



# METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

To: Metropolitan Council  
From: Metropolitan Historical Commission, Staff  
Date: January 29, 2026  
Re: ORDINANCE NO. BL2026-1236

An ordinance authorizing the renaming of Alley #569 to “Clowder Alley” and Alley #535 to “Catamount Alley”. (Proposal Number 2025M-005SR-001).

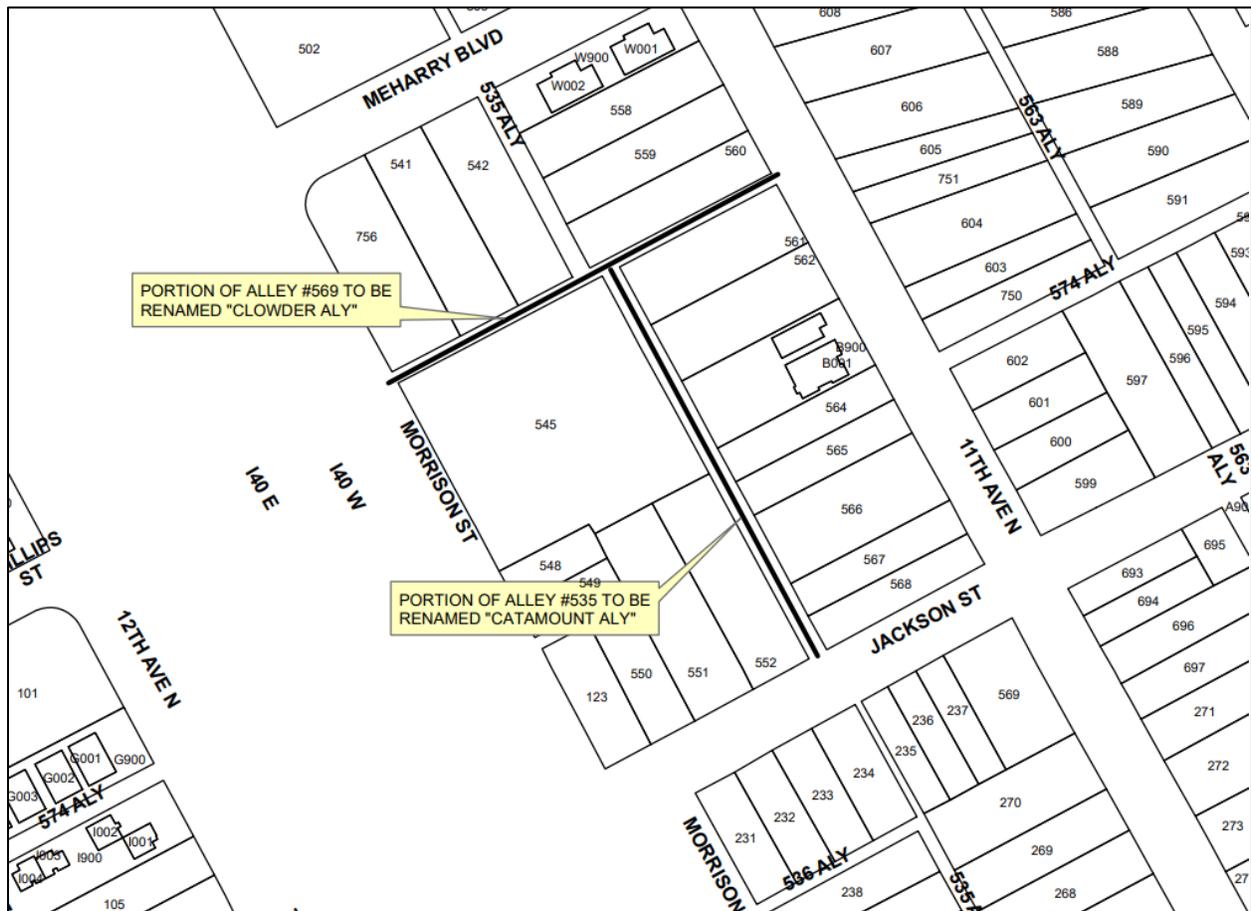


Figure 1: Parcel map showing segments of Alleys #569 and #535 to be renamed. Exhibit for 2025M-005SR-001.  
Source: Metropolitan Planning Department.

Alley #569 appears as an unnamed and unnumbered alley measuring ten feet in width on the 1854 plat for Glasscock and Porterfield Plan of Lots (Figs. 1 & 2).<sup>1</sup> The alley appears to serve as the southern boundary of the plan. Other streets serving as boundaries include Cumberland Street, renamed 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, and Clay Street, renamed 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. Porterfield Street was renamed Meharry Boulevard in 1941.<sup>2</sup> The northern section of Alley #535, which will not be renamed as part of this ordinance, also appears on this plat.



Figure 2: Glasscock and Porterfield Plan, 1854. Alley #569 noted. Source: Metropolitan Government Archives.

Alley #535 appears as an unnamed and unnumbered alley measuring ten feet in width on the undated plat for Narcissa Smith’s Plan (Fig. 3).<sup>3</sup> The plan appears to show a portion of Alley #569 measuring twelve feet in width. Very faint pencil notations, which typically

<sup>1</sup> Glasscock and Porterfield Plan, Misc Plat Book 1, page 6, registered November 14, 1854, also in Deed Book 19, page 124, RODC, and Misc Plat Book 1, page 66.

<sup>2</sup> Porterfield Street, from 11th Avenue North to 12th Avenue North, renamed Meharry Boulevard by Ord. No. SO1526, approved by Nashville Mayor Thomas L. Cummings on October 14, 1941.

<sup>3</sup> Narcissa Smith’s Plan, Misc Plat Book 1, page 49. The plat notes the plan was drawn as a Chancery Court Subdivision, transferred from Book A, page 57. References to the subdivision in subsequent deeds indicate this plat was unrecorded, including the 1937 deed for 1108 Jackson Street recorded in Book 1489, page 387.



The 1914 and 1957 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for this area show dwellings fronting the alley.<sup>4</sup> As the alley is unnamed on these maps, the addresses are likely to correspond to another street, but this is unclear. Nashville Parcel Viewer also denotes this alley as “Phillips Aly” (Fig. 5).<sup>5</sup> Deeds for adjacent property, including the 2025 quitclaim deed for 1014 Morrison Avenue, reference an address at “0 Phillips Aly.”<sup>6</sup>



Figure 5: Nashville Parcel Viewer, 2026.

Historical Commission staff was unable to determine when the Metropolitan Government instituted the numeric identification of alleys in Metro Nashville or when the alleys became identified as Nos. 569 and 535.

<sup>4</sup> For 1914 and 1957, Volume 1, Sheet 50.

<sup>5</sup> Nashville Parcel Viewer, <https://maps.nashville.gov/ParcelViewer/?parcelID=08116054800> accessed January 29, 2026.

<sup>6</sup> Quitclaim Deed, Instrument Number 20250820-0066723, recorded August 8, 2025.