Ōtautahi Christchurch as a location for the Erebus National Memorial.

Identification of cultural considerations would inform the process of high-level site assessment and progression to a short list for review and approval.

5. Key Dates

To be discussed, indicative timeframes are proposed as follows, with WCL inputs in blue text:

Task	Responsible	Key Dates / Timing
Initial discussion – project scope, timeframes, and cultural considerations to inform high level identification of sites	CCC, manawhenua	March 2025
Identification and high-level assessment of potential sites – working group formed	CCC, manawhenua and Ministry for Culture and Heritage	By end of March 2025
Stakeholder engagement and detailed assessments	CCC, manawhenua and Ministry for Culture and Heritage	April 2025
Review and agreement of short list	CCC, manawhenua	May 2025
Council report to consider preferred site(s) and offer to the Ministry	CCC	June/July 2025

6. Fees, expenses and payment

The project budget for the Erebus National Memorial is held by the MCH. CCC does not have oversight of this programme or the annual budget. However, mana whenua involvement is identified as critical to the process as it has been in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. It is anticipated that the fees will need to be agreed with and reimbursed by MCH. Noted that costs will be at the agreed rates in the Master Agreement.

The initial estimate is up to 20 hours during March / early April 2025. Further stages of work would need to be identified together once this initial stage has progressed.

APPENDIX ONE

Office of **The Mayor**

Christchurch
City Council 

9 December 2024

Leauane Lulu Mac Leauanae
Secretary for Culture and Heritage
Ministry of Culture and Heritage
PO Box 5364
Wellington 6140
New Zealand
By email: [s7\(2\)\(a\)@mch.govt.nz](mailto:s7(2)(a)@mch.govt.nz)

Dear Mac

Invitation to consider Christchurch as the location for the Erebus Memorial

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you last week to discuss the proposed national memorial for the Erebus Disaster and for providing us with the background to the challenges the Ministry has had in finding a site.

I am writing to you on behalf of the people of Christchurch to formally invite you to consider our city as the location for the National Erebus Memorial. We believe Christchurch is uniquely positioned to honour the memory of those lost in the tragic Mount Erebus disaster, offering a setting that is deeply meaningful.

Christchurch has a long and proud history as a gateway to Antarctica. Our city's connection to the Antarctic continent is woven into the fabric of our identity, from the presence of the International Antarctic Centre to our role as a base for scientific research and exploration from the era of Robert Falcon Scott through to today.

As you know Christchurch was to be the initial place of return for TE901, where a small number of passengers were to disembark, there was to be a crew change, and the aircraft was to be refuelled. We are aware of the story that on hearing the aircraft was missing people across the South Island turned their house lights on in an attempt to guide the aircraft home. This heritage forms a profound link between Christchurch and the events of Erebus, making it a natural and symbolic home for the memorial.

In addition to our historical connection, Christchurch has had more than our fair share of tragedy. This has given our community a strong understanding for the need for manaaki for those who have suffered and been scarred, and I am confident this memorial would be cherished and supported by our citizens.

We are prepared to work closely with your ministry to identify a suitable site within Christchurch that reflects the dignity and significance of this memorial. We stand together with the families and members of Operational OVERDUE and our city is deeply committed to ensuring the Erebus Memorial provides a space of solace and remembrance for all New Zealanders.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Mauger', written in a cursive style.

Phil Mauger
Mayor of Christchurch

APPENDIX TWO

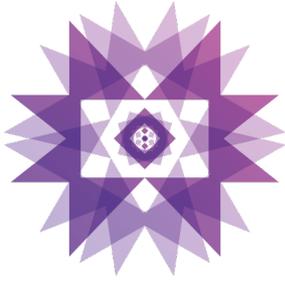
The following is the criteria that will be applied to list of potential sites to determine suitability.

Functionality	
Accessible:	A location / site that is accessible - so people can easily get to it (Public transport / vehicular access) and that can be designed to have universal access.
Flexible:	A flexible space allowing for formal and informal events, accommodate significant numbers as well as creating a more private, intimate experience.

Safe:	Avoidance of threats and perceived threats from adjacent structures or landforms with particular attention paid to geotechnical stability.
Context	
Co-location:	The extent to which larger gatherings can utilise adjacent spaces particularly if the site itself is restricted. Co-location can mean a smaller Memorial site could be workable / appropriate.
Adjacencies:	Compatibility with existing and potential future adjacent development / activities.
Relevance:	A site that is located somewhere that is conceptually connected to the function or purpose of the memorial.
Certainty	A site that has sufficient certainty in relation to security of tenure, iwi/hapu support, and authorising environment, to ensure an enduring context for the Memorial.
Meaning	
Sensitivity:	A site where the memorial will not affect / compromise existing cultural or social sensitivities.
Own meaning:	A site that can develop its own meaning and significance over time, rather than a site which already has a fixed meaning / symbolism or known significance.
Designer's intention:	A site which can support the core concepts of the selected design.
Amenity:	Whether the site has connection to features that enhance the setting – views, water, trees, shelter, aspect with particular attention to the site qualities expressed in the selected design in relation to views and connections to the sea and sky.

References:

- Site selection criteria, and site reports - [National Erebus Memorial Site Selection Documents | Manatū Taonga | Ministry for Culture & Heritage](#)
- Ministry for Culture and Heritage webpage: [National Erebus Memorial | Manatū Taonga | Ministry for Culture & Heritage](#)



WHITIORA

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Item type	Description	Quantity	Unit price	Amount
Service	Erebus National Memorial: Consultancy mahi (15/05/2025 - 15/05/2025)	1.50	s7(2)(a)	

Subtotal s7(2)
Tax (15%) s7(2)
Amount due s7(2)(a)

Notes

Bank account for payment:
s7(2)(a)
s7(2)(a)

Information for Christchurch City Council – National Erebus Memorial

Draft and in Confidence, 22 October 2024

Why the memorial?

- Everybody deserves a place to remember their loved ones
- The aim of the memorial is to honour the 257 people who lost their lives in the Erebus accident and provide a place of reflection for those who were affected by the accident
- Those affected have waited nearly 45 years for that place
- The tragedy is the largest single civil loss of life in New Zealand's history and its' aftermath has had lasting, generational impacts
- The Memorial is of National and international significance (passengers were also from Australia, Canada, France, Great Britain, Japan, Switzerland, and the USA)

Context

Manatū Taonga has been working through a careful process to secure a site for a National Erebus Memorial. We are searching for an appropriate place to build an enduring Memorial to honour the 257 people who lost their lives when Air New Zealand flight TE901 crashed into Mount Erebus in Antarctica on the 28th of November 1979.

The 45th Anniversary of the tragedy is fast approaching and Erebus families, and those who assisted with the investigation and recovery (Operation Overdue), continue to wait for a place to come together and commemorate this significant loss of life and national moment in history.

It is vitally important that the site for a memorial is one where both the memorial and the families are warmly welcomed.

Background

The Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage announced the government's intent to create a National Erebus Memorial in late 2017. Dove-Myer Robinson Park in Parnell was selected as the preferred site for the memorial. Following severe weather events in 2023, geotechnical advice concluded that the long-term stability of the site no longer met our requirements. A decision was made that we would no longer be building a memorial at the site.

Following this decision we have been working with Erebus families and members of Operation Overdue to find a new site for the National Erebus Memorial. We have approximately 450 individuals on our contact list that we engage with on a regular basis

To date, the primary focus of our search has been in the Tāmaki Makaurau area as the majority of New Zealanders who lost their lives on flight TE901 came from that region, many of their families continue to reside in the area, the flight departed from there, and it is a gateway city for international visitors, providing easier access for families of the international passengers on the flight.

Together with Erebus whānau, we refined our site selection criteria and, with the assistance of an independent urban planning firm Barker & Associates, identified 36 sites for consideration in the Auckland area and one site in Wellington. Following engagement with key stakeholders including landowners and iwi, we shared a list of 13 potential with Erebus families and members of Operation Overdue for their feedback. Further engagement with key stakeholders has ensued and we are currently working through two remaining sites.

We currently have concerns that either or both of these sites may not be able to be progressed and are therefore investigating potential suitable alternative sites. This has focussed on the main centres - Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch – to ensure access for New Zealanders and international visitors. We have communicated to families that we are open to considering alternative sites if there are suitable sites that have the potential to realise a memorial in shorter timeframes.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei has embraced families and operation overdue members since the original site choice in Auckland. They have welcomed Erebus whanau onto their Marae and to join Matariki celebrations and have indicated that they will support this kaupapa wherever the Memorial is ultimately realised

Ōtautahi Christchurch

Why Ōtautahi Christchurch?

- Flight TE901 was due to land at Christchurch on its return from Antarctica
- There was to be a crew change and 53 passengers were due to disembark there
- Family members were waiting at Christchurch airport
- Christchurch has a significant historical and ongoing connection with Antarctica and is the International Gateway to this special part of the world
- The unifying factor for all of those on the flight was the fascination with Antarctica and the opportunity for adventure
- Christchurch played a major role within the 'Ice-Phase' of Operation Overdue as did personnel from Scott Base and the US Navy Base in McMurdo
- The first three individuals to access the crash site were climbers from Christchurch
- Christchurch is clearly a main centre that would provide easy access for New Zealanders and international visitors
- Christchurch was the first international airport in New Zealand (1950) and is now second busiest after Auckland in terms of passengers and flight movements

Site Selection and Design Brief

Updated site selection criteria have been developed with families and Operation Overdue members assisted by s7(2)(a) from Lincoln University (attached?)

The original design brief has also been updated (attached?)

Prior to the original design, families provided feedback as to what they would like the Memorial to include and/or represent:

- The Memorial should be set in a secluded, peaceful park-like location.
- It should be a place for quiet contemplation and informal family gatherings to remember, honour, acknowledge and reflect on those who lost their lives.

- It is important that the names of those who died are listed on the memorial, and that those involved in the recovery operation are recognised for their efforts to bring loved one's home.
- The Memorial should express the sense of grief, sadness and pain experienced by the families and the effect on New Zealand as a nation.
- The Memorial should be a place where visitors may learn about the accident and where formal commemorations can take place.
- The Memorial should also express the sense of adventure, exploration and enjoyment that passengers on the flight would have felt and evoke the beauty and grandeur of Antarctica.

The design will need to take into account Te Aranga design principals, which are a set of outcome-based principles founded on Māori cultural values and formulated to provide practical guidance for enhancing outcomes for the design environment.

Points to Note

If there is support from CCC then the following steps would need to take place and/or taken into consideration:

- We would work in a partnership model – Council, MCH, iwi (and any other key stakeholders) - comms etc. would always be jointly agreed
- Families and Operation Overdue members would need to be consulted on their views about Christchurch– we have an update meeting with them on 7th of November
- We engage with Family members and Operation Overdue members as a collective
- We endeavour to share information first with Erebus & Operation Overdue whānau before releasing anything publicly
- Any site under consideration will be subject to an assessment of suitability against the site criteria (already supplied to CCC)
- Any design would need to be site and context-specific
- We are aiming to reuse the original design principles and any elements of design that might be appropriate for a new design context
- A high-level concept would be developed in the first instance
- Design would be a collaborative process
- Any community consultation would be agreed with CCC
- The Ministry would fund all related planning, design and construction costs
- The Ministry would be responsible for any ongoing maintenance costs of the memorial itself.

Request

In the first instance, Manatū Taonga is seeking support from CCC for Ōtautahi/Christchurch to be included as a place where a site for the National Erebus Memorial could be sought in line with our process for site selection more generally. In time, we would hope that the warm hand of welcome from the good people of Ōtautahi/Christchurch might also be extended to Erebus and Operation Overdue families themselves as part of any process that may follow.

We are happy to come and discuss this important mahi with the Council and/or other key stakeholders. It's important to us that wherever this Memorial is built, that proper process and consultation precedes it, especially with iwi, landowners and others with a strong interest in the site. We recognise the significant part stakeholders will have in ensuring an enduring site is found for the Memorial, so the people who lost their loved ones 44 years ago have a place to commemorate, celebrate and reflect.

We would appreciate you keeping this information in the strictest confidence at this stage.

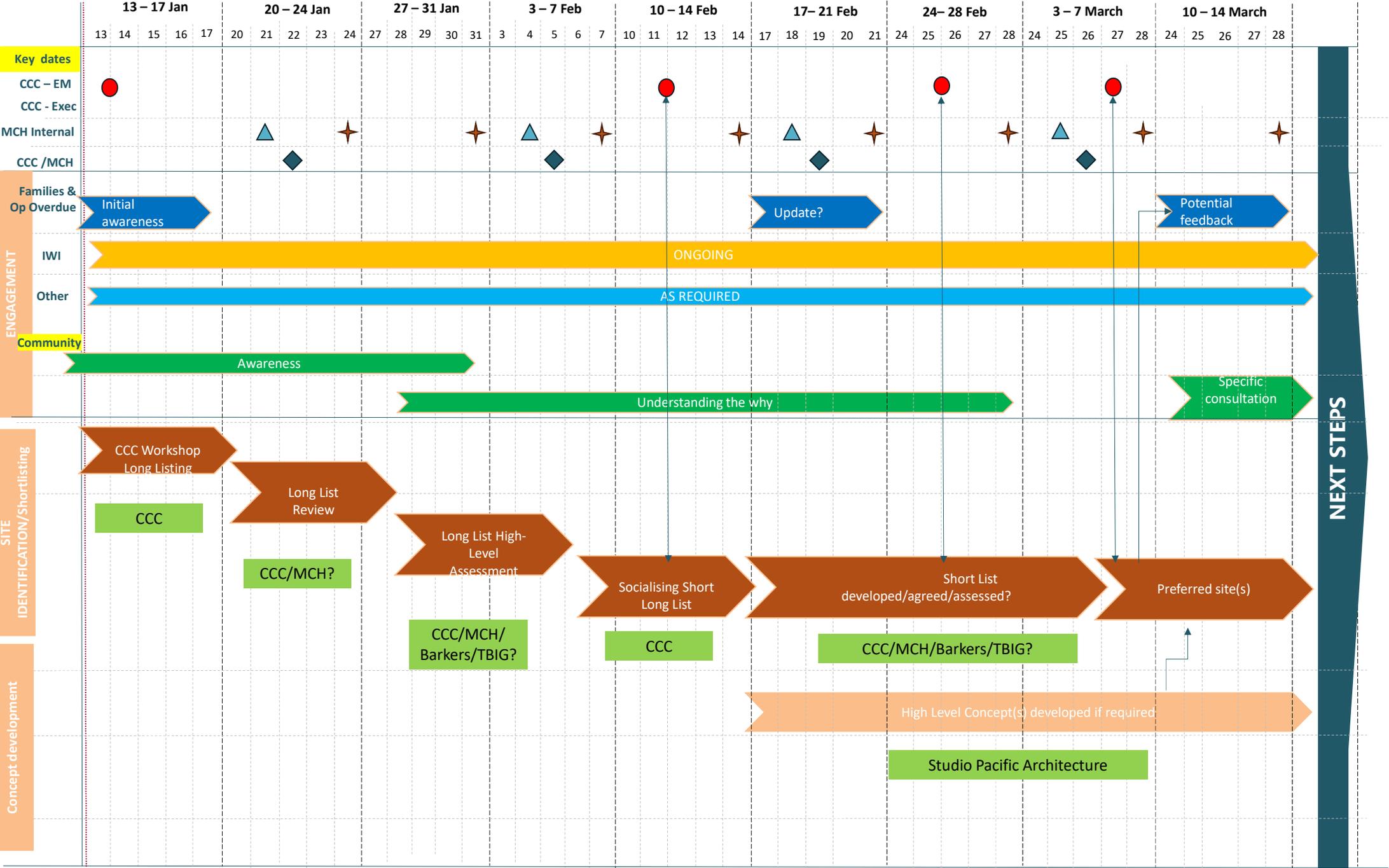
We also acknowledge that discussions are currently underway regarding a memorial for the March 15 terror attacks in Christchurch. Whilst this is on a different timeline, subject to a Cabinet decision and, securing of funding, we would endeavour to ensure that the two memorial projects are managed appropriately in line with the aspirations of their respective communities and project plans.

Thank you for your consideration of this information. If you would like to discuss it further, Director Portfolio Delivery s7(2)(a) and Deputy Chief Executive, Glenis Philip-Barbara, and s7(2)(a), Manager Memorials and Commemorations who lead the work on building a National Erebus Memorial, are always available to have a kōrero with you.

CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFT National Erebus Memorial Christchurch Site Selection Approach

Note: This phase only covers site identification/shortlisting processes



NEXT STEPS

ORIGINAL DESIGN BRIEF / REQUIREMENTS

The original design brief and requirements for the Erebus Memorial are set out below for reference.

ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES / OUTCOMES:

- Pay respects to those who lost their lives in the accident and provide a place of reflection for those who were affected by the accident.
- Acknowledge the service of those individuals, New Zealanders and others, who were involved in the extremely difficult and very unpleasant, hazardous, and extreme circumstances associated with the body recovery, crash investigation and victim identification phases of Operation Overdue.
- Be designed as a bold and visionary experience with these qualities:
 - elicit a deeply emotional response from visitors
 - provoke a physical and spatial engagement with visitors
 - invite exploration and even participation.
- Appeal to different categories of visitors and provide for:
 - both international and national
 - large and medium-sized events
 - areas of intimacy and quiet reflection
 - different age groups
 - have the ability to tell a story through the environment and space.

THE NATIONAL EREBUS MEMORIAL DESIGN BRIEF CALLED FOR A DESIGN THAT:

- honours the 257 people who lost their lives in the accident
- achieves a high standard of design through an appropriate process
- establishes a memorial which expresses the magnitude of the events and is an enduring legacy to New Zealanders
- provides a location/space for hosting formal civic events such as anniversaries of the accident
- accommodates a wide range of users through an accessible design that can inspire a range of interpretations and meanings
- provides a focus for remembering; both for New Zealanders and international visitors
- recognises and gives thanks to those who assisted in the response
- allows for reflection and contemplation on a day-to-day basis for all groups
- provides interpretative information to educate and inform visitors about the accident.

THE WAITEMATĀ BOARD FRAMEWORK / PARAMETERS TO BE ADHERED TO THROUGH THE DESIGN PHASE WERE AS FOLLOWS:

- blend in with and being sympathetic to the natural landscape
- protect view shafts identified in the Auckland Unitary Plan
- acknowledge views/vistas to Judges Bay
- maintain open space values
- allow multiple uses of the area
- be consistent with the heritage and mana whenua values of the park



- accommodate current use types / patterns
- increase the use levels of this area of the park
- provide additional amenity value
- consider the application of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), Injury Prevention Through Environmental Design (IPTED) and Universal Design principles
- ensure it is suitably robust for use in a publicly accessible environment.

FAMILIES OF THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE ACCIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ICE PHASE OF OPERATION OVERDUE PROVIDED FEEDBACK ON WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN A MEMORIAL. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THEIR RESPONSES:

- The Memorial should be set in a secluded, peaceful park-like location.
- It should be a place for quiet contemplation and informal family gatherings to remember, honour, acknowledge and reflect on those who lost their lives.
- It is important that the names of those who died are listed on the memorial, and that those involved in the recovery operation are recognised for their efforts to bring loved one's home.
- The Memorial should express the sense of grief, sadness and pain experienced by the families and the effect on New Zealand as a nation.
- The Memorial should be a place where visitors may learn about the accident and where formal commemorations can take place.
- The Memorial should also express the sense of adventure, exploration and enjoyment that passengers on the flight would have felt and evoke the beauty and grandeur of Antarctica..

The design also needs to take into account Te Aranga design principals, which are a set of outcome-based principles founded on Māori cultural values and formulated to provide practical guidance for enhancing outcomes for the design environment.



SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DESIGN BRIEF REQUIREMENTS

Below is a summary of the previous design brief requirements noted above, and reference to the relevance of these design requirements for an adapted memorial.

Original Design Brief Criteria	Status
Pay respects to those who lost their lives in the accident and provide a place of reflection for those who were affected by the accident.	Still relevant – retain
Acknowledge the service of those individuals, New Zealanders and others, who were involved in the extremely difficult and very unpleasant, hazardous, and extreme circumstances associated with the body recovery, crash investigation and victim identification phases of Operation Overdue.	Still relevant – retain.
Be designed as a bold and visionary experience with these qualities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elicit a deeply emotional response from visitors • provoke a physical and spatial engagement with visitors • invite exploration and even participation. 	Still relevant – retain however minor adjustments to the wording.
Appeal to different categories of visitors and provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • both international and national • large and medium-sized events • areas of intimacy and quiet reflection • different age groups • have the ability to tell a story through the environment and space. 	Still relevant – retain.
honours the 257 people who lost their lives in the accident	Still relevant – retain.
achieves a high standard of design through an appropriate process	Still relevant – retain.
establishes a memorial which expresses the magnitude of the events and is an enduring legacy to New Zealanders	Still relevant – retain.
provides a location/space for hosting formal civic events such as anniversaries of the accident	Still relevant – retain.

accommodates a wide range of users through an accessible design that can inspire a range of interpretations and meanings	Still relevant – retain.
provides a focus for remembering; both for New Zealanders and international visitors	Still relevant – retain.
recognises and gives thanks to those who assisted in the response	Still relevant – retain.
allows for reflection and contemplation on a day-to-day basis for all groups	Still relevant – retain.
provides interpretative information to educate and inform visitors about the accident.	Still relevant – retain.
Local Board Parameters / Site Specific Parameters	
blend in with and being sympathetic to the natural landscape	Needs to be updated to reflect feedback and parameters from authorising parties for relevant site.
protect view shafts identified in the Auckland Unitary Plan	Site Specific.
acknowledge views/vistas to Judges Bay	Needs to be updated to reflect feedback and parameters from authorising parties.
maintain open space values	Needs to be updated to reflect feedback and parameters from authorising parties.
allow multiple uses of the area	Needs to be updated to reflect feedback and parameters from authorising parties.
be consistent with the heritage and mana whenua values of the park	Needs to be updated to reflect feedback and parameters from authorising parties.
accommodate current use types / patterns	Needs to be updated to reflect feedback and parameters from authorising parties.
increase the use levels of this area of the park	Needs to be updated to reflect feedback and parameters from authorising parties.
provide additional amenity value	Needs to be updated to reflect feedback and parameters from authorising parties.
consider the application of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), Injury Prevention Through Environmental Design (IPTED) and Universal Design principles	Still relevant. Retain.
ensure it is suitably robust for use in a publicly accessible environment.	Still relevant. Retain.
New Design Brief Requirements	
Experiential qualities of the original memorial design to be retained.	
Design to be robust and have a 100 year design life	

<p>Environmental overlay to be incorporated into the new design. ESD brief and requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Potential carbon measurements and outputs. ▪ Low impact material selectons. ▪ Durability and life of memorial to align with 100 year design life. ▪ Re-use of materials incl. s/s to be factored in. 	
<p>Planting / regenerative design to be incorporated</p>	
<p>Design to be of a suitable scale for the site</p>	



ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED

UPDATED DESIGN BRIEF – 2024

Below is a summary of the updated design brief for concept sketches for the Erebus Memorial:

The Erebus Memorial design must:

1. Honour the 257 people who lost their lives in the accident and provide a place of reflection for those who were affected by the accident.
2. Acknowledge the service of all of those individuals, New Zealanders and others, who were involved in Operation Overdue.
3. Be designed as an experience with these qualities:
 - a. elicit an emotional response from visitors
 - b. provoke a physical and spatial engagement with visitors
 - c. invite exploration and even participation.
4. Appeal to different categories of visitors and provide for:
 - a. both international and national
 - b. large and medium-sized events
 - c. areas of intimacy and quiet reflection
 - d. different age groups
 - e. have the ability to tell a story through the environment and space.
5. Achieve a high standard of design through an appropriate process
6. Establish a memorial which expresses the magnitude of the events and is an enduring legacy to New Zealanders
7. Provide a location/space for hosting formal civic events such as anniversaries of the accident
8. Accommodates a wide range of users through an accessible design that can inspire a range of interpretations and meanings
9. Provide a focus for remembering; both for New Zealanders and international visitors
10. Recognise and gives thanks to those who assisted in the response
11. Allow for reflection and contemplation on a day-to-day basis for all groups
12. Provide interpretative information to educate and inform visitors about the accident.
13. Recognise the role of Iwi and incorporate relevant requirements.
14. Take into account stakeholder feedback where appropriate.
15. Retain experiential nature of the original memorial design and reinterpret to new site.
16. Be robust and have a 100 year design life
17. Consider, test, and integrate sustainability strategies for the built work. These will include:
 - Carrying out of embodied carbon measurements to inform material and construction options.
 - Evaluate the contribution of durable, recyclable, and low maintenance materials to whole of life environmental impact.
 - Incorporation of existing cached materials.
 - Incorporate planting to offset embodied carbon.
18. Be of a suitable scale for the site
19. Meet planning requirements of site.
20. Incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), Injury Prevention Through Environmental Design (IPTED) and Universal Design principles

Note – Site Parameters to reflect the individual site requirements and to be agreed in conjunction with authorising environment.



Subject: RE: Erebus
Sent: 2/10/2024, 12:23:27 pm
From: s7(2)(a)
To: s7(2)(a)
Cc: s7(2)(a)

Thanks for this comprehensive paper.

I'm happy to come over to CCC at 1:30 to run through it and also discuss if any further actions are required from the Antarctic Office.

Cheers,

s7(2)

s7(2)(a) | **Head of Christchurch Antarctic Office**

E: s7(2)(a) **M:** s7(2)(a)

A: BNZ Centre, Level 3, 101 Cashel Street, PO Box 2962, Christchurch 8011

www.christchurchnz.com



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From: s7(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2024 11:53 AM

To: s7(2)(a)

Cc: s7(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Erebus

Caution: This email originated outside of ChristchurchNZ's network. Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Kia ora s7(2)

Thanks for the follow up. Have made a start on a paper for our Executive Leadership Team (see attached draft). Would be great to have your review and input.

We could meet tomorrow afternoon to run through this? I'm free after 1.30pm.

Aiming for 14 October, which means sign off for the agenda next Monday. We may be best to meet with MCH shortly after that.

Thanks

s7(2)

From: s7(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2024 10:38 AM

To: s7(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Erebus

Morning s7(2)(a)

Would it be worthwhile for us to connect this week to discuss our progress? I'm quite flexible and can visit CCC anytime after 11am tomorrow. Alternatively, I'm available for an online meeting anytime on Friday.

Cheers,

s7(2)

s7(2)(a) **Head of Christchurch Antarctic Office**

E: s7(2)(a) M: s7(2)(a)

A: BNZ Centre, Level 3, 101 Cashel Street, PO Box 2962, Christchurch 8011

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From: s7(2)(a)

Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 2:34 PM

To: s7(2)(a)

Cc: s7(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Erebus

Caution: This email originated outside of ChristchurchNZ's network. Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Kia ora koutou,

I hope you are all well.

We agreed to find a time for our next (online) meeting and I wanted to check if either Tuesday 8th of October 2-3pm or Wednesday 9th October 1-2pm would work?

Please let me know and I'll send out an invite.

Ngā mihi

s7

s7(2)(a)

s7(2)(a)

Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage

Phone s7(2)(a) | Email s7(2)(a)

Ki te puāwai te ahurea, Ka ora te iwi
Culture is thriving, The people are well

From: s7(2)(a)

Sent: Monday, September 23, 2024 5:10 PM

To: s7(2)(a)

Cc: s7(2)(a)

Subject: Erebus

Kia ora koutou,

Thank you all for your time this afternoon. It was much appreciated.

As promised, here are some links to Erebus content that has recently been added to our NZ History website - personal stories and, educational/curriculum material:

<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/culture/erebus-disaster/reflections>

<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/te-akomanga/context-activities/erebus-accident>

I will find a time for us to reconvene in a couple of weeks and will send Richard Waugh's contact details to you separately s7(2)(a).

Thank you again.

Ngā mihi

s7

s7(2)(a)

s7(2)(a)

Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage

Phone s7(2)(a) | Email s7(2)(a)

Ki te puāwai te ahurea, Ka ora te iwi
Culture is thriving, The people are well

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Subject: RE: Christchurch is mentioned as potential Erebus Site.

Sent: 4/12/2024, 12:54:07 pm

From: s7(2)(a)

To: s7(2)(a)

Excellent!

s7(2)(a) | **Head of Christchurch Antarctic Office**

E: s7(2)(a) **M:** s7(2)(a)

A: BNZ Centre, Level 3, 101 Cashel Street, PO Box 2962, Christchurch 8011

www.christchurchnz.com



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From: s7(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 10:58 AM

To: s7(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Christchurch is mentioned as potential Erebus Site.

Caution: This email originated outside of ChristchurchNZ's network. Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi s7(2) I did read that last week. I'm briefing Councillors today on the matter with a view to the Mayor writing to MCH to invite them to consider Christchurch as a home for the memorial.

Cheers - s

s7(2)(a)

Manager
Office of the Mayor and Civic Services

s7(2)(a)

s7(2)(a)

Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch

PO Box , Christchurch 8154

ccc.govt.nz



From: s7(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 4 December 2024 10:55 am

To: s7(2)(a)

Subject: Christchurch is mentioned as potential Erebus Site.

Hi s7(2)(a)

You may have already seen this.

[Erebus disaster: Hunt for memorial site 'tricky and a bit heartbreaking' | RNZ News](#)

Cheers,

s7(2)

s7(2)(a) | **Head of Christchurch Antarctic Office**

E: s7(2)(a) **M:** s7(2)(a)

A: BNZ Centre, Level 3, 101 Cashel Street, PO Box 2962, Christchurch 8011

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Subject: Re: Emailing: Letter from Mayor Phil Mauger re location for Erebus Memorial 2024-12-09.pdf
Sent: 9/12/2024, 4:09:10 pm
From: s7(2)(a)
To: s7(2)(a)

Good letter s7(2)(a)

It would be good to raise this with Antarctica NZ?

I think s7(2)(a) was after his number, so I assumed it was to communicate with him.

If mitt, then I am meeting s7(2) tomorrow if nobody has reached out?

Cheers
s7(2)

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)
s7(2)(a) | **Head of Christchurch Antarctic Office**
E: s7(2)(a) M: s7(2)(a)
A: BNZ Centre, Level 3, 101 Cashel Street, PO Box 2962, Christchurch 8011
www.christchurchnz.com



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From: s7(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2024 3:25:16 PM
To: s7(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Emailing: Letter from Mayor Phil Mauger re location for Erebus Memorial 2024-12-09.pdf

Caution: This email originated outside of ChristchurchNZ's network. Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi s7(2)(a) and s7(2)

Please see attached the letter the Mayor has sent to MCH. This will be communicated to families on Thursday and it is likely that Council and MCH will issue a press release immediately after it has gone out to them. MCH are delighted to have received the letter and this will be a great Christmas gift for us to give to the families and Op Overdue members.

Cheers - s7(2)(a)

s7(2)(a)
Manager
Office of the Mayor and Civic Services

-  s7(2)(a)
-  s7(2)(a)
-  Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch
-  PO Box , Christchurch 8154
-  ccc.govt.nz

From: s7(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 9 December 2024 11:13 am
To: s7(2)(a)
Cc: s7(2)(a)
Subject: Emailing: Letter from Mayor Phil Mauger re location for Erebus Memorial 2024-12-09.pdf

Dear s7(2)(a)

As discussed with s7(2)(a) last week, please find attached a letter from Mayor Phil Mauger inviting the Ministry of Culture and Heritage to consider Christchurch as the location for the Erebus Memorial.

Kind regards

s7(2)(a)
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Office of the Mayor and Civic Services

-  s7(2)(a)
-  s7(2)(a)
-  Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch
-  PO Box 73016, Christchurch 8154
-  ccc.govt.nz

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Subject: Erebus National Memorial - Information for Christchurch International Airport Ltd
Sent: 6/03/2025, 4:13:05 pm
From: s7(2)(a) [REDACTED]@ccc.govt.nz>
To: s7(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Attachments: [Letter from Mayor Phil Mauer re location for Erebus Memorial 2024-12-09.pdf](#)

Kia ora s7(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Further to your meeting today, please find below background information and criteria that can support consideration of potential sites.

- Letter from the Mayor, 12 December 2024
- Site size – approx. 600m². There is flexibility with this, noting that the design will be altered for a new site. Landscaping may also be needed to support the design, buffer adjoining land uses, and create a suitable space.
- Site selection criteria – the full criteria are as below.
- Initial high-level consideration of potential locations - drawing from the full criteria, three criteria (Access, Safety, Amenity) were those used in the first stage of the long list assessment process undertaken for sites in Auckland and a further criterion has also been identified as important to consider (Own Meaning).
- Extensive background to the project is also contained on the Ministry's website: [National Erebus Memorial | Manatū Taonga | Ministry for Culture & Heritage](#)

Ngā mihi

s7(2) [REDACTED]

The following is the criteria that will be applied to list of potential sites to determine suitability.

Functionality	
Accessible:	A location / site that is accessible - so people can easily get to it (Public transport / vehicular access) and that can be designed to have universal access.
Flexible:	A flexible space allowing for formal and informal events, accommodate significant numbers as well as creating a more private, intimate experience.

Safe:	Avoidance of threats and perceived threats from adjacent structures or landforms with particular attention paid to geotechnical stability.
Context	
Co-location:	The extent to which larger gatherings can utilise adjacent spaces particularly if the site itself is restricted. Co-location can mean a smaller Memorial site could be workable / appropriate.
Adjacencies:	Compatibility with existing and potential future adjacent development / activities.
Relevance:	A site that is located somewhere that is conceptually connected to the function or purpose of the memorial.
Certainty	A site that has sufficient certainty in relation to security of tenure, iwi/hapu support, and authorising environment, to ensure an enduring context for the Memorial.

Meaning	
Sensitivity:	A site where the memorial will not affect / compromise existing cultural or social sensitivities.
Own meaning:	A site that can develop its own meaning and significance over time, rather than a site which already has a fixed meaning / symbolism or known significance.
Designer's intention:	A site which can support the core concepts of the selected design.
Amenity:	Whether the site has connection to features that enhance the setting - views, water, trees, shelter, aspect with particular attention to the site qualities expressed in the selected design in relation to views and connections to the sea and sky.

s7(2)(a)

Team Leader Urban Design

Strategy, Planning & Regulatory Services



s7(2)(a)



s7(2)(a)



Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch



PO Box 73012, Christchurch 8154



ccc.govt.nz

Subject: Draft Christchurch Site Selection Process
Sent: 5/02/2025, 7:15:34 am
From: s7(2)(a) [redacted]
To: s7(2)(a) [redacted]

Kia ora koutou,

As discussed with s7(2)(a) [redacted] have put together a draft approach for the Christchurch site selection process – we can discuss/flesh out later this morning.

There are a few points to bear in mind as we firm the process up:

- The need to have consistency with the process we have been running to date for the 36 sites in Auckland and one in Wellington (plus a few additional Auckland ones)
- Recognition that CCC has the lead role in terms of the process in Christchurch
- The same site selection criteria refined with s7(2)(a) [redacted] support and used by Barkers for their work to date, are to be utilised
- Land ownership dependent, the aim is for CCC to put forward a site/sites it is supportive of for MCH to consider along with any remaining Auckland sites
- Aim to keep Erebus whānau (Family members and members of Operation Overdue) and key stakeholders informed of developments ahead of any media, public release of information

Stage One – Initial idea of Christchurch as a Location

Process & Participants: Senior Leadership CCC, Elected members, Mayor, Iwi, MCH
Output: Letter of offer from the Mayor of Christchurch to host the Memorial
Stakeholder engagement & comms: MCH survey Erebus whānau of main centre preferences
Majority would prefer Auckland. ChCh 40% and low level of support for Wellington
Erebus whānau advised that based on this feedback MCH will progress with ChCh, continue with Auckland and not progress any further with Wellington
Offer and main centre preference shared with Erebus whānau at online hui
Letter published by MCH and reactive comms prepared and issued
Key messages: Warmth of welcome, XXX, YYY

Stage Two – Identification of potential locations

Process and participants: CCC – internal discussions and MCH input, iwi
Output: Four general locations – Port Hills, Central City, Airport and surrounds, Reserves & Parks
Stakeholder engagement & comms: Locations and site selection process to be communicated to Erebus whānau, ChCh communities, key stakeholders
CCC existing channels, MCH to Erebus whānau
Key messages: XXX, YYY

Stage Three – Identification of potential sites

Process and participants: CCC, MCH, iwi, others?
Output: Long list created utilising refined site selection criteria (as refined with s7(2)(a) [redacted] and used by Barkers) as a guide
Stakeholder engagement & comms: Key stakeholders as required
Key messages: XXX, YYY

Stage Four – High level Assessment of potential sites

Process and participants: Working group formed: CCC, MCH, iwi, Barkers (as advisors), s7(2)(a) [redacted]
Output: High level assessment (as per Barkers previous work) undertaken to create 'qualified' list
Stakeholder engagement & comms: Engagement with Landowners, iwi and other stakeholders to ascertain support levels, Erebus whānau
Key messages: XXX, YYY

Stage Five – Detailed Assessment of potential sites

Process and participants: Working group (may or may not include Barkers)
Output: Detailed site assessments undertaken using refined site selection criteria
Stakeholder engagement & comms: Key stakeholders as required e.g. specific to sites, Erebus whānau
Media?
Key messages: XXX, YYY

Stage Six – Preferred site(s) selection

Process and participants: CCC – Exec/Elected members
Output: Report for CCC decision makers and communication to MCH
Barkers to undertake detailed assessment(s) and provide to MCH in
updated site selection document
Stakeholder engagement & comms: Key stakeholders as required, Erebus whānau
Media
Key messages: XXX, YYY

Ngā mihi

s7
s7(2)(a)
s7(2)(a)
Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage
Phone s7(2)(a) | Email s7(2)(a)

Ki te puāwai te ahurea, Ka ora te iwi
Culture is thriving, The people are well

Subject: Emailing: Letter from Mayor Phil Mauger re location for Erebus Memorial 2024-12-09.pdf
Sent: 9/12/2024, 11:12:31 am
From: s7(2)(a)
To: s7(2)(a)
Cc: s7(2)(a)
Attachments: [Letter from Mayor Phil Mauger re location for Erebus Memorial 2024-12-09.pdf](#)

Dear s7(2)(a)

As discussed with s7(2)(a) last week, please find attached a letter from Mayor Phil Mauger inviting the Ministry of Culture and Heritage to consider Christchurch as the location for the Erebus Memorial.

Kind regards

s7(2)(a)
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Office of the Mayor and Civic Services

-  s7(2)(a)
-  s7(2)(a)
-  Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch
-  PO Box 73016, Christchurch 8154
-  ccc.govt.nz



Subject: Erebus - airport

Sent: 3/04/2025, 11:59:26 am

From: s7(2)(a) [REDACTED]@ccc.govt.nz>

To: s7(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Kia ora s7(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Checking in, any response from the airport?

Thanks

s7(2) [REDACTED]

Subject: Erebus
Sent: 10/06/2025, 11:09:44 am
From: s7(2)(a) [redacted]@ccc.govt.nz>
To: s7(2)(a) [redacted]

Hi, was the briefing today ?

s7(2)(a) [redacted]

Senior Communications Advisor
Strategic Communications



 s7(2)(a) [redacted]

 s7(2)(a) [redacted] s7(2)(a) [redacted]

 Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch

 PO Box , Christchurch 8154

 ccc.govt.nz

