

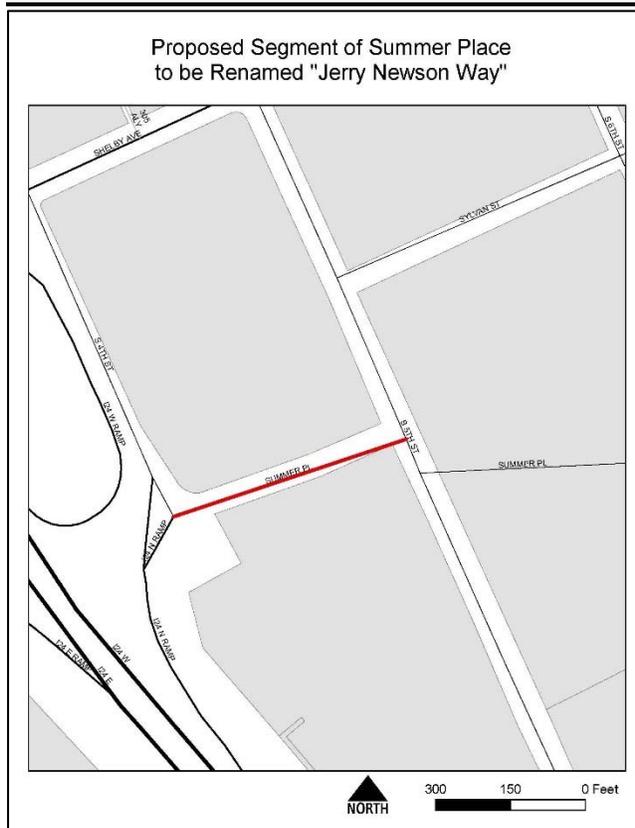
METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



Metropolitan Historical Commission  
Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission  
Sunnyside in Sevier Park  
3000 Granny White Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204  
Telephone: (615) 862-7970

To: Metropolitan Council  
From: Metropolitan Historical Commission, Staff  
Date: June 3, 2020  
Re: BL2020-304

An ordinance to amend the Geographic Information Systems Street and Alley Centerline Layer for the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, by renaming a portion of Summer Place between South 4th Street and South 5th Street to “Jerry Newson Way.” (Proposal Number 2020M-002SR-001).



The subject portion of Summer Place, located between South 4th Street and South 5th Street, is a continuation of the first segment of Summer Place, which was first constructed between South 5th Street and South 6th Street (Fig. 1). The original segment of Summer Place was established as a Private Drive for the James A. Cayce Homes, as shown on the *Street and Utility Easement Plat for James A. Cayce Homes No. 2* recorded in 1957 (Fig. 2).<sup>1</sup> It continues to serve as a private drive.

Figure 1: Proposed Segment of Summer Place to be Renamed “Jerry Newson Way.” Source: Metropolitan Planning Department, exhibit for 2020M-002SR-001.

<sup>1</sup> *Street and Utility Easement Plat for James A. Cayce Homes No. 2*, Recorded February 26, 1957, Plat Book 2663, Page 9.

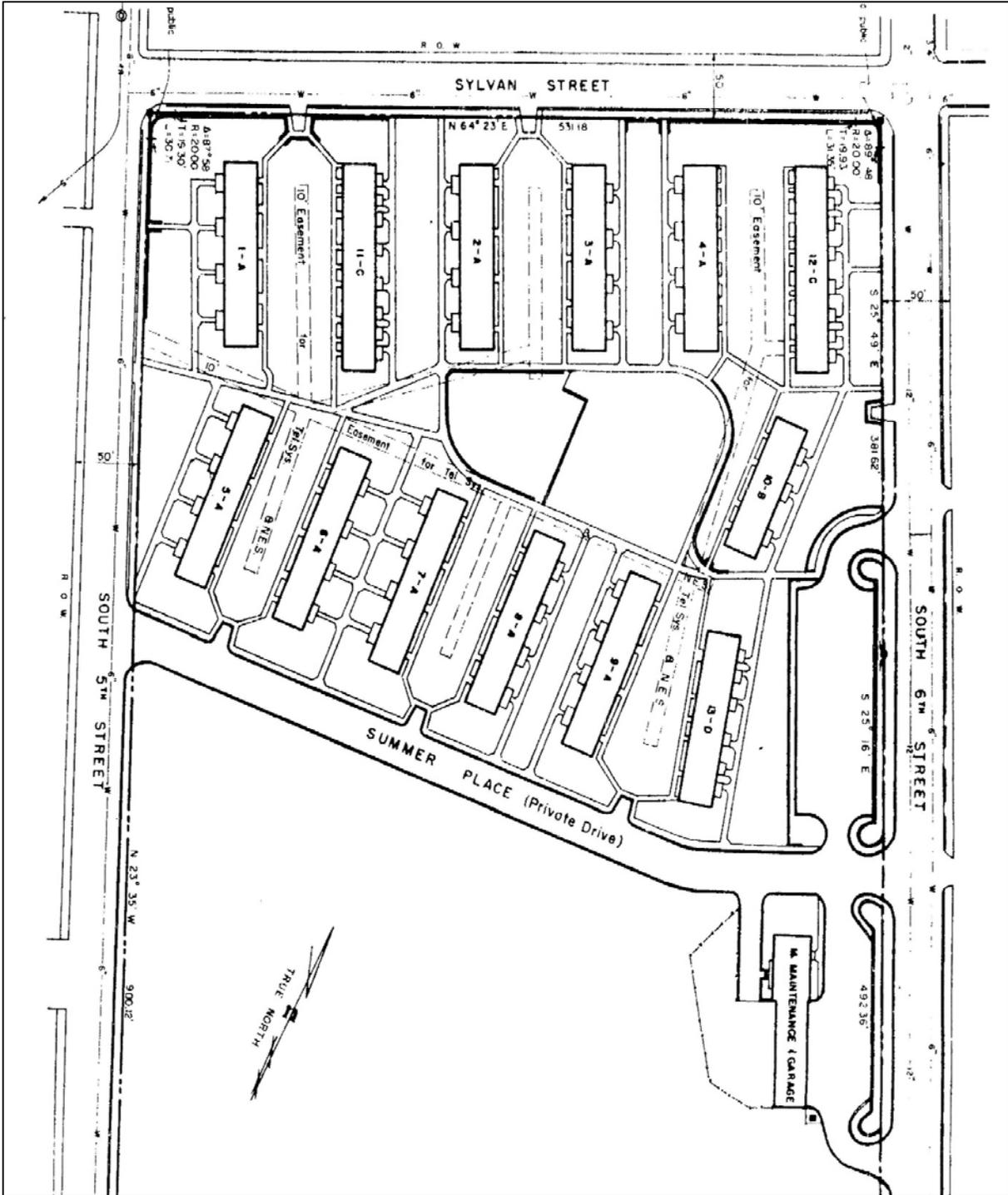


Figure 2: *Street and Utility Easement Plat for James A. Cayce Homes No. 2, February 26, 1957.*  
 Source: Register's Office Davidson County, Online Portal.

The segment of Summer Place proposed for renaming was constructed as part of the “MDHA East Nashville, Contract T, 1962 Urban Renewal Plans.” According to “As Built Plans” on file

with Metro Nashville Public Works, the road was known as “Sylvan Street” (Fig. 3). Although a road named Sylvan Street already ran from South 4th Street to South 5th Street, just one block southeast of Shelby Avenue and northwest of the new road, the plans clearly identify the new road as “Sylvan Street.” The plans show the Davidson County Highway Commission Work House south of the new road, confirming that this portion of Sylvan Street is the same road as the subject segment of Summer Place and is not the original Sylvan Street located to the northwest (Fig. 4).<sup>2</sup>

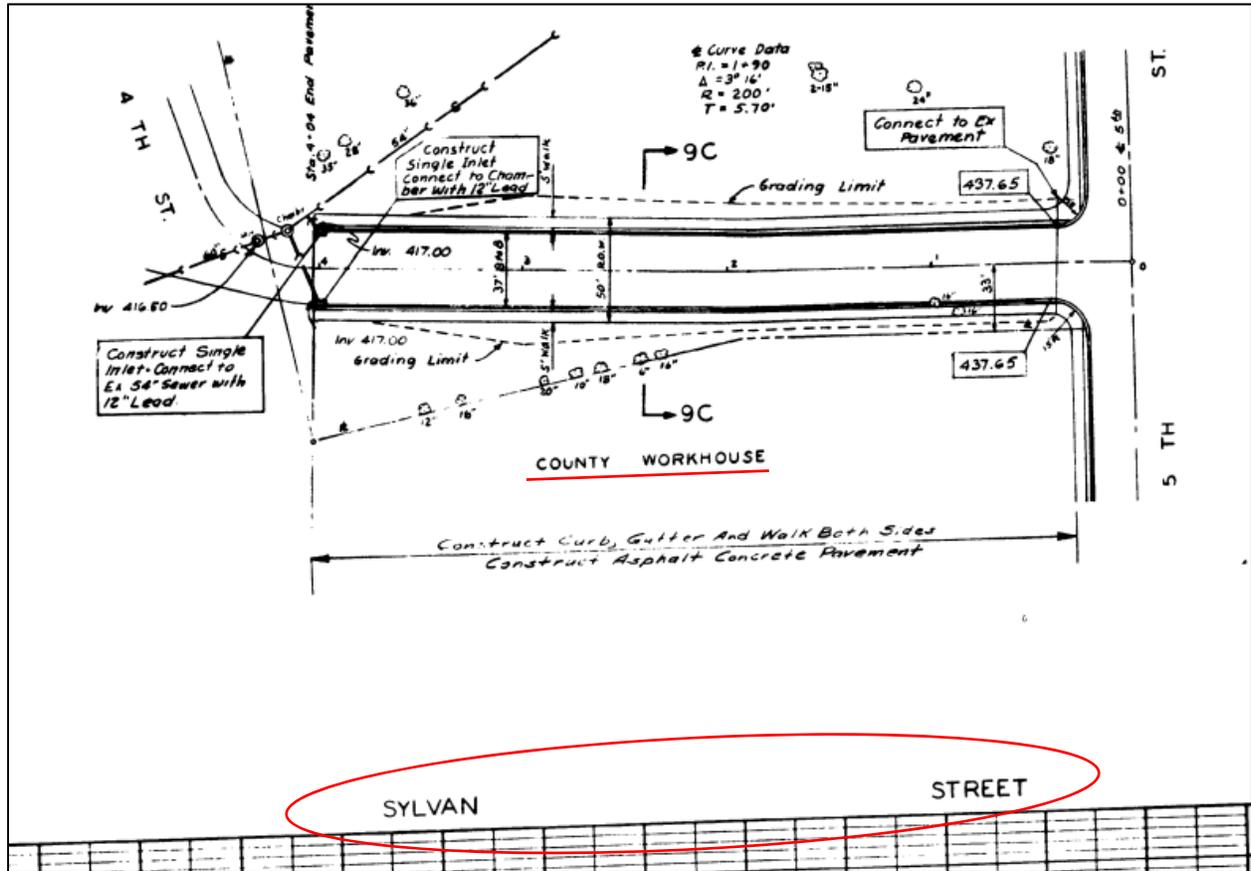


Figure 3: MDHA East Nashville, Contract T, 1962 Urban Renewal Plans, As Built Plans – Sylvan Street. Source: Metro Nashville Public Works.

<sup>2</sup> The Davidson County Highway Commission built the Work House at this location (750 South 5th Street) in 1929, per Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1951, Volume 3, Sheet 348.

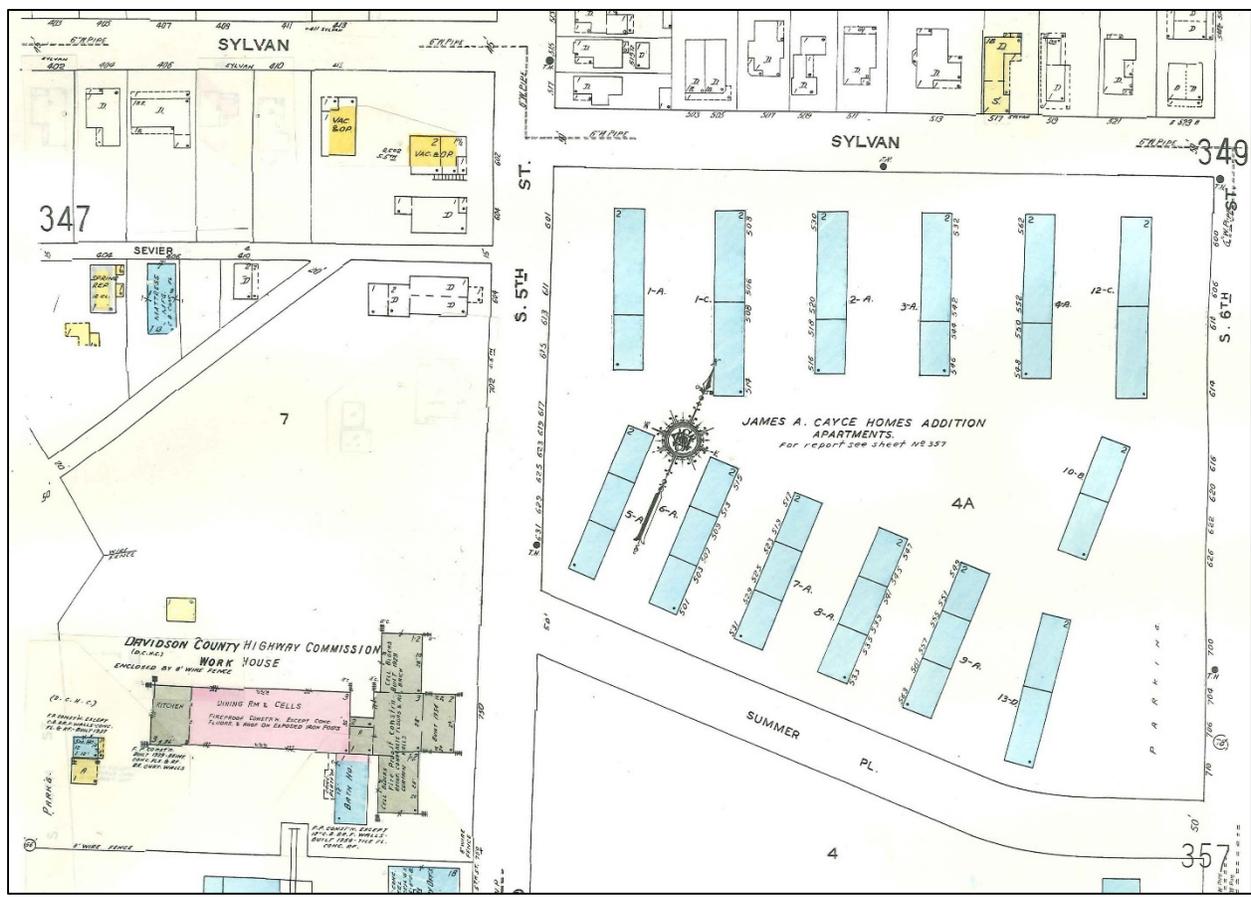


Figure 4: 1957 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Volume 3, Sheet 348. Image shows original segment of Summer Place, original route of Sylvan Street, and location of Davidson County Highway Commission Work House. Source: Metropolitan Historical Commission

In 1962, the City of Nashville approved the closure of the original segment of Sylvan Street and several alleys in the area between the Work House and Shelby Avenue as part of the development of the CWA Plaza Apartments.<sup>3</sup> A 1963 newspaper article about the development, which was built on plots north and south of Shelby Avenue, indicated that the southern boundary for the apartment complex was a new street “as yet unnamed.”<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Bill No. O62-279 amended the official street name map of the City of Nashville by closing, vacating, and abandoning portions of numerous roads and alleys, including Sevier Street, South 4th Street, Sylvan Street, Alley #268, Alley #269, and Alley #269 1/2, in accordance with the East Nashville Urban Renewal Project. Mayor Ben West approved the ordinance on April 18, 1962. Ordinance No. O62-279, Metropolitan Clerk’s Office.

<sup>4</sup> “Apartment Project on Two Plots,” *Nashville Banner*, January 15, 1963, Tuesday, page 16. Newspapers.com, accessed May 13, 2020. The Communications Workers of America, Local 3808, sponsored the 166-unit apartment complex.

The section of CWA Plaza Apartments located on the north side of Summer Place was recorded in 1964, but the plat does not show any of the surrounding streets or indicate whether the road was called Sylvan Street or Summer Place at that time (Fig. 5).<sup>5</sup>

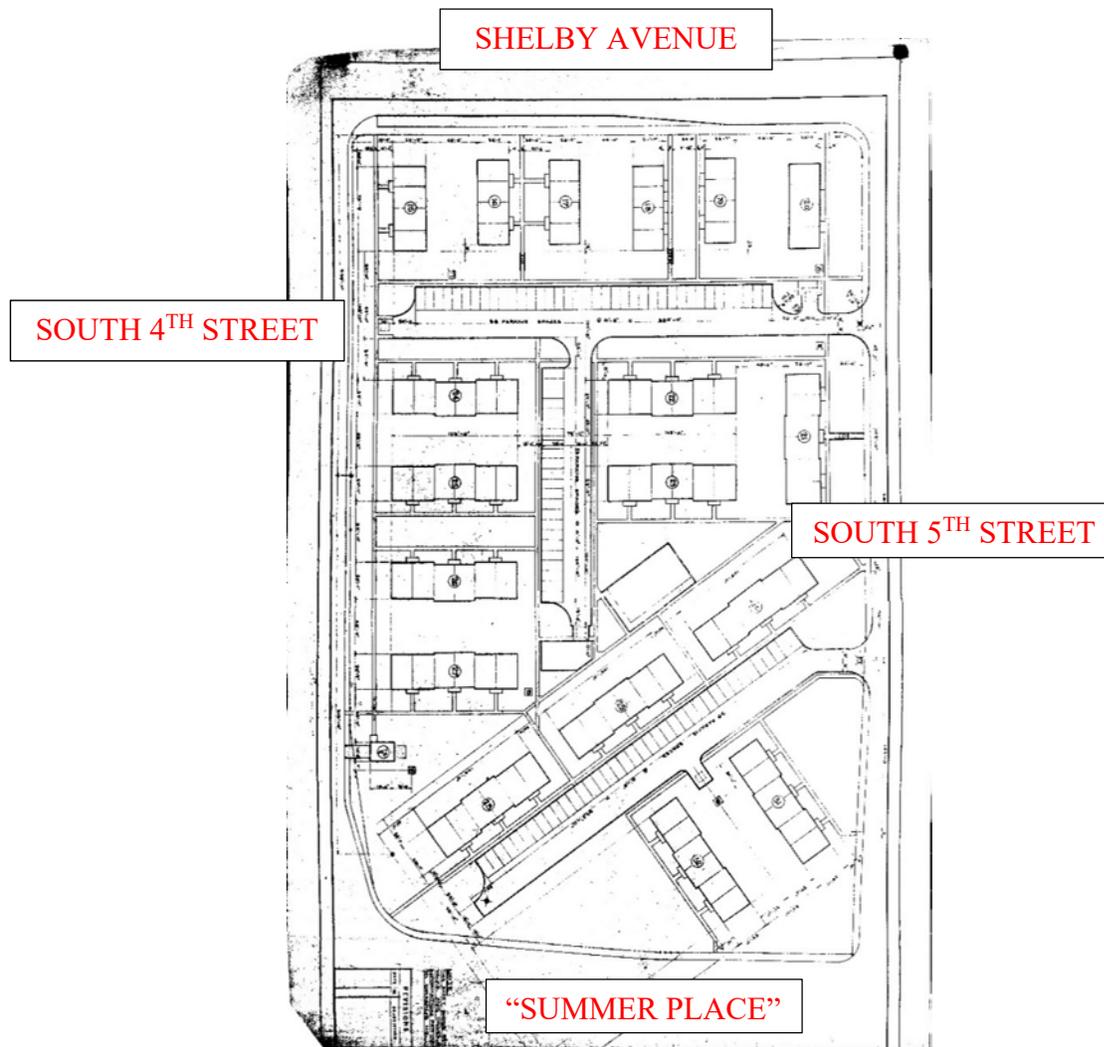


Figure 5: *CWA Apartments*, February 2, 1964.  
Source: Register's Office Davidson County, Online Portal.

Metro Nashville Public Works records do not contain information on when the street was officially named Summer Place, but Ordinance No. O64-175 indicates that the road was eventually to be called "Summer Place," even if initially recorded as Sylvan Street. The 1964 ordinance amended "the official street name map of the City of Nashville, the predecessor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, by closing, vacating, and abandoning a portion of Alley 269 ½ (extension)" ... "from the southerly margin of Alley 269

<sup>5</sup> *CWA Apartments*, Recorded February 2, 1964, Plat Book 3600, Page 41.

and in a southwardly direction to the northerly margin of proposed Summer Place.”<sup>6</sup> A map attached to the bill marks the abandoned portion of Alley 269 ½ and shows it intersecting the unlabeled “proposed Summer Place” (Fig. 6).

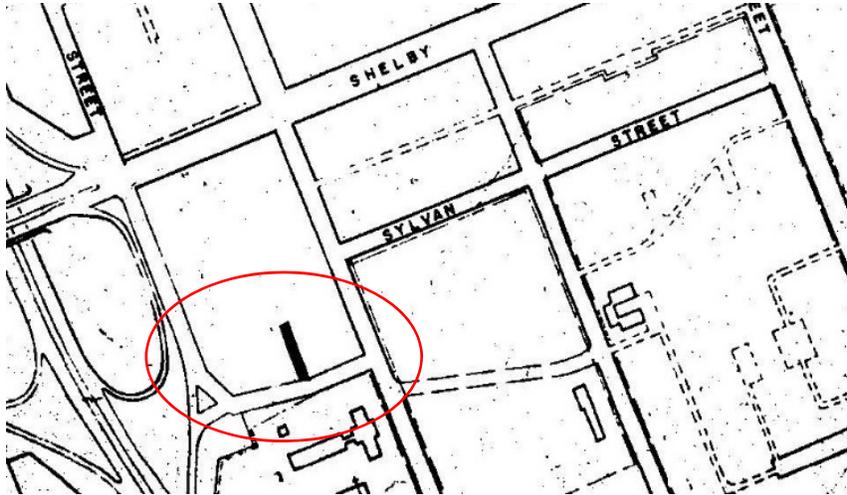


Figure 6: Attachment, Ordinance No. O64-175. Source: Metropolitan Clerk’s Office.

In summary, the portion of Summer Place proposed for renaming was constructed around 1962, but the record is unclear regarding when it was officially named Summer Place.

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<sup>6</sup> Mayor Beverly Briley approved the ordinance on February 6, 1964. Ordinance No, O64-175, Metropolitan Clerk’s Office.