CAPITAL TRUST INC Form 424B5 July 26, 2004

> Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5) Registration Nos. 333-111261 333-106970

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
(To Prospectus dated December 29, 2003 and Prospectus dated July 21, 2003)

3,500,000 SHARES

[CAPITALTRUST LOGO]

CLASS A COMMON STOCK

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. IS OFFERING 1,363,289 SHARES OF ITS CLASS A COMMON STOCK. THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS ARE OFFERING 2,136,711 SHARES OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK. WE WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF SHARES BY THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS.

OUR SHARES OF CLASS A COMMON STOCK ARE LISTED FOR TRADING ON THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE UNDER THE SYMBOL "CT." THE LAST REPORTED SALE PRICE OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK ON JULY 22, 2004 WAS \$24.90 PER SHARE.

INVESTING IN OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK INVOLVES RISKS. SEE ``RISK FACTORS'' BEGINNING ON PAGE S-7 OF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT.

PRICE \$23.75 A SHARE

	Price to Public	
Per share Total		

We have granted the underwriters the right to purchase up to an additional 525,000 shares to cover over-allotments.

The Securities and Exchange Commission and state securities regulators have not approved or disapproved these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or either accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Underwri

Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated expects to deliver the shares to the purchasers on July 28, 2004.

MORGAN STANLEY

BEAR, STEARNS & CO. INC.

JEFFERIES & COMPANY, INC.

JMP SECURITIES

July 22, 2004

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

	PAGE
About this Prospectus Supplement Prospectus Supplement Summary Risk Factors Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements Use of Proceeds Selling Shareholders Price Range of Class A Common Stock and Dividend Policy Historical and Pro Forma Capitalization Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Business Federal Income Tax Considerations Underwriting Legal Matters Experts Where You Can Find More Information Index to Financial Statements	iii S-1 S-7 S-21 S-22 S-23 S-24 S-25 S-26 S-40 S-47 S-62 S-66 S-66 F-1
PROSPECTUS DATED DECEMBER 29, 2003	
Prospectus Summary Risk Factors Use of Proceeds Price Range of Class A Common Stock Dividend Policy Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges Selected Financial Data Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. Business Management Principal Shareholders Description of Capital Stock Description of Debt Securities Federal Income Tax Considerations Plan of Distribution Legal Matters Experts	1 5 16 16 17 17 18 20 37 42 45 47 54 57 72

About this Prospectus	74 74
PROSPECTUS DATED JULY 21, 2003	
Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements	
Risk Factors	2
Use of Proceeds	10
Selected Financial Data	11
Selling Shareholders	12
Plan of Distribution	15
Description of Our Stock	18
Legal Matters	24
Experts	24
Where You Can Find More Information	24

i

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Unless the context otherwise indicates, references in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectuses to "we," "us," "our" or "Capital Trust" refer to Capital Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation and its subsidiaries, but not our third-party managed funds.

This prospectus supplement supplements two different prospectuses, which are separately included as part of two different registration statements. The prospectus dated December 29, 2003, which is a part of Registration Statement No. 333-111261 and which we refer to as the company prospectus, relates to the offering of class A common stock by us. The prospectus dated July 21, 2003, which is a part of the Registration Statement No. 333-106970 and which we refer to as the selling shareholder prospectus, relates to the offering of common stock by the selling shareholders. We refer collectively to the company prospectus and the selling shareholder prospectus as the "accompanying prospectuses."

This document has three parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectuses and the documents incorporated by reference. The second and third parts are the two accompanying prospectuses, which give more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. TO THE EXTENT THERE IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT, THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUSES OR THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN ANY DOCUMENT INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE HEREIN OR THEREIN, THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE MOST RECENTLY DATED DOCUMENT SHALL CONTROL.

It is important for you to read and consider all information contained in this prospectus supplement and each accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, in making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the information in the documents we have referred you to in "Where You Can Find More Information."

You should rely only on the information contained, incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses. We have not authorized anyone to give any information or to make any representation not contained, incorporated or deemed incorporated by

reference in this prospectus supplement or the applicable accompanying prospectuses in connection with the offering of shares of class A common stock in this offering. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses is correct as of any date after the respective dates of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses, even though this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses are delivered or these shares of common stock are offered or sold on a later date.

This prospectus supplement is not, and neither of the accompanying prospectuses are, an offer to sell any security other than the class A common stock and they are not soliciting an offer to buy any security other than the class A common stock. This prospectus supplement is not, and neither of the accompanying prospectuses are, an offer to sell this class A common stock to any person, and they are not soliciting an offer from any person to buy the class A common stock, in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale to that person is not permitted.

ii

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses. This summary does not contain all the information that you should consider before investing in our class A common stock. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from the results anticipated in these forward-looking statements. You should read this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses carefully, including the risk factors and financial statements.

The per share information presented in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses has been adjusted to give effect to the one for three reverse stock split of our outstanding shares of class A common stock effected on April 2, 2003 as though the reverse stock split was in effect for all periods presented.

CAPITAL TRUST, INC.

We are a fully integrated, self-managed finance and investment management company that specializes in credit-sensitive structured financial products. We invest in loans, debt securities and related instruments for our own account and on behalf of funds that we manage. To date, our investment programs have focused on loans and securities backed by income-producing commercial real estate assets with the objective of achieving attractive risk-adjusted returns with low volatility. We conduct our operations to qualify as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, for federal income tax purposes, and will elect REIT status when we file our federal tax return for 2003 in the fourth quarter of 2004. We generally intend to distribute each year substantially all of our taxable income, which does not necessarily equal net income as calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, to our shareholders so as to comply with the REIT provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. We have declared dividends of \$0.45 per share for each of the first and second quarters of 2004.

Since we commenced our finance business in July 1997 and through June 30, 2004, we have completed over \$3.6 billion of real estate-related investments in 123 separate transactions both directly and on behalf of our managed funds. Our investment strategies are designed to generate high current returns

coupled with substantial downside protection. We implement these strategies by applying a disciplined, rigorous process founded on four key elements:

- o intense credit underwriting;
- o creative financial structuring;
- o efficient use of leverage; and
- o aggressive asset management.

Our real estate investments take various forms, but are generally debt investments that are subordinate to third-party financing and senior to the owner/operator's equity position and, therefore, represent "mezzanine" capital. Our current investment programs emphasize mezzanine loans, junior interests in first mortgage loans, known as B Notes, and subordinate tranches of commercial mortgage-backed securities, known as CMBS. We employ leverage to enhance returns on equity, but seek to minimize interest rate exposure by matching the duration and interest rate index of our assets and liabilities and by using derivatives to hedge risk. Our objective is to create leveraged portfolios of high-yield structured investments that are diversified and have limited exposure to changes in interest rates. Since we commenced our finance business in 1997 and through June 30, 2004, approximately 60% of our investments, and those of our managed funds, have been fully realized and our loss experience for this period has totaled less than 1% of our investments.

We make investments both for our own balance sheet and for funds that we manage on behalf of institutional and high net worth individual investors. As of March 31, 2004, our balance sheet assets totaled \$465.8 million, comprised primarily of loans receivable, mortgage-backed securities and co-investments in our managed funds. We currently manage, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, CT Investment Management Co, LLC, two private equity funds, CT Mezzanine Partners II LP and CT Mezzanine Partners III, Inc., which we refer to as Fund II and Fund III, respectively. During Fund II's two-year investment period, which expired in April 2003, Fund II invested \$1.2 billion in 40 separate transactions. As of March 31, 2004, Fund II had \$432.9 million of outstanding investments, all of which were performing. Fund III held its final closing in August 2003, raising a total of \$425 million of equity commitments. As of March 31, 2004, Fund III had

S-1

closed 11 investments, totaling \$319.5 million, all of which were performing and \$268.4 million of which were outstanding at March 31, 2004. With leverage, we are seeking to originate over \$1 billion of investments for Fund III during its two-year investment period which expires in June 2005.

Our balance sheet investments generate net interest income, while our investment management business produces co-investment income, base management fees, and, if certain profit thresholds are exceeded, incentive management fees representing our share of the funds' profits. Commercial real estate investment opportunities that meet Fund III's duration, size and leveraged return parameters are allocated to Fund III and other opportunities are allocated to our balance sheet.

Our business strategy is to continue to grow our balance sheet investments and our third-party assets under management. We expect the growth of our business to be driven primarily by the following activities:

o we will continue to make balance sheet commercial real estate mezzanine investments;

- o we will expand our investment management business through additional offerings of subsequent CT Mezzanine Partners funds; and
- o we may pursue other balance sheet and investment management businesses that leverage our core skills in credit underwriting and financial structuring.

As we continue to grow our business, we seek to create the most efficient capital structure for our activities. Our success in the development and implementation of liability structures that offer attractive economic terms while affording us the necessary flexibility to execute our investment programs has and is expected to continue to be an integral factor in our business growth. We believe the use of structured products, such as the CDO-1 transaction discussed below, represents a major improvement in the way we finance our business and we expect to continue to develop other structured products that will become a more important, permanent portion of our capital structure in the future.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On May 11, 2004, we closed on the initial tranche of a direct public offering to designated controlled affiliates of W. R. Berkley Corporation, which we refer to as Berkley. We issued 1,310,000 shares of our class A common stock and stock purchase warrants to purchase 365,000 shares of our class A common stock for a total purchase price of \$30.7 million. On June 21, 2004, we closed on the second tranche of the direct public offering and issued an additional 325,000 shares of our class A common stock for a total purchase price of \$7.6 million. The warrants have an exercise price of \$23.40 per share and expire on December 31, 2004. Pursuant to a director designation right granted to Berkley in the transaction, we appointed Joshua A. Polan to our board of directors.

In June and July of 2004, CT Investment Management Co. was approved as a Special Servicer by Fitch Ratings, Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service. These approvals allow CT Investment Management Co. to act as a named Special Servicer for CMBS and B Note investments. As Special Servicer, we believe CT Investment Management Co. will be able to increase the control it has in managing certain portions of its portfolio while potentially generating additional fee income. Approval from the agencies was based upon, among other things, our experience in managing and working out problem assets, our established asset management policies and procedures and our technology systems. We believe the ability to be a Special Servicer improves the asset management of our existing portfolio, and facilitates our planned increase in our CMBS and B Note investment activity.

On July 20, 2004, we closed a \$320.8 million issue of collateralized debt obligations, commonly known as CDOs. We used the net proceeds from the private placement to acquire a portfolio of B Notes and mezzanine loans and to refinance certain of our existing balance sheet assets. In connection with the issuance of the CDOs, we closed on the following related transactions, which together we call the CDO-1 transaction:

- o we purchased a \$251.2 million portfolio of 40 floating rate B Notes and one mezzanine loan from GMAC Commercial Mortgage Corporation;
- o we contributed those assets, along with \$72.9 million of existing B Notes, mezzanine loans and subordinate CMBS from our own balance sheet, to Capital Trust RE CDO 2004-1, our consolidated wholly-owned subsidiary that we call the Issuer;
- o the Issuer issued \$320.8 million of floating rate CDOs secured by its assets;

S-2

- o the Issuer sold all of the \$252.8 million of CDOs that are rated investment grade to a group of institutional investors; and
- o we acquired and retained all of the \$68.1 million of unrated and below investment grade CDOs in addition to all of the Issuer's \$3.2 million of equity.

The CDO-1 transaction provides us with a number of significant benefits, including:

- o increasing our balance sheet interest earning assets by \$251.2 million, a 61% increase compared to March 31, 2004;
- o creating non-recourse financing at an all-in borrowing cost to us that is significantly lower than the cost of our existing sources of debt capital;
- o obtaining long-term, floating rate financing that matches both the interest rate index and duration of our assets;
- o extending the useful life of the financing through a four year reinvestment period during which principal proceeds from the initial CDO assets can be reinvested in qualifying replacement assets; and
- o establishing us as a CDO issuer and collateral manager, which we believe will facilitate our issuance of additional CDOs in the future.

We were incorporated in Maryland on April 7, 1998 as a successor to a business trust organized in 1966. We commenced our balance sheet finance business in July 1997 and our investment management business in March 2000. Our principal executive offices are located at 410 Park Avenue, 14th Floor, New York, New York 10022, and our telephone number is (212) 655-0220. Our website address is www.capitaltrust.com. Information included or referred to on our website is not incorporated by reference nor is it otherwise a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectuses.

S-3

THE OFFERING

investment activity, our capital commitments to Fund III and any future investment funds, the repayment of indebtedness, including our convertible junior subordinated debentures and our credit facility, working capital and potential business acquisitions. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of 2,136,711 shares of our class A common stock by the selling shareholders.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE SYMBOL. CT

You should carefully consider all of the information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses. In particular, you should evaluate the information set forth under "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-7 of this prospectus supplement before deciding whether to invest in our class A common stock.

Unless we specifically provide otherwise, all share information in this prospectus supplement is as of June 30, 2004, assumes that the underwriters do not exercise their over-allotment option, excludes 365,000 shares of our class A common stock issuable upon the exercise of warrants issued to Berkley, 465,833 shares of our class A common stock issuable upon the exercise of options outstanding as of June 30, 2004 under our amended and restated 1997 long-term incentive stock plan with a weighted average exercise price of \$19.62 per share, 85,002 shares of our class A common stock issuable upon the exercise of options outstanding as of June 30, 2004 under our amended and restated 1997 non-employee director stock plan with a weighted average exercise price of \$27.65 per share, 218,818 shares of our class A common stock issued to John R. Klopp on July 15, 2004 pursuant to our employment agreement with him and, except for the shares to be sold in this offering upon conversion of convertible trust preferred securities, 2,136,711 shares of our class A common stock issuable upon the conversion of our convertible trust preferred securities outstanding as of June 30, 2004 and remaining outstanding after completion of this offering.

S-4

SUMMARY FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected consolidated financial data as of and for each of the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000 and 1999 was derived from our historical consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Reports on Form 10-K for each of the years presented. The following selected consolidated financial data as of and for each of the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 was derived from our historical consolidated financial statements included in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for both of the three month periods presented, which, in the opinion of our management, have been prepared on the same basis as our audited consolidated financial statements and reflect all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of our results of operations and financial position for such periods. Results for the three month periods ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 are

not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for the entire year.

Certain reclassifications have been made to all periods presented to reflect the application of Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 46R on January 1, 2004 following the adoption of which we no longer consolidate CT Convertible Trust I, the entity which had purchased our junior subordinated debentures and issued convertible trust common and preferred securities.

We began to conduct our operations to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes in the 2003 fiscal year, and will elect REIT status for the 2003 fiscal year when we file our 2003 federal tax return in the fourth quarter of 2004. This election should result in a material reduction of our tax liability for 2003 and subsequent periods. As a result, our income tax expense and net income after tax for 2003 and subsequent periods will not be comparable to our income tax expense and net income after tax for periods prior to 2003. Prior to March 8, 2000, we did not serve as investment manager for any funds under management and only our historical financial data as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002, 2001 and 2000 reflects the operating results for our investment management business. For these reasons, we believe that the following summary consolidated financial data for the year ended December 31, 1999 is not indicative of our current business.

You should read the following information together with "Risk Factors," "Capitalization," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

			ENDED DECE	
		2002	2001	2000
		(IN	THOUSANDS,	EXCEPT F
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS DATA: REVENUES:				
Interest and investment income	\$38,577	\$ 47,655	\$68,200	\$88 , 87
funds	1,526	(2,534)	2,991	1,53
			277	
Management and advisory fees from funds			7,664	
Total revenues	•	57 , 451	79 , 132	94,69
OPERATING EXPENSES:				
Interest expense	19,575	34,184	42,856	52,41
General and administrative expenses			15,382	
Depreciation and amortization	1,057			
corresponding hedged risk on CMBS Net realized (gain)/loss on sale of fixed assets,		(21,134)	542	-
investments and settlement of derivative securities Provision for/(recapture of) allowance for possible		28,715		6
credit losses			748	
Total operating expenses	33,952	52,040	60,437	74 , 30
<pre>Income/(loss) before income tax expense</pre>		5,411		

Income tax expense	646	15,149	9,325	10,63
NET INCOME / (LOSS) Less: Preferred stock dividend and dividend requirement	,	(9 , 738)	606	1,61
Net income/(loss) allocable to common stock		\$ (9,738)	\$ 8,764	\$ 8,14 =====
PER SHARE INFORMATION: Net income/(loss) per share of common stock:				
Basic	\$ 2.27 ======	\$ (1.62) ======	\$ 1.30 =====	\$ 1.0 =====
Diluted	\$ 2.23	\$ (1.62)	\$ 1.12	\$ 0.9
Dividends declared per share of common stock	\$ 1.80	\$ =======	\$ ======	\$ - =====
Weighted average shares of common stock outstanding: Basic	5 , 947	6,009	6 , 722	7 , 72
Diluted	====== 10,288	====== 6,009	12,041	===== 9 , 89
	======	=======	======	=====

AS OF DECEMBER 31,

		710	OI DECEMBER	J1,
	2003	2002	2001	2000
BALANCE SHEET DATA:				
Total assets	\$399 , 926	\$387 , 759	\$683 , 451	\$649 , 043
Total liabilities	303,909	303,703	580,823	490,377
Shareholders' equity	96,017	84,056	102,628	158,666

S-5

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA BALANCE SHEET

The unaudited pro forma balance sheet as of March 31, 2004 gives effect to the CDO-1 transaction, which we closed on July 20, 2004, and the direct public offering to Berkley, which we closed in two tranches on May 11 and June 21, 2004, respectively, and are fully described under the caption "Prospectus Supplement Summary--Recent Developments" beginning on page S-40. The pro forma information is presented for illustrative purposes only and does not necessarily indicate the amount of our assets, liabilities and shareholders' equity that would have been recorded on our balance sheet as of March 31, 2004 had the CDO-1 transaction and direct public offering to Berkley closed as of that date.

You should read the following information together with "Prospectus Supplement Summary--Summary Financial Data," "Risk Factors," "Capitalization," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

MA

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents
Accrued interest receivable
Deferred income taxes
Prepaid and other assets
Total assets
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
Siabilities:
Accounts payable and accrued expenses
Credit facilities
Collateralized debt obligations
Step up convertible junior subordinated debentures
Deferred origination fees and other revenue
Interest rate hedge liabilities
Total liabilities
Shareholders' equity:
Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000 shares authorized, 6,572 and 8,207 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2004 and March 31, 2004, as adjusted, respectively.
Restricted class A common stock, \$0.01 par value, 64 shares issued and outstanding at
March 31, 2004
Additional paid-in capital
Unearned compensation
Accumulated other comprehensive loss
Accumulated deficit
Total shareholders' equity
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity

S-6

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our class A common stock involves various risks. You should carefully consider the following risk factors in conjunction with the other information contained and incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses before purchasing our class A common stock. If any of the risks discussed in this prospectus supplement actually occur, our business, operating results, prospects and/or financial condition could be adversely impacted. This could cause the market price of our class A common stock to decline and could cause you to lose all or part of your investment.

In connection with the forward-looking statements that appear in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses, you should also

carefully review the cautionary statement referred to under "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

RISKS RELATED TO OUR INVESTMENT PROGRAM

OUR EXISTING LOANS AND INVESTMENTS EXPOSE US TO A HIGH DEGREE OF RISK ASSOCIATED WITH INVESTING IN COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE-RELATED ASSETS.

Real estate historically has experienced significant fluctuations and cycles in performance that may result in reductions in the value of our real estate-related investments. The performance and value of our loans and investments once originated or acquired by us depends on many factors beyond our control. The ultimate performance and value of our investments is subject to the varying degrees of risk generally incident to the ownership and operation of the commercial properties which collateralize or support our investments. The ultimate performance and value of our loans and investments depends upon the commercial property owner's ability to operate the property so that it produces cash flows needed to pay the interest and principal due to us on our loans and investments. Revenues and cash flows may be adversely affected by:

- o changes in national economic conditions;
- o changes in local real estate market conditions due to changes in national or local economic conditions or changes in local property market characteristics;
- o competition from other properties offering the same or similar services;
- o changes in interest rates and in the availability of mortgage financing;
- o the ongoing need for capital improvements, particularly in older structures;
- o changes in real estate tax rates and other operating expenses;
- o adverse changes in governmental rules and fiscal policies, civil unrest, acts of God, including earthquakes, hurricanes and other natural disasters, acts of war or terrorism, which may decrease the availability of or increase the cost of insurance or result in uninsured losses;
- o adverse changes in zoning laws;
- o the impact of present or future environmental legislation and compliance with environmental laws; and
- o other factors that are beyond our control and the control of the commercial property owners.

In the event that any of the properties underlying our loans or investments experiences any of the foregoing events or occurrences, the value of, and return on, such investments, our profitability and the market price of our class A common stock would be negatively impacted.

WE MAY CHANGE OUR INVESTMENT STRATEGY WITHOUT SHAREHOLDER CONSENT WHICH MAY RESULT IN RISKIER INVESTMENTS THAN OUR CURRENT INVESTMENTS.

As part of our strategy, we may seek to expand our investment activities beyond real estate-related investments. We may change our investment activities at any time without the consent of our shareholders, which could result in our making investments that are different from, and possibly riskier than, our current real estate investments. New investments we may make outside of our area of expertise may not perform as well as our current portfolio of

real estate investments.

S-7

WE ARE EXPOSED TO THE RISKS INVOLVED WITH MAKING SUBORDINATED INVESTMENTS.

Our investments involve the risks attendant to investments consisting of subordinated loan positions. In many cases, management of our investments and our remedies with respect thereto, including the ability to foreclose on or direct decisions with respect to the collateral securing such investments, is subject to the rights of senior lenders and the rights set forth in intercreditor or servicing agreements.

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE LEVEL OF LEVERAGE NECESSARY TO OPTIMIZE OUR RETURN ON INVESTMENT.

Our return on investment depends, in part, upon our ability to grow our balance sheet portfolio of invested assets and those of our funds through the use of leverage at interest rates that are lower than the interest rates earned on our investments. We generally obtain leverage through bank credit facilities, repurchase agreements and other borrowings. Our ability to obtain the necessary leverage on attractive terms ultimately depends upon the quality of the portfolio assets that are being pledged and our ability to maintain interest coverage ratios meeting prevailing market underwriting standards which vary according to lenders' assessments of our and our funds' creditworthiness and the terms of the borrowings. Our failure to obtain and/or maintain leverage at desired levels, or to obtain leverage on attractive terms, could have a material adverse effect on our performance or that of our funds. Moreover, we are dependent upon a few lenders to provide the primary credit facilities for our origination or acquisition of loans and investments. Our ability to obtain financing through collateralized debt obligations is subject to conditions in the debt capital markets, which may be adverse from time to time, that affect the level of investor demand for such securities, which are impacted by factors beyond our control.

WE ARE SUBJECT TO THE RISKS OF HOLDING LEVERAGED INVESTMENTS.

Leverage creates an opportunity for increased return on equity, but at the same time creates other risks. For example, leveraging magnifies changes in the net worth of our funds. We and our funds will leverage assets only when there is an expectation that leverage will enhance returns, although we cannot assure you that the use of leverage will prove to be beneficial. Increases in credit spreads in the market generally may adversely affect the market value of our investments. Because borrowings under our credit facilities are secured by our investments, the borrowings available to us may decline if the market value of our investments decline. Moreover, we cannot assure you that we and our funds will be able to meet debt service obligations and, to the extent such obligations are not met, there is a risk of loss of some or all of our and their assets through foreclosure or a financial loss if we or they are required to liquidate assets at a commercially inopportune time to satisfy our debt obligations.

OUR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON THE AVAILABILITY OF ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENTS AND OUR ABILITY TO IDENTIFY, STRUCTURE, CONSUMMATE, MANAGE AND REALIZE RETURNS ON ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENTS.

Our operating results are dependent upon the availability of, as well as our ability to identify, structure, consummate, manage and realize returns on, credit-sensitive investment opportunities. In general, the availability of desirable credit sensitive investment opportunities and, consequently, our balance sheet returns and our funds' investment returns, will be affected by

the level and volatility of interest rates, by conditions in the financial markets, by general economic conditions, by the market and demand for credit-sensitive investment opportunities, and by the supply of capital for such investment opportunities. We cannot assure you that we will be successful in identifying and consummating investments which satisfy our rate of return objectives or that such investments, once consummated, will perform as anticipated.

In addition, notwithstanding the fact that we earn base management fees based upon committed capital during the investment period, if we are not successful in investing all available equity capital for our funds, the potential revenues we earn, including base management fees that are charged on the amount of invested assets after the investment period and incentive management fees, will be reduced. We may expend significant time and resources in identifying and pursuing targeted investments, some of which may not be consummated.

S-8

THE REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT BUSINESS IS HIGHLY COMPETITIVE. OUR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON OUR ABILITY TO COMPETE WITH OTHER PROVIDERS OF CAPITAL FOR REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS.

Our business is highly competitive. We compete for attractive investments with traditional lending sources, such as insurance companies and banks, as well as other REITs, specialty finance companies and private equity funds with similar investment objectives, which may make it more difficult for us to consummate our target investments. Many of our competitors have greater financial resources than us, which provides them with greater operating flexibility.

OUR LOANS AND INVESTMENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATIONS IN INTEREST RATES WHICH MAY NOT BE ADEQUATELY PROTECTED, OR PROTECTED AT ALL, BY OUR HEDGING STRATEGIES.

Our current balance sheet investment program emphasizes loans with "floating" interest rates to protect against fluctuations in interest rates. We do, however, from time to time make fixed rate loans and purchase fixed rate securities, which are subject to the risk of fluctuations in interest rates. Depending on market conditions, fixed rate assets may become a greater portion of our new loan originations. In such cases, we may employ various hedging strategies to limit the effects of changes in interest rates, including engaging in interest rate swaps, caps, floors and other interest rate derivative products. No strategy can completely insulate us or our funds from the risks associated with interest rate changes and there is a risk that they may provide no protection at all. Hedging transactions involve certain additional risks such as counterparty risk, the legal enforceability of hedging contracts, the early repayment of hedged transactions and the risk that unanticipated and significant changes in interest rates may cause a significant loss of basis in the contract and a change in current period expense. We cannot assure you that we will be able to enter into hedging transactions or that such hedging transactions will adequately protect us or our funds against the foregoing risks. In addition, cash flow hedges which are not perfectly correlated with a variable rate financing will impact our reported income as gains, and losses on the ineffective portion of such hedges will be recorded.

OUR LOANS AND INVESTMENTS MAY BE ILLIQUID WHICH WILL CONSTRAIN OUR ABILITY TO VARY OUR PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS.

Our real estate investments are relatively illiquid. Such illiquidity may

limit our ability to vary our portfolio or our funds' portfolios of investments in response to changes in economic and other conditions. Illiquidity may result from the absence of an established market for investments as well as the legal or contractual restrictions on their resale. In addition, illiquidity may result from the decline in value of a property securing one of our or our funds' investments. We cannot assure you that the fair market value of any of the real property serving as security will not decrease in the future, leaving our or our funds' investments undercollateralized or not collateralized at all, which could impair the liquidity and value, as well as our return on such investments.

WE MAY NOT HAVE CONTROL OVER CERTAIN OF OUR LOANS AND INVESTMENTS.

Our ability to manage our portfolio of loans and investments may be limited by the form in which they are made. In certain situations, we or our funds \max :

- o acquire investments subject to rights of senior classes and servicers under inter-creditor or servicing agreements;
- o acquire only a participation in an underlying investment;
- o co-invest with third parties through partnerships, joint ventures or other entities, thereby acquiring non-controlling interests; or
- o rely on independent third party management or strategic partners with respect to the management of an asset.

Therefore, we may not be able to exercise control over the loan or investment. Such financial assets may involve risks not present in investments where senior creditors, servicers or third party controlling investors are not involved. Our rights to control the process following a borrower default may be subject to the rights of senior creditors or servicers whose interests may not be aligned with ours. A third party partner or co-venturer may have financial difficulties resulting in a negative impact on such asset, may have economic

S - 9

or business interests or goals which are inconsistent with ours and those of our funds, or may be in a position to take action contrary to our or our funds' investment objectives. In addition, we and our funds may, in certain circumstances, be liable for the actions of our third party partners or coventurers.

WE MAY NOT ACHIEVE OUR TARGETED RATE OF RETURN ON OUR INVESTMENTS.

We originate or acquire investments based on our estimates or projections of overall rates of return on such investments, which in turn are based on, among other considerations, assumptions regarding the performance of assets, the amount and terms of available financing to obtain desired leverage and the manner and timing of dispositions, including possible asset recovery and remediation strategies, all of which are subject to significant uncertainty. In addition, events or conditions that we have not anticipated may occur and may have a significant effect on the actual rate of return received on an investment.

We are currently experiencing a low interest rate environment which negatively impacts our ability to originate or acquire investments that produce rates of returns similar to existing investments that were added to our portfolio during a higher interest rate environment. As we acquire or originate investments for our balance sheet portfolio, whether as new

additions or as replacements for maturing investments, there can be no assurance that we will be able to originate or acquire investments that produce rates of return comparable to rates on our existing investments.

The commercial mortgage and mezzanine loans we originate or acquire and the commercial mortgage loans underlying the CMBS in which we invest are subject to delinquency, foreclosure and loss, which could result in losses to us.

Our commercial mortgage and mezzanine loans are secured by commercial property and are subject to risks of delinquency and foreclosure, and risks of loss that are greater than similar risks associated with loans made on the security of single-family residential property. The ability of a borrower to repay a loan secured by an income-producing property typically is dependent primarily upon the successful operation of the property rather than upon the existence of independent income or assets of the borrower. If the net operating income of the property is reduced, the borrower's ability to repay the loan may be impaired. Net operating income of an income-producing property can be affected by, among other things: tenant mix, success of tenant businesses, property management decisions, property location and condition, competition from comparable types of properties, changes in laws that increase operating expenses or limit rents that may be charged; any need to address environmental contamination at the property; changes in national, regional or local economic conditions and/or specific industry segments; declines in regional or local real estate values and declines in regional or local rental or occupancy rates; increases in interest rates, real estate tax rates and other operating expenses; and changes in governmental rules, regulations and fiscal policies, including environmental legislation, acts of God, terrorism, social unrest and civil disturbances.

OUR INVESTMENTS IN SUBORDINATED CMBS ARE SUBJECT TO LOSSES.

In general, losses on an asset securing a mortgage loan included in a securitization will be borne first by the equity holder of the property, then by a cash reserve fund or letter of credit, if any, and then by the most junior security holder. In the event of default and the exhaustion of any equity support, reserve fund, letter of credit and any classes of securities junior to those in which we invest, we may not be able to recover all of our investment in the securities we purchase. In addition, if the underlying mortgage portfolio has been overvalued by the originator, or if the values subsequently decline and, as a result, less collateral is available to satisfy interest and principal payments due on the related mortgage-backed securities, the securities in which we invest may incur significant losses.

The prices of lower credit quality securities are generally less sensitive to interest rate changes than more highly rated investments, but more sensitive to adverse economic downturns and underlying borrower developments. A projection of an economic downturn, for example, could cause a decline in the price of lower credit quality securities because the ability of borrowers of the mortgages underlying the mortgage-backed securities to make principal and interest payments may be impaired. In such event, existing credit support in the securitization structure may be insufficient to protect us against loss of our principal on these securities.

S-10

WE MAY EXPERIENCE SIGNIFICANT REDUCTIONS IN NET INCOME IF THE IMPAIRMENTS ON OUR CMBS INVESTMENTS ARE DEEMED TO BE "OTHER-THAN-TEMPORARY".

The current fair value of certain of our CMBS investments is less than their recorded amortized cost. Since our CMBS investments are accounted for as available-for-sale securities, we have reduced our shareholders equity by an

amount equal to the difference between the amortized cost and the fair value by taking a charge to other comprehensive income. As of March 31, 2004, these unrealized losses totaled \$28.6 million. Under generally accepted accounting principles, if there are significant changes in the future to the expected cash flows from a particular investment due to prepayment or credit loss experience, the investment will have incurred an other-than-temporary impairment. If that occurs, we will be required to write down the investment to its fair value and take a charge to income equal to the unrealized loss, recognizing an offsetting increase to other comprehensive income with equity remaining unchanged. If we recognize other-than-temporary impairments on our CMBS investments that have experienced significant reductions in fair value, the resulting write-downs could result in significant reductions of our net income for the period in which the other-than-temporary impairment is recognized.

WE MAY INVEST IN TROUBLED ASSETS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO A HIGHER DEGREE OF FINANCIAL RISK.

We may make investments in non-performing or other troubled assets that involve a higher degree of financial risk. We cannot assure you that our investment objectives will be realized or that there will be any return on our investment. Furthermore, investments in properties subject to work-out conditions or under bankruptcy protection laws may, in certain circumstances, be subject to additional potential liabilities that could exceed the value of our original investment, including equitable subordination and/or disallowance of claims or lender liability.

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ACQUIRE ELIGIBLE INVESTMENTS FOR A COLLATERALIZED DEBT OBLIGATION ISSUANCE, OR MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ISSUE COLLATERALIZED DEBT OBLIGATION SECURITIES ON ATTRACTIVE TERMS, WHICH MAY REQUIRE US TO UTILIZE MORE COSTLY FINANCING FOR OUR INVESTMENTS.

We intend to capitalize on opportunities to finance certain of our investments on a non-recourse, long-term basis, such as through the issuance of collateralized debt obligations. During the period that we are acquiring these investments, we intend to finance our purchases through our credit and repurchase obligation facilities. We use these facilities to finance our acquisition of investments until we have accumulated a sufficient quantity of investments, at which time we may refinance these lines through a securitization, such as a collateralized debt obligation issuance, or other types of long-term financing. As a result, we are subject to the risk that we will not be able to acquire a sufficient amount of eligible investments to maximize the efficiency of a collateralized debt obligation issuance. In addition, conditions in the capital markets may make the issuance of collateralized debt obligations less attractive to us when we do have a sufficient pool of collateral. If we are unable to issue a collateralized debt obligation to finance these investments, we may be required to utilize other forms of potentially less attractive financing.

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO FIND SUITABLE REPLACEMENT INVESTMENTS IN COLLATERALIZED DEBT OBLIGATIONS WITH REINVESTMENT PERIODS.

Some collateralized debt obligations have periods where principal proceeds received from assets securing the collateralized debt obligation can be reinvested for a defined period of time, commonly referred to as a reinvestment period. Our ability to find suitable investments during the reinvestment period that meet the criteria set forth in the collateralized debt obligation documentation and by rating agencies may determine the success of our collateralized debt obligation investments. Our potential inability to find suitable investments may cause, among other things, interest deficiencies, hyper-amortization of the senior collateralized debt obligation liabilities and may cause us to reduce the life of our collateralized debt

obligations and accelerate the amortization of certain fees and expenses.

THE USE OF COLLATERALIZED DEBT OBLIGATION FINANCINGS WITH OVER-COLLATERALIZATION AND INTEREST COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS MAY HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON OUR CASH FLOW.

The terms of collateralized debt obligations will generally provide that the principal amount of investments must exceed the principal balance of the related bonds by a certain amount and that interest income exceeds interest expense by a certain amount. We anticipate that the collateralized debt obligation

S-11

terms will provide that, if certain delinquencies and/or losses or other factors cause a decline in collateral or cash flow levels, the cash flow otherwise payable on our investment may be redirected to repay classes of CDOs senior to ours until the issuer or the collateral is in compliance with the terms of the governing documents. Other tests (based on delinquency levels or other criteria) may restrict our ability to receive net income from assets pledged to secure collateralized debt obligations. We cannot assure you that the performance tests will be satisfied. Nor can we assure you, in advance of completing negotiations with the rating agencies or other key transaction parties as to the actual terms of the delinquency tests, overcollateralization and interest coverage terms, cash flow release mechanisms or other significant factors upon which net income to us will be calculated. Failure to obtain favorable terms with regard to these matters may adversely affect the availability of net income to us. If our investments fail to perform as anticipated, our over-collateralization, interest coverage or other credit enhancement expense associated with our collateralized debt obligation financings will increase.

WE MAY BE REQUIRED TO REPURCHASE LOANS THAT WE HAVE SOLD OR TO INDEMNIFY HOLDERS OF OUR COLLATERALIZED DEBT OBLIGATIONS.

If any of the loans we originate or acquire and sell or securitize through collateralized debt obligations do not comply with representations and warranties that we make about certain characteristics of the loans, the borrowers and the underlying properties, we may be required to repurchase those loans or replace them with substitute loans. In addition, in the case of loans that we have sold instead of retained, we may be required to indemnify persons for losses or expenses incurred as a result of a breach of a representation or warranty. Repurchased loans typically require a significant allocation of working capital to carry on our books, and our ability to borrow against such assets is limited. Any significant repurchases or indemnification payments could adversely affect our financial condition and operating results.

THE IMPACT OF THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 AND THE RESULTING EFFECT ON TERRORISM INSURANCE EXPOSE US TO CERTAIN RISKS.

The terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 disrupted the U.S. financial markets, including the real estate capital markets, and negatively impacted the U.S. economy in general. Any future terrorist attacks, the anticipation of any such attacks, and the consequences of any military or other response by the U.S. and its allies may have a further adverse impact on the U.S. financial markets and the economy generally. We cannot predict the severity of the effect that such future events would have on the U.S. financial markets, the economy or our business.

In addition, the events of September 11 created significant uncertainty regarding the ability of real estate owners of high profile assets to obtain insurance coverage protecting against terrorist attacks at commercially

reasonable rates, if at all. With the enactment of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002, insurers must make terrorism insurance available under their property and casualty insurance policies through the end of 2004, which may be extended by the Secretary of the Treasury through the end of 2005, but this legislation does not regulate the pricing of such insurance. The absence of affordable insurance coverage may adversely affect the general real estate lending market, lending volume and the market's overall liquidity and may reduce the number of suitable investment opportunities available to us and the pace at which we are able to make investments. If the properties that we invest in are unable to obtain affordable insurance coverage, the value of those investments could decline and in the event of an uninsured loss, we could lose all or a portion of our investment.

The economic impact of any future terrorist attacks could also adversely affect the credit quality of some of our loans and investments. Some of our loans and investments will be more susceptible to the adverse effects than others, such as hotel loans, which may experience a significant reduction in occupancy rates following any future attacks. We may suffer losses as a result of the adverse impact of any future attacks and these losses may adversely impact our results of operation.

S-12

RISKS RELATED TO OUR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS

BECAUSE WE COMMENCED OUR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT BUSINESS IN 2000, WE ARE SUBJECT TO RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES ASSOCIATED WITH DEVELOPING AND OPERATING A NEW BUSINESS, AND WE MAY NOT ACHIEVE FROM THIS NEW BUSINESS THE INVESTMENT RETURNS THAT WE EXPECT.

Our investment management business commenced in 2000 and, therefore, has a limited track record of proven results upon which to predict our future performance. We will encounter risks and difficulties as we proceed to develop and operate our investment management business. In order to achieve our goals as an investment manager, we must:

- o manage our funds successfully by investing a majority of our funds' capital in suitable investments that meet the funds' specified investment criteria;
- o actively manage the assets in our portfolios in order to realize targeted performance;
- o incentivize our management and professional staff to the task of developing and operating the investment management business; and
- o structure, sponsor and capitalize future funds and other investment products under our management that provide investors with attractive investment opportunities.

If we do not successfully develop and operate our investment management business to achieve the investment returns that we or the market anticipates, the market price of our class A common stock could decline.

WE MAY PURSUE FUND MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO OTHER CLASSES OF INVESTMENTS WHERE WE DO NOT HAVE PRIOR INVESTMENT EXPERIENCE.

We may expand our fund management business to the management of private equity funds involving other investment classes where we do not have prior investment experience. We may find it difficult to attract third party investors without a performance track record involving such investments. Even

if we attract third party investments, there can be no assurance that we will be successful in deploying the capital to achieve targeted returns on the investments.

WE FACE SUBSTANTIAL COMPETITION FROM ESTABLISHED PARTICIPANTS IN THE PRIVATE EQUITY MARKET AS WE OFFER MEZZANINE AND OTHER FUNDS TO THIRD PARTY INVESTORS.

We face significant competition from large financial and other institutions that have proven track records in marketing and managing private equity investment funds and otherwise have a competitive advantage over us because they have access to pre-existing third party investor networks into which they can channel competing investment opportunities. If our competitors offer investment products that are competitive with the mezzanine and other fund investments offered by us, we will find it more difficult to attract investors and to capitalize our mezzanine and other funds.

OUR FUNDS ARE SUBJECT TO THE RISK OF DEFAULTS BY THIRD PARTY INVESTORS ON THEIR CAPITAL COMMITMENTS.

The capital commitments made by third party investors to our funds represent unsecured promises by those investors to contribute cash to the funds from time to time as investments are made by the funds. Accordingly, we are subject to general credit risks that the investors may default on their capital commitments. If defaults occur, we may not be able to close loans and investments we have identified and negotiated, which could materially and adversely affect the funds' investment program or make us liable for breach of contract, in either case to the detriment of our franchise in the private equity market.

RISKS RELATED TO OUR COMPANY

WE ARE DEPENDENT UPON OUR SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM TO DEVELOP AND OPERATE OUR BUSINESS.

Our ability to develop and operate our business depends to a substantial extent on the experience, relationships and expertise of our senior management and key employees. We cannot assure you that these individuals will remain in our employ. The employment agreement with our chief executive officer, John R. Klopp, expires on December 31, 2008, unless further extended. The loss of the services of our senior management and key employees could have a material adverse effect on our operations.

S-13

THERE MAY BE CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE INTERESTS OF OUR INVESTMENT FUNDS AND US.

We are subject to a number of potential conflicts between our interests and the interests of our managed investment funds. Although we have agreed to offer Fund III the first opportunity to invest in investment opportunities which have characteristics and projected leveraged returns which meet Fund III's investment and return objectives, we are subject to potential conflicts of interest in the allocation of investment opportunities between our balance sheet and our managed funds. In addition, we may make investments that are senior or junior to, participations in, or have rights and interests different from or adverse to, the investments made by our managed funds. Our interests in such investments may conflict with the interests of our managed funds in related investments at the time of origination or in the event of a default or restructuring of the investment. In the event a default occurs with respect to such an investment, the directors of Fund III appointed by us have agreed to recuse themselves from any vote of the board of Fund III concerning such investment and our co-sponsor's controlled advisor to Fund III will assume and

perform our asset management responsibility with respect to such investment. Finally, our officers and employees may have conflicts in allocating their time and services among us and our managed funds.

OUR BALANCE SHEET PORTFOLIO CONTINUES TO HAVE CONCENTRATIONS IN MARK-TO-MARKET MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES WHICH SUBJECTS US TO GREATER VARIATIONS IN EQUITY AND INCOME AS WE RECORD BALANCE SHEET GAINS AND LOSSES ON SUCH ASSETS.

Our venture agreement with affiliates of Citigroup Alternative Investments, LLC placed restrictions on our ability to originate new mezzanine loan investments for our balance sheet during the investment period for Fund II which resulted in our balance sheet portfolio becoming more concentrated in longer term fixed rate mortgage-backed securities that had been originated prior to 2000. We have adopted accounting policies under which such securities are recorded as available-for-sale and changes in the market value will impact either or both shareholders' equity or net income depending on the characterization of the change in market value. If a reduction in market value is deemed to be other than temporary, generally due to a change in the credit risk, the reduction in value will be recorded as a reduction of net income. If any of the available-for-sale securities are sold, the resulting gain or loss will be recorded through the income statement. All other changes in market value will impact shareholders equity only.

While the restrictions on our balance sheet investment activities diminished when the investment period for Fund II ended and we have begun making new investments for our own account, there can be no assurance that the concentration in mark-to-market mortgage-backed securities will be reduced in the near term through new originations. In an environment of relatively low interest rates, there is also a higher risk that our existing non-mark-to-market loans will pay off early. To the extent our balance sheet remains concentrated in mark-to-market assets, we will remain subject to potential swings in equity and income as we record gains and losses on such assets on our balance sheet. If interest rates fluctuate and significantly affect the market value of such mark-to-market assets, the corresponding reductions or increases in our equity and income may be significant.

WE MUST MANAGE OUR PORTFOLIO IN A MANNER THAT ALLOWS US TO RELY ON AN EXCLUSION FROM REGISTRATION UNDER THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 IN ORDER TO AVOID THE CONSEQUENCES OF REGULATION UNDER THAT ACT.

We rely on an exclusion from registration as an investment company afforded by Section 3(c)(5)(C) of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Under this exclusion, we are required to maintain, on the basis of positions taken by the SEC staff in interpretive and no-action letters, a minimum of 55% of the value of the total assets of our portfolio in "mortgages and other liens on and interests in real estate." We refer to this category of investments herein as "Qualifying Interests." In addition, we must maintain an additional minimum of 25% of the value of our total assets in Qualifying Interests or other real estate-related assets. Because registration as an investment company would significantly affect our ability to engage in certain transactions or to organize ourselves in the manner we are currently organized, we intend to maintain our qualification for this exclusion from registration. In the past, when required due to the mix of assets in our balance sheet portfolio, we have purchased pools of whole loan residential mortgage-backed securities that we treat as Qualifying Interests based on SEC staff positions. Investments in such pools of whole loan residential mortgage-backed securities may not represent an optimum use of our investable capital when compared to the available investments we target pursuant to our investment strategy. We continue to analyze our investments and may acquire other pools of whole loan mortgage-backed securities when and if required for compliance

purposes. In addition, certain of our investments in subordinated CMBS have terms which we believe allows them to be categorized as Qualifying Interests, including rights to cure any defaults on senior CMBS classes, rights to acquire such senior classes in the event of a default or special servicing rights to service defaulted mortgage loans, including rights to control the oversight and management of the resolution of such mortgage loans by workout or modification of loan provisions, foreclosure, deed in lieu of foreclosure or otherwise, and to control decisions with respect to the preservation of the collateral generally, including property management and maintenance decisions. We have not obtained an exemptive order or a no-action letter or other form of interpretive guidance from the SEC or its staff supporting our position, and, therefore, any decision by the SEC or its staff which advances a position to the contrary would require us to no longer treat these investments in subordinated CMBS as Qualifying Interests.

If our portfolio does not comply with the requirements of the exclusion we rely upon, we could be forced to alter our portfolio by selling or otherwise disposing of a substantial portion of the assets that are not Qualifying Interests or by acquiring a significant position in assets that are Qualifying Interests. Altering our portfolio in this manner may have a material adverse effect on our investments if we are forced to dispose of or acquire assets in an unfavorable market.

WE MAY EXPAND OUR FRANCHISE THROUGH BUSINESS ACQUISITIONS AND THE RECRUITMENT OF FINANCIAL PROFESSIONALS, WHICH MAY PRESENT ADDITIONAL COSTS AND OTHER CHALLENGES AND MAY NOT PROVE SUCCESSFUL.

Our business plan contemplates expansion of our franchise into complementary investment strategies involving other credit-sensitive structured financial products. We may undertake such expansion through business acquisitions or the recruitment of financial professionals with experience in other products. We may also expend a substantial amount of time and capital pursuing opportunities to expand into complementary investment strategies that we do not consummate. The expansion of our operations could place a significant strain on our management, financial and other resources. Our ability to manage future expansion will depend upon our ability to monitor operations, maintain effective quality controls and significantly expand our internal management and technical and accounting systems, all of which could result in higher operating expenses and could adversely affect our current business, financial condition and results of operations.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to identify and integrate businesses or professional teams we acquire to pursue complementary investment strategies and expand our business. Moreover, any decision to pursue expansion into businesses with complementary investment strategies will be in the discretion of our management and may be consummated without prior notice or shareholder approval. In such instances, shareholders will be relying on our management to assess the relative benefits and risks associated with any such expansion.

RISKS RELATING TO THIS OFFERING

BECAUSE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM, OWN A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF OUR SHARES, DECISIONS MADE BY THEM MAY BE DETRIMENTAL TO YOUR INTERESTS.

By virtue of their direct and indirect share ownership, John R. Klopp, a director and our president and chief executive officer, Craig M. Hatkoff, a director and former officer, and other shareholders indirectly owned by trusts for the benefit of our chairman of the board, Samuel Zell, have the power to significantly influence our affairs and are able to influence the outcome of

matters required to be submitted to shareholders for approval, including the election of our directors, amendments to our charter, mergers, sales of assets and other acquisitions or sales. The influence exerted by these shareholders over our affairs might not be consistent with the interests of some or all of our other shareholders. We cannot assure you that these shareholders will not exercise their influence over us in a manner detrimental to your interests. As of June 30, 2004, these shareholders collectively own and control 2,480,805 shares of our class A common stock representing approximately 28.9% of our outstanding class A common stock. This concentration of ownership may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of our company, including transactions in which you might otherwise receive a premium for your class A common stock, and might negatively affect the market price of our class A common stock.

Berkley owns 1,635,000 shares of our class A common stock and may purchase an additional 365,000 shares upon the exercise of warrants, which assuming the exercise of the warrants, represents 23.1% of our outstanding class A common stock. The conversion of the outstanding convertible trust preferred securities held by Vornado Realty, L.P., General Motors Trust Bank, National Association, as trustee for the GMAM

S-15

Investment Funds Trust and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as trustee for the GMAM Group Pension Trust II, could result in other significant concentrated holdings of our class A common stock. Following this offering, Vornado Realty, L.P. may acquire 1,424,474 shares of our class A common stock, General Motors Trust Bank, National Association, as trustee for the GMAM Investment Funds Trust may acquire 49,856 shares of our class A common stock and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as trustee for the GMAM Group Pension Trust II may acquire 662,381 shares of our class A common stock. An officer of Berkley and a person associated with the General Motor's pension trusts serve on our board of directors and, therefore, have the power to significantly influence our affairs. Through their significant ownership of our class A common stock, assuming for this purpose the trust preferred securities were converted, these security holders may have the ability to influence the outcome of matters submitted for shareholder approval.

SOME PROVISIONS OF OUR CHARTER AND BYLAWS AND MARYLAND LAW MAY DETER TAKEOVER ATTEMPTS, WHICH MAY LIMIT THE OPPORTUNITY OF OUR SHAREHOLDERS TO SELL THEIR SHARES AT A FAVORABLE PRICE.

Some of the provisions of our charter and bylaws and Maryland law discussed below could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us, even if doing so might be beneficial to our shareholders by providing them with the opportunity to sell their shares at a premium to the then current market price.

Issuance of Preferred Stock Without Shareholder Approval. Our charter authorizes our board of directors to authorize the issuance of up to 100,000,000 shares of preferred stock and up to 100,000,000 shares of class A common stock. Our charter also authorizes our board of directors, without shareholder approval, to classify or reclassify any unissued shares of our class A common stock and preferred stock into other classes or series of stock and to amend our charter to increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of stock of any class or series that may be issued. Our board of directors, therefore, can exercise its power to reclassify our stock to increase the number of shares of preferred stock we may issue without shareholder approval. Preferred stock may be issued in one or more series, the terms of which may be determined without further action by shareholders. These terms may include preferences, conversion or other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions,

qualifications or terms or conditions of redemption. The issuance of any preferred stock, however, could materially adversely affect the rights of holders of our class A common stock and, therefore, could reduce its value. In addition, specific rights granted to future holders of our preferred stock could be used to restrict our ability to merge with, or sell assets to, a third party. The power of our board of directors to issue preferred stock could make it more difficult, delay, discourage, prevent or make it more costly to acquire or effect a change in control, thereby preserving the current shareholders' control.

Advance Notice Bylaw. Our bylaws contain advance notice procedures for the introduction of business and the nomination of directors. These provisions could discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for you and other shareholders to elect shareholder-nominated directors and to propose and approve shareholder proposals opposed by management.

Maryland Takeover Statutes. We are subject to the Maryland Business Combination Act which could delay or prevent an unsolicited takeover of us. The statute substantially restricts the ability of third parties who acquire, or seek to acquire, control of us to complete mergers and other business combinations without the approval of our board of directors even if such transaction would be beneficial to shareholders. "Business combinations" between such a third party acquiror or its affiliate and us are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the acquiror or its affiliate becomes an "interested shareholder." An "interested shareholder" would be any person who beneficially owns 10 percent or more of our shareholder voting power or an affiliate or associate of ours who, at any time within the twoyear period prior to the date interested shareholder status is determined, was the beneficial owner of 10 percent or more of our shareholder voting power. If our board of directors approved in advance the transaction that would otherwise give rise to the acquiror or its affiliate attaining such status, such as the issuance of shares of our class A common stock to Berkley, the acquiror or its affiliate would not become an interested shareholder and, as a result, it could enter into a business combination with us. Our board of directors could choose not to negotiate with an acquirer if the board determined in its business judgment that considering such an acquisition was not in our strategic interests. Even after the lapse of the five-year prohibition period, any business combination with an interested shareholder must be recommended by our board of directors and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

o 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by shareholders; and

S-16

o two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by shareholders other than the interested shareholder and affiliates and associates thereof.

The super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the transaction complies with a minimum price requirement prescribed by the statute.

The statute permits various exemptions from its provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors prior to the time that an interested shareholder becomes an interested shareholder. Our board of directors has exempted any business combination involving family partnerships controlled separately by John R. Klopp and Craig M. Hatkoff, and a limited liability company indirectly controlled by a trust for the benefit of Samuel Zell and his family. As a result, these persons and Berkley may enter into business combinations with us without compliance with the supermajority vote requirements and the other provisions of the statute.

We are subject to the Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act. With certain exceptions, the Maryland General Corporation Law provides that "control shares" of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights except to the extent approved by a vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding shares owned by the acquiring person or by our officers or directors who are our employees, and may be redeemed by us. "Control shares" are voting shares which, if aggregated with all other shares owned or voted by the acquirer, would entitle the acquirer to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the specified ranges of voting power. A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition, upon satisfaction of certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay expenses, may compel our board to call a special meeting of shareholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the "control shares" in question. If no request for a meeting is made, we may present the question at any shareholders' meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the shareholders' meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver the statement required by Maryland law, then, subject to certain conditions and limitations, we may redeem any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved for fair value. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a shareholders' meeting and the acquirer may then vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, then all other shareholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares for purposes of these appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquirer in the control share acquisition. The control share acquisition statute does not apply to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if we are a party to the transaction, nor does it apply to acquisitions approved or exempted by our charter or bylaws. We have exempted certain holders identified in our bylaws from this statute which exemptions extend to Berkley, family partnerships controlled separately by John R. Klopp and Craig M. Hatkoff, and a limited liability company indirectly controlled by a trust for the benefit of Samuel Zell and his family.

We are also subject to the Maryland Unsolicited Takeovers Act which permits our board of directors, among other things, to elect on our behalf to stagger the terms of directors, to increase the shareholder vote required to remove a director and to provide that shareholder-requested meetings may be called only upon the request of shareholders entitled to cast at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast at the meeting. Such an election would significantly restrict the ability of third parties to wage a proxy fight for control of our board of directors as a means of advancing a takeover offer. If an acquirer was discouraged from offering to acquire us, or prevented from successfully completing a hostile acquisition, you could lose the opportunity to sell your shares at a favorable price.

SHARES ELIGIBLE FOR SALE IN THE NEAR FUTURE MAY CAUSE THE MARKET PRICE FOR OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK TO DECLINE.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our class A common stock in the public market following this offering, or the perception that these sales could occur, may depress the market price for our class A common stock. These sales could also impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of our equity securities in the future.

The number and timing of shares of class A common stock available for sale in the public market is limited by restrictions under federal securities laws and under agreements that we and each of our executive officers and directors and each of the selling shareholders have entered into with the underwriters of this offering. Those agreements restrict these persons from selling, pledging or otherwise disposing of their shares,

S-17

subject to specified exceptions, for a period of 90 days after the date of this prospectus without the prior written consent of Morgan Stanley & Co. Morgan Stanley & Co. may, however, in its sole discretion, release all or any portion of the common stock from the restrictions of the lockup agreements. Upon completion of this offering we will have outstanding 11,800,343 shares of class A common stock. Of these shares, 7,807,036 shares, including the 3,500,000 shares sold in this offering are freely tradeable. Subject to any restrictions pursuant to other agreements or under applicable law, the remaining 3,993,307 shares will be eligible for sale in the public market at various times commencing 90 days from the date of this prospectus supplement. In addition, following this offering, 550,835 shares of common stock may be issued pursuant to the exercise of stock options that are outstanding.

THE MARKET VALUE OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY MANY FACTORS.

As with any public company, a number of factors may adversely influence the price of our class A common stock, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include:

- o the level of institutional interest in us;
- o the perception of REITs generally and REITs with portfolios similar to ours, in particular, by market professionals;
- o the attractiveness of securities of REITs in comparison to other companies; and
- o the market's perception of our growth potential and potential future cash dividends.

AN INCREASE IN MARKET INTEREST RATES MAY LEAD PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK TO EXPECT A HIGHER DIVIDEND YIELD, WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE MARKET PRICE OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK.

One of the factors that will influence the price of our class A common stock will be the dividend yield on our stock (distributions as a percentage of the price of our stock) relative to market interest rates. An increase in market interest rates may lead prospective purchasers of our class A common stock to expect a higher dividend yield, which would adversely affect the market price of our class A common stock.

YOUR ABILITY TO SELL A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF SHARES OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK MAY BE RESTRICTED BY THE LOW TRADING VOLUME HISTORICALLY EXPERIENCED BY OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK.

Although our class A common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the daily trading volume of our shares of class A common stock has historically been lower than the trading volume for certain other companies. As a result, the ability of a holder to sell a substantial number of shares of our class A common stock in a timely manner without causing a substantial decline in the market of the shares, especially by means of a large block trade, may be restricted by the limited trading volume of the shares of our class A common stock.

RISKS RELATED TO OUR REIT STATUS

OUR CHARTER DOES NOT PERMIT ANY INDIVIDUAL TO OWN MORE THAN OVER 2.5% OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK, AND ATTEMPTS TO ACQUIRE OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK IN EXCESS OF THE 2.5% LIMIT WOULD BE VOID WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF OUR BOARD

OF DIRECTORS.

For the purpose of preserving our qualification as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, our charter prohibits direct or constructive ownership by any individual of more than 2.5% of the lesser of the total number or value of the outstanding shares of our class A common stock as a means of preventing ownership of more than 50% of our class A common stock by five or fewer individuals. The charter's constructive ownership rules are complex and may cause the outstanding class A common stock owned by a group of related individuals or entities to be deemed to be constructively owned by one individual. As a result, the acquisition of less than 2.5% of our outstanding class A common stock by an individual or entity could cause an individual to own constructively in excess of 2.5% of our outstanding class A common stock, and thus be subject to the charter's ownership limit. There can be no assurance that our board of directors, as permitted in the charter, will increase this ownership limit in the future. Any attempt to own or transfer shares of our class A common stock in excess of the ownership limit without the consent of our board of directors will be void, and will result in the shares being transferred by operation of law to a charitable trust, and the person who acquired such excess shares will not be entitled to any distributions thereon or to vote such excess shares.

S-18

Our charter contains a provision that exempts certain of our officers, directors and their related persons from this ownership limit and we increased the limit for William R. Berkley to 6.0% and for one other major shareholder of Berkley identified to us to 4.0%. The 2.5% ownership limit may have the effect of precluding a change in control of us by a third party without the consent of our board of directors, even if such change in control would be in the interest of our shareholders or would result in a premium to the price of our class A common stock (and even if such change in control would not reasonably jeopardize our REIT status). The ownership limit exemptions and the reset limits granted to date would limit our board of directors' ability to reset limits in the future and at the same time maintain compliance with the REIT qualification requirement prohibiting ownership of more than 50% of our class A common stock by five or fewer individuals.

THERE ARE NO ASSURANCES THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO PAY DIVIDENDS IN THE FUTURE.

We intend to pay quarterly dividends and to make distributions to our shareholders in amounts such that all or substantially all of our taxable income in each year, subject to certain adjustments, is distributed. This, along with other factors, should enable us to qualify for the tax benefits accorded to a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code. All distributions will be made at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on our earnings, our financial condition, maintenance of our REIT status and such other factors as our board of directors may deem relevant from time to time. There are no assurances that we will be able to pay dividends in the future. In addition, some of our distributions may include a return of capital, which would reduce the amount of capital available to operate our business.

RECENT TAX LEGISLATION MAY HAVE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR REITS.

Recent tax legislation allows certain corporations to pay dividends that qualify for a reduced tax rate in the hands of certain shareholders. This legislation generally does not apply to REITs. Although the legislation does not adversely affect the tax treatment of REITs, it may cause investments in non-REIT corporations to become relatively more desirable. As a result, the capital markets may be less favorable to REITs, such as ourselves, when they seek to raise equity capital, and the prices at which REIT equity securities

trade, including our class A common stock, may decline or underperform non-REIT corporations.

WE WILL BE DEPENDENT ON EXTERNAL SOURCES OF CAPITAL TO FINANCE OUR GROWTH.

As with other REITs, but unlike corporations generally, our ability to finance our growth must largely be funded by external sources of capital because we generally will have to distribute to our shareholders 90% of our taxable income in order to qualify as a REIT, including taxable income where we do not receive corresponding cash. Our access to external capital will depend upon a number of factors, including general market conditions, the market's perception of our growth potential, our current and potential future earnings, cash distributions and the market price of our class A common stock.

IF WE DO NOT MAINTAIN OUR QUALIFICATION AS A REIT, WE WILL BE SUBJECT TO TAX AS A REGULAR CORPORATION AND FACE A SUBSTANTIAL TAX LIABILITY. OUR TAXABLE REIT SUBSIDIARIES WILL BE SUBJECT TO INCOME TAX.

We expect to operate so as to qualify as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code. However, qualification as a REIT involves the application of highly technical and complex Internal Revenue Code provisions for which only a limited number of judicial or administrative interpretations exist. Even a technical or inadvertent mistake could jeopardize our REIT status. Furthermore, new tax legislation, administrative guidance or court decisions, in each instance potentially with retroactive effect, could make it more difficult or impossible for us to qualify as a REIT. If we fail to qualify as a REIT in any tax year, then:

- o we would be taxed as a regular domestic corporation, which under current laws, among other things, means being unable to deduct distributions to shareholders in computing taxable income and being subject to federal income tax on our taxable income at regular corporate rates;
- o any resulting tax liability could be substantial, could have a material adverse effect on our book value and could reduce the amount of cash available for distribution to shareholders; and
- o unless we were entitled to relief under applicable statutory provisions, we would be required to pay taxes, and thus, our cash available for distribution to shareholders would be reduced for each of the years during which we did not qualify as a REIT.

S-19

Income from our fund management business is expected to be realized by one of our taxable REIT subsidiaries and, accordingly, will be subject to income tax.

COMPLYING WITH REIT REQUIREMENTS MAY CAUSE US TO FOREGO OTHERWISE ATTRACTIVE OPPORTUNITIES.

In order to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, we must continually satisfy tests concerning, among other things, our sources of income, the nature of our investments in commercial real estate and related assets, the amounts we distribute to our shareholders and the ownership of our stock. We may also be required to make distributions to shareholders at disadvantageous times or when we do not have funds readily available for distribution. Thus, compliance with REIT requirements may hinder our ability to operate solely on the basis of maximizing profits.

COMPLYING WITH REIT REQUIREMENTS MAY FORCE US TO LIQUIDATE OR RESTRUCTURE

OTHERWISE ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENTS.

In order to qualify as a REIT, we must also ensure that at the end of each calendar quarter, at least 75% of the value of our assets consists of cash, cash items, government securities and qualified REIT real estate assets. The remainder of our investments in securities cannot include more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any one issuer or 10% of the total value of the outstanding securities of any one issuer. In addition, no more than 5% of the value of our assets can consist of the securities of any one issuer. If we fail to comply with these requirements, we must dispose of a portion of our assets within 30 days after the end of the calendar quarter in order to avoid losing our REIT status and suffering adverse tax consequences.

COMPLYING WITH REIT REQUIREMENTS MAY FORCE US TO BORROW TO MAKE DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS.

From time to time, our taxable income may be greater than our cash flow available for distribution to shareholders. If we do not have other funds available in these situations, we may be unable to distribute substantially all of our taxable income as required by the REIT provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. Thus, we could be required to borrow funds, sell a portion of our assets at disadvantageous prices or find another alternative. These options could increase our costs or reduce our equity.

THE "TAXABLE MORTGAGE POOL" RULES MAY LIMIT THE MANNER IN WHICH WE EFFECT FUTURE SECURITIZATIONS.

Certain of our future securitizations could be considered to result in the creation of taxable mortgage pools for federal income tax purposes. Since we conduct our operations to qualify as a REIT, so long as we own 100% of the equity interests in a taxable mortgage pool, we would not be adversely affected by the characterization of the securitization as a taxable mortgage pool (assuming that we do not have any shareholders who might cause a corporate income tax to be imposed upon us by reason of our owning a taxable mortgage pool). We would be precluded, however, from selling to outside investors equity interests in such securitizations or from selling any debt securities issued in connection with such securitizations that might be considered to be equity interests for tax purposes. These limitations will preclude us from using certain techniques to maximize our returns from securitization transactions. If the securitization vehicles in which we participate were considered a taxable mortgage pool, shareholders who are taxexempt and shareholders who are not United States persons may be required to pay tax on their share of any excess inclusion income.

S-20

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses, including the information incorporated by reference herein and therein, as well as other oral and written statements made in press releases and otherwise by or on our behalf, contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements predict or describe our future operations, our business plans, our business and investment strategies and portfolio management and the performance of our investments and funds under management, and do not relate solely to historical matters. You can generally identify forward-looking statements by the use of words such as "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "could," "seeks,"

"approximately," "intends," "plans," "objectives," "goals," "projects,"
"estimates," "anticipates," "continues to," "designed to," "foreseeable
future," "scheduled" and similar words. Because these statements reflect our
current views concerning future events and are based on current assumptions,
they involve risks, uncertainties and other factors which may lead to actual
results or effects that are materially different from those anticipated or
contemplated in the forward-looking statements. Some, but not all, of the
factors that may cause these differences include, but are not limited to:

- o the general political, economic and competitive conditions in the United States;
- o the level and volatility of prevailing interest rates and credit spreads, adverse changes in general economic conditions and real estate markets, the deterioration of credit quality of borrowers and the risks associated with the ownership and operation of real estate;
- o a significant compression of the spreads of the interest rates earned on interest-earning assets over the interest rates paid on interest-bearing liabilities that adversely affects operating results;
- o adverse developments in the availability of desirable loan and investment opportunities and the ability to obtain and maintain targeted levels of leverage and borrowing costs;
- o adverse changes in local market conditions, competition, increases in operating expenses and uninsured losses affecting a property owner's ability to cover operating expenses and the debt service on financing provided by us;
- o the recognition of unrealized losses on our CMBS investments that are deemed "other-than-temporary;"
- o the failure of our CDO-1 transaction to close in the form and manner contemplated on July 20, 2004;
- o authoritative generally accepted accounting principles or policy changes from such standard-setting bodies as the Financial Accounting Standards Board and the Securities and Exchange Commission; and
- o those items discussed in the "Risk Factors" section of this prospectus supplement and in other information incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectuses.

Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. We caution you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. All written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are qualified in their entirety by these cautionary statements. Moreover, unless we are required by law to update these statements, we will not necessarily update or revise any forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectuses after the date hereof, either to conform them to actual results or to changes in our expectations.

S-21

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds to us from this offering will be approximately \$30.3 million, or approximately \$42.0 million if the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated expenses of this offering. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of 2,136,711 shares of our class A common stock by the selling shareholders. We intend to use the net proceeds for general corporate purposes, including funding our balance sheet investment activity, our capital commitments to Fund III and any future investment funds, the repayment of indebtedness, including our convertible junior subordinated debentures and our credit facility, working capital and potential business acquisitions.

As of March 31, 2004, we had outstanding borrowings under our credit facility of \$64,700,000. Our credit facility provides for asset specific borrowings that bear interest at specified spreads over LIBOR, which spreads depend upon the perceived risk of the pledged assets. Based upon borrowings in place at March 31, 2004, the effective borrowing rate on the credit facility was LIBOR plus 2.86%, or 3.96%. Our credit facility matures on July 16, 2005. As of March 31, 2004, we had outstanding borrowings under repurchase obligations of \$194,333,000, which bear interest at specified spreads over LIBOR that depend upon the perceived risk of the assets subject to the repurchase obligations. Based upon borrowings in place at March 31, 2004, the average effective rate on the repurchase obligations was LIBOR plus 1.34%, or 2.44%.

As of March 31, 2004, we have \$89,742,000 aggregate liquidation amount of variable step up convertible trust preferred securities outstanding that were issued by our consolidated statutory trust subsidiary, CT Convertible Trust I. The underlying convertible junior subordinated debentures bear interest at 10% per annum, which increases by 0.75% per annum on October 1, 2004 and each October 1 thereafter. If the quarterly dividend paid on a share of our class A common stock multiplied by four and divided by \$21.00 is in excess of the interest rate in effect at that time, then the holders are entitled to be paid additional interest at that rate. The convertible trust preferred securities are redeemable by us, in whole or in part, on or after September 30, 2004. The convertible trust preferred securities mature on September 30, 2018. Following the conversion of the convertible trust preferred securities owned by EOP Operating Limited Partnership, General Motors Trust Bank, National Association, as trustee for the GMAM Investment Funds Trust and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as trustee for the GMAM Group Pension Trust II in connection with their sale of class A common stock in this offering, there will remain outstanding \$44,871,000 aggregate liquidation amount of convertible trust preferred securities which are convertible into 2,136,711 shares of common stock based upon a \$21.00 conversion price.

We have from time to time engaged in, and expect to continue to pursue, discussions with respect to possible business acquisitions. While we have no present commitments or agreements with respect to any material acquisitions, we frequently investigate acquisitions of companies engaged in businesses that we believe will complement our existing business.

Our management will have considerable discretion in the application of the net proceeds of this offering and may spend the net proceeds in a manner and at times other than as set forth above. As a result, you will not have the opportunity, as part of your investment decision, to assess how and when the net proceeds will be used.

Pending such uses, the net proceeds may be invested in interest-bearing accounts and short-term interest-bearing securities that are consistent with our qualification as a REIT.

SELLING SHAREHOLDERS

The following table sets forth information with respect to the selling shareholders' beneficial ownership of our class A common stock as of June 30, 2004 and after giving effect to this offering. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of our class A common stock by the selling shareholders. All of the shares of class A common stock beneficially owned by the selling shareholders are issuable upon conversion of variable step up convertible trust preferred securities issued by CT Convertible Trust I. Applicable percentage ownership set forth in the following table is based upon 8,300,343 shares of class A common stock outstanding as of June 30, 2004 and 11,800,343 shares of class A common stock outstanding after completion of this offering. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full, the number of shares outstanding immediately after completion of this offering will be 12,325,343.

NAME	BENEFICIALLY OWNED PRIOR TO THE OFFERING	
	NUMBER	PERCENT
EOP Operating Limited Partnership (1)	1,424,474	14.6%
GMAM Investment Funds Trust (2)	99,713 1,324,761	1.2% 13.8%

- (1) Samuel Zell, chairman of our board of directors, serves as chairman of the board of trustees of Equity Office Properties Trust, the managing general partner of EOP Operating Limited Partnership. Thomas E. Dobrowski, who serves as one of our directors, is a trustee of Equity Office Properties Trust. Sheli Z. Rosenberg, who served as one of our directors until her resignation in April 2004, is also a trustee of Equity Office Properties Trust.
- (2) General Motors Investment Management Corporation serves as investment manager to these pension trusts. Thomas E. Dobrowski, who serves as one of our directors, is a managing director of General Motors Investment Management Corporation. First Plaza Group Trust, a pension trust managed by General Motors Investment Management Corporation, is an investor in Fund II and Fund III.

S-23

PRICE RANGE OF CLASS A COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDEND POLICY

Our class A common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CT." The table below sets forth, for the calendar quarters indicated, the reported high and low sale prices of the class A common stock as reported on the NYSE composite transaction tape:

SHARES

2002		
First Quarter	 	
Second Quarter	 	
Third Quarter	 	
Fourth Quarter	 	
2003		
First Quarter	 	
Second Ouarter	 	
Third Quarter	 	
Fourth Quarter	 	
2004		
First Quarter	 	
Second Quarter	 	
Third Quarter (through July 22, 2004)		

The last reported sale price of the class A common stock on July 22, 2004 as reported on the NYSE composite transaction tape was \$24.90. As of July 21, 2004, there were 1,332 holders of record of the class A common stock. By including persons holding shares in broker accounts under street names, however, we estimate that there were approximately 3,100 holders of record of our class A common stock as of July 21, 2004.

Although in recent years we have not paid dividends, with our decision to elect to be taxed as a REIT, we began paying dividends on our class A common stock in the first quarter of 2003 and have paid quarterly dividends since then.

We generally intend to distribute each year substantially all of our taxable income (which does not necessarily equal net income as calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles) to our shareholders so as to comply with the REIT provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. We intend to make dividend distributions quarterly and, if necessary for REIT qualification purposes, we may need to distribute any taxable income remaining after the distribution of the final regular quarterly dividend each year, together with the first regular quarterly dividend payment of the following taxable year or, at our discretion, in a special dividend distributed prior thereto. Our dividend policy is subject to revision at the discretion of our board of directors. All distributions will be made at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on our taxable income, our financial condition, our maintenance of REIT status and other factors as our board of directors deems relevant.

Distributions to shareholders will generally be subject to tax as ordinary income, although a portion of the distributions may be designated by us as capital gain or may constitute a tax-free return of capital. Annually, our transfer agent will furnish to each of our shareholders a statement of distributions paid during the preceding year and their characterization as ordinary income, capital gains or return of capital.

Our ability to pay distributions in the future and the amounts of any such distributions will depend upon a number of factors, including those discussed under the caption "Risk Factors."

HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our historical capitalization as of March 31, 2004 and a pro forma capitalization as of March 31, 2004, giving effect to the CDO-1 transaction, which we closed on July 20, 2004, and the direct public offering to Berkley, which we closed in two tranches on May 11 and June 21, 2004, respectively, and are fully described under the caption "Prospectus Supplement Summary -- Recent Developments" beginning on page S-40, as adjusted to give effect to the sale of the 1,363,289 shares of our class A common stock offered by us at the public offering price and the 2,136,711 shares of class A common stock offered by the selling shareholders pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the application of the estimated net proceeds received by us from this offering, after deduction of underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of 2,136,711 shares of our class A common stock by the selling shareholders. The pro forma information is presented for illustrative purposes only and does not necessarily indicate the amount of our assets, liabilities and shareholders' equity that would have been recorded on our balance sheet as of March 31, 2004 had the CDO-1 transaction and direct public offering to Berkley closed as of that date.

You should read the following information together with "Prospectus Supplement Summary -- Summary Financial Data," "Risk Factors" and the consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS
SHORT-TERM DEBT
Current maturities of repurchase obligations
Total short-term debt
LONG-TERM DEBT
Credit facilities Repurchase obligations (1)
Collateralized debt obligations
Total long-term debt
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY (3)
Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000 authorized; 6,572 and 8,502 issued and
outstanding, historical and as adjusted, respectively (4)
Additional paid-in capital
Unearned compensation
Accumulated deficit
Total shareholders' equity

HIS

==

\$1

\$1

\$

1

- (1) Repurchase obligations which were extended subsequent to March 31, 2004 past March 31, 2005 have been characterized as long-term debt.
- (2) Upon application of FIN 46R effective January 1, 2004, we no longer consolidate the statutory trust which holds the convertible trust preferred securities. Consequently, the underlying convertible junior subordinated debentures are presented as liabilities.
- (3) In addition to the class A common stock listed in the foregoing table, we are authorized to issue 100,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share, although no shares of such class are currently outstanding. See "Description of Capital Stock" in the company prospectus.
- (4) Does not include 550,835 shares of class A common stock subject to outstanding options under our amended and restated 1997 long-term incentive stock plan and amended and restated 1997 non-employee director stock plan at June 30, 2004. As of June 30, 2004, there were a total of 8,300,343 shares of class A common stock and restricted class A common stock outstanding.
- (5) Total capitalization includes long-term debt and shareholders' equity.

S-25

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

INTRODUCTION

We are a fully integrated, self-managed finance and investment management company that specializes in credit-sensitive structured financial products. To date, our investment programs have focused on loans and securities backed by income-producing commercial real estate assets. Since we commenced our finance business in July 1997 and through June 30, 2004, we have completed \$3.6 billion of real estate-related investments in 123 separate transactions. In December 2002, our board of directors authorized an election to be taxed as a REIT for the 2003 tax year.

Currently, we make balance sheet investments for our own account and manage a series of private equity funds on behalf of institutional and individual investors. Our investment management business commenced in March 2000. Pursuant to a venture agreement, we have co-sponsored three funds with Citigroup Alternative Investments LLC: CT Mezzanine Partners I LLC, CT Mezzanine Partners II LP and CT Mezzanine Partners III, Inc., which we refer to as Fund I, Fund II and Fund III, respectively.

As described under the caption, "Critical Accounting Policies" below, certain reclassifications have been made to reflect the application of Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 46R on January 1, 2004 following the adoption of which we no longer consolidate CT Convertible Trust I, the entity which had purchased our junior subordinated debentures and issued convertible trust common and preferred securities.

BALANCE SHEET OVERVIEW

At March 31, 2004, we had four investments in Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold securities with a face value of \$15,989,000. The securities bear interest at a fixed annual rate of 6.5% of the face value. We purchased the securities at a net premium and have \$127,000 of the premium remaining to

\$2

be amortized over the remaining lives of the securities. After premium amortization, the securities bore interest at a blended annual rate of 6.09% as of March 31, 2004. As of March 31, 2004, the securities were carried at a market value of \$16,801,000, a \$685,000 unrealized gain to their amortized cost

We held twenty-one investments in fourteen separate issues of commercial mortgage-backed securities with an aggregate face value of \$251,880,000 at March 31, 2004. A total of \$41,367,000 face value of the commercial mortgage-backed securities earn interest at a variable rate which averages the London Interbank Offered Rate, or LIBOR, plus 3.17% (4.26% at March 31, 2004). The remaining \$210,512,000 in face value commercial mortgage-backed securities earn interest at fixed annual rates averaging 7.70% of the face value. We purchased the commercial mortgage-backed securities at discounts and, as of March 31, 2004, the remaining discount to be amortized into income over the remaining lives of the securities was \$23,517,000. At March 31, 2004, with discount amortization, the commercial mortgage-backed securities earn interest at a blended annual rate of 8.51% of the face value less the unamortized discount. As of March 31, 2004, the securities were carried at market value of \$199,784,000, reflecting a \$28,578,000 unrealized loss to their amortized cost.

During the three months ended March 31, 2004, we purchased or originated one property mezzanine loan for \$23,500,000 and one B Note for \$9,000,000, received partial repayments on nine mortgage and property mezzanine loans totaling \$1,908,000, and one property mezzanine loan and one B Note totaling \$16,853,000 were satisfied and repaid. At March 31, 2004, we had outstanding loans receivable totaling approximately \$197.5 million.

At March 31, 2004, we had fourteen performing loans receivable with a current carrying value of \$194,440,000. One of the loans for \$48,913,000 bears interest at a fixed annual rate of interest of 11.99%. The thirteen remaining loans, totaling \$145,527,000, bear interest at a variable rate of interest averaging LIBOR plus 5.72% (7.04% at March 31, 2004 including LIBOR floors). One mortgage loan receivable with an original principal balance of \$8,000,000 reached maturity on July 15, 2001 and has not been repaid with respect to principal and interest. In December 2002, the loan was written down to \$4,000,000 through a

S-26

charge to the allowance for possible credit losses. Since the write-down, we have received proceeds of \$962,000 reducing the carrying value of the loan to \$3,038,000. In accordance with our policy for revenue recognition, income recognition has been suspended on this loan and for the three months ended March 31, 2004, \$225,000 of potential interest income has not been recorded. All other loans are performing in accordance with their terms.

At March 31, 2004, we had investments in funds of \$21,967,000, including \$6,322,000 of unamortized costs that were capitalized in connection with entering into our venture agreement with Citigroup Alternative Investments LLC and the commencement of the related fund business. These costs are being amortized over the lives of the funds and the venture agreement and are reflected as a reduction in income/(loss) from equity investments in funds.

We utilize borrowings under a committed credit facility, along with repurchase obligations, to finance our balance sheet assets.

At March 31, 2004, we had outstanding borrowings under our credit facility of \$64,700,000, and had unused potential credit of \$85,300,000, an amount of available credit that we believe provides us with adequate liquidity for our short-term needs over the next 12-month period. The credit facility provides

for advances to fund lender-approved loans and investments made by us. Our borrowings under the credit facility are secured by pledges of assets owned by us, and bear interest at specified spreads over LIBOR, which spreads vary based upon the perceived risk of the pledged assets. The credit facility provides for margin calls on asset-specific borrowings in the event of asset quality and/or market value deterioration as determined under the credit facility. The credit facility contains customary representations, warranties, covenants, conditions and events of default. Based upon borrowings in place at March 31, 2004, the effective rate on the credit facility was LIBOR plus 1.55% (2.64% at March 31, 2004). As of March 31, 2004, we had capitalized costs of \$1,115,000 that are being amortized over the remaining life of the facility (15.5 months at March 31, 2004). After amortizing these costs to interest expense, the all-in effective borrowing cost on the facility as of March 31, 2004 was 3.96% based upon the amount currently outstanding on the credit facility.

At December 31, 2003, we had borrowed \$11,651,000 under a \$75 million term redeemable securities contract. This term redeemable securities contract expired on February 28, 2004 and was repaid by refinancing the previously financed assets under our credit facility.

In the first quarter of 2004, we entered another repurchase obligation with an existing provider in connection with the purchase of a loan. This repurchase agreement comes due monthly and has a current maturity date in May 2004.

At March 31, 2004, we had total outstanding repurchase obligations of \$194,333,000. Based upon advances in place at March 31, 2004, the blended rate on the repurchase obligations is LIBOR plus 0.95% (2.04% at March 31, 2004). We had capitalized costs of \$127,000 as of March 31, 2004, which are being amortized over the remaining lives of the repurchase obligations. After amortizing these costs to interest expense based upon the amount currently outstanding on the repurchase obligations, the all-in effective borrowing cost on the repurchase obligations as of March 31, 2004 was 2.44%. We expect to enter into new repurchase obligations at their maturity or settle the repurchase obligations with the proceeds from the repayment of the underlying financed asset.

We were party to two cash flow interest rate swaps with a total notional value of \$109 million as of March 31, 2004. These cash flow interest rate swaps effectively convert floating rate debt to fixed rate debt, which is utilized to finance assets that earn interest at fixed rates. We received a rate equal to LIBOR (1.10% at March 31, 2004) and pay an average rate of 4.24%. The market value of the swaps at March 31, 2004 was a liability of \$3,297,000, which is recorded as interest rate hedge liabilities and as accumulated other comprehensive loss on our balance sheet.

We currently have \$92,524,000 aggregate principal amount of our outstanding convertible junior subordinated debentures. The convertible junior subordinated debentures are convertible into shares of class A common stock, in increments of \$1,000 in liquidation amount, at a conversion price of \$21.00 per share and are redeemable by us, in whole or in part, on or after September 30, 2004.

S-27

Distributions on the outstanding convertible junior subordinated debentures are payable quarterly in arrears on each calendar quarter-end. The convertible junior subordinated debentures bear interest at 10% through September 30, 2004. The interest rate increases by 0.75% on October 1, 2004 and on each October 1 thereafter. If the quarterly dividend paid on a share of our class A

common stock multiplied by four and divided by \$21.00 is in excess of the interest rate in effect at that time, then the holders are entitled to be paid additional interest at that rate.

In 2000, we announced an open market share repurchase program under which we may purchase, from time to time, up to 666,667 shares of our class A common stock. Since that time the authorization has been increased by the board of directors to purchase cumulatively up to 2,366,923 shares of class A common stock. In March 31, 2004 we had 666,339 shares remaining authorized for repurchase under the program.

At June 30, 2004, we had 8,300,343 shares of our class A common stock outstanding.

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

We operated principally as a balance sheet investor until the start of our investment management business in March 2000 when we entered into a venture with affiliates of Citigroup Alternative Investments to co-sponsor and invest capital in a series of commercial real estate mezzanine investment funds managed by us. Pursuant to the venture agreement, we have co-sponsored with Citigroup Alternative Investments Fund I, Fund II and Fund III. We have capitalized costs of \$6,322,000, net, from the formation of the venture and the Funds that are being amortized over the remaining anticipated lives of the Funds and the related venture agreement.

Fund I commenced its investment operations in May 2000 with equity capital supplied solely by Citigroup Alternative Investments (75%) and us (25%). From May 11, 2000 to April 8, 2001, the investment period for the fund, Fund I completed \$330 million of total investments in 12 transactions. On January 31, 2003, we purchased from an affiliate of Citigroup Alternative Investments its interest in Fund I and began consolidating the operations of Fund I in our consolidated financial statements.

Fund II had its initial closing on equity commitments on April 9, 2001 and its final closing on August 7, 2001, ultimately raising \$845.2 million of total equity commitments, including \$49.7 million (5.9%) and \$198.9 million (23.5%) from us and Citigroup Alternative Investments, respectively. Thirdparty private equity investors, including public and corporate pension plans, endowment funds, financial institutions and high net worth individuals, made the balance of the equity commitments. During its two-year investment period, which expired on April 9, 2003, Fund II invested \$1.2 billion in 40 separate transactions. Fund II utilizes leverage to increase its return on equity, with a target debt-to-equity ratio of 2:1. Total capital calls during the investment period were \$329.0 million. CT Investment Management Co. LLC, our wholly-owned taxable REIT subsidiary, acts as the investment manager to Fund II and receives 100% of the base management fees paid by the fund. As of April 9, 2003, the end of the Fund II investment period, CT Investment Management Co. began earning annual base management fees of 1.287% of invested capital. Based upon Fund II's invested capital at March 31, 2004, the date upon which the calculation for the next quarter is based, CT Investment Management Co. will earn base management fees of \$522,000 for the quarter ending June 30, 2004.

We and Citigroup Alternative Investments, through our collective ownership of the general partner, are also entitled to receive incentive management fees from Fund II if the return on invested equity is in excess of 10% after all invested capital has been returned. The Fund II incentive management fees are split equally between Citigroup Alternative Investments and us. We intend to pay 25% of our share of the Fund II incentive management fees as long-term incentive compensation to our employees. No such incentive fees have been earned at March 31, 2004 and as such, no amount has been accrued as income for

such potential fees in our financial statements. The amount of incentive fees to be received in the future will depend upon a number of factors, including the level of interest rates and the fund's ability to generate returns in excess of 10%, which is in turn impacted by the duration and ultimate performance of the fund's assets. Potential incentive fees received as Fund II winds down could result in significant additional income from operations in certain periods during which such payments can be recorded as income. If Fund II's assets were sold and liabilities were settled on April 1, 2004 at the recorded book value, net of the allowance for possible credit

S-28

losses, and the fund equity and income were distributed, we would record approximately \$7.0 million of incentive income.

We do not anticipate making any additional equity contributions to Fund II or its general partner. Our net investment in Fund II and its general partner at March 31, 2004 was \$11.6 million. As of March 31, 2004, Fund II had 22 outstanding loans and investments totaling \$432.9 million, all of which were performing in accordance with the terms of their agreements.

On June 2, 2003, Fund III effected its initial closing on equity commitments and on August 8, 2003, its final closing, raising a total of \$425.0 million in equity commitments. Our equity commitment is \$20.0 million (4.7%) and Citigroup Alternative Investments' equity commitment is \$80.0 million (18.8%), with the balance made by third-party private equity investors. From the initial closing through March 31, 2004, we have made equity investments in Fund III of \$4,000,000. As of March 31, 2004, Fund III had ten outstanding loans and investments totaling \$268.4 million, all of which were performing in accordance with the terms of their agreements.

CT Investment Management Co. receives 100% of the base management fees from Fund III calculated at a rate equal to 1.42% per annum of committed capital during Fund III's two-year investment period, which expires June 2, 2005, and 1.42% of invested capital thereafter. Based upon Fund III's \$425.0 million of total equity commitments, CT Investment Management Co. will earn annual base management fees of \$6.0 million during the investment period. We and Citigroup Alternative Investments are also entitled to receive incentive management fees from Fund III if the return on invested equity is in excess of 10% after all invested capital has been returned. We will receive 62.5% and Citigroup Alternative Investments will receive 37.5% of the total incentive management fees. We expect to distribute a portion of our share of the Fund III incentive management fees as long-term incentive compensation to our employees.

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2004 COMPARED TO THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2003

We reported net income of \$3,082,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004, an increase of \$537,000 from the net income of \$2,545,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2003. This increase was primarily the result of a reduction in general and administrative costs due to reduced employee compensation and reduced legal expenses.

Interest and related income from loans and other investments amounted to \$9,018,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004, a decrease of \$11,000 from the \$9,029,000 amount for the three months ended March 31, 2003. Average interest-earning assets increased from approximately \$354.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003 to approximately \$385.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2004. The average interest rate earned on such assets decreased from 10.3% for the three months ended March 31, 2003 to 9.4% for the three months ended March 31, 2004. During the three months ended March 31, 2003, we recognized \$367,000 in additional income on the early

repayment of loans. Without this additional interest income, the earning rate for the 2003 period would have been 9.9%. LIBOR rates averaged 1.1% for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 1.3% for the three months ended March 31, 2003, a decrease of 0.2%. The remaining decrease in rates was due to the addition of B Notes to our portfolio in 2004, which generally carry lower interest rates than mezzanine loans and the repayment of two fixed rates loans which earned interest at rates in excess of the average for the portfolio.

We utilize our existing credit facility and repurchase obligations to finance our interest-earning assets. Interest and related expenses on secured debt amounted to \$2,636,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004, an increase of \$341,000 from the \$2,295,000 amount for the three months ended March 31, 2003. The increase in expense was due to an increase in the amount of average interest-bearing liabilities outstanding from approximately \$205.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003 to approximately \$218.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2004, and an increase in the average rate on interest-bearing liabilities from 4.5% to 4.8% for the same periods. The increase in the average rate is substantially due to an increase in the rate paid on repurchase agreements, which increased from 2.2% for the three months ended March 31, 2003 to 2.6% for the three months ended March 31, 2004. This increase in rates was the result of a increase in mezzanine loans and B Notes financed with repurchase obligations that

S-29

carry higher interest rates than available-for-sale investments, for which the amount financed with repurchase obligations decreased from the levels of the prior year.

We also utilize the convertible junior subordinated debentures to finance our interest-earning assets. During the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, we recognized \$2,433,000 of expenses related to the convertible junior subordinated debentures, as the terms of the debt were the same in both periods.

Other revenues increased \$306,000 from \$2,180,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2003 to \$2,486,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004. The increase is primarily due to the management fees charged to Fund III in 2004, as Fund III did not begin its investment period until June 2003. This was partially offset by a decrease in the earnings from Fund II, due to lower levels of investment in 2004 as the fund is no longer investing in new assets, and the reclassification of earnings from Fund I to other income statement captions as it is now a consolidated entity.

General and administrative expenses decreased \$766,000 to \$2,938,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004 from \$3,704,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2003. The decrease in general and administrative expenses was primarily due to reduced employee compensation and legal expenses. We employed an average of 25 employees during the three months ended March 31, 2004 and the three months ended March 31, 2003. We had 23 full-time employees at March 31, 2004.

We intend to make an election to be taxed as a REIT under Section 856(c) of the Internal Revenue Code commencing with the tax year ending December 31, 2003. As a REIT, we generally are not subject to federal income tax. To maintain qualification as a REIT, we must distribute at least 90% of our REIT taxable income to our shareholders and meet certain other requirements. If we fail to qualify as a REIT in any taxable year, we will be subject to federal income tax on our taxable income at regular corporate rates. We may also be subject to certain state and local taxes on our income and property. Under certain circumstances, federal income and excise taxes may be due on our undistributed taxable income. At March 31, 2004, we were in compliance with

all REIT requirements and as such, have only provided for income tax expense on taxable income attributed to our taxable REIT subsidiaries during the three months ended March 31, 2004.

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003 COMPARED TO YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

We reported net income of \$13,525,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003, an increase of \$23,263,000 from the net loss of \$9,738,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002. This increase was primarily the result of certain transactions in 2002 which reduced net income, including the settlement of three cash flow hedges resulting in a \$6.7 million charge to earnings, the write-down of deferred tax assets as a result of our decision to elect REIT status for 2003, the write-down of a loan in Fund I which caused a loss from equity investments in funds and the inability to utilize capital losses generated in 2002 to reduce current taxes. Also contributing to the increase in net income was the reduction in income taxes in 2003 in connection with our decision to elect REIT status. These increases were partially offset by a recapture of a portion of the allowance for possible credit losses in 2002.

Interest and related income from loans and other investments amounted to \$38,524,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003, a decrease of \$9,003,000from the \$47,527,000 amount for the year ended December 31, 2002. Average interest-earning assets decreased from approximately \$473.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 to approximately \$356.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. The average interest rate earned on such assets increased from 9.9% in 2002 to 10.7% in 2003. During the year ended December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002, we recognized \$2.8 million and \$4.8 million, respectively, in additional income on the early repayment of loans and investments. Without this additional interest income, the earning rate for the 2003 period would have been 9.9% versus 9.6% for the 2002 period. LIBOR rates averaged 1.2% for the year ended December 31, 2003 and 1.8% for the year ended December 31, 2002, a decrease of 0.6%. The portion of our average assets that earn interest at fixed rates did not decrease proportionately to the decrease in assets that earn interest at variable rates in 2003, which served to offset the decrease in earnings from the decrease in the average LIBOR rate.

We utilize our existing credit facility, the term redeemable securities contract, and repurchase obligations to finance our interest-earning assets.

S-30

Interest and related expenses on secured debt amounted to \$9,845,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003, a decrease of \$8,124,000 from the \$17,969,000 amount for the year ended December 31, 2002. The decrease in expense was due to a decrease in the amount of average interest-bearing liabilities outstanding from approximately \$260.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 to approximately \$193.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2003, and a decrease in the average rate on interest-bearing liabilities from 6.9% to 5.1% for the same periods. The decrease in the average rate is substantially due to the decrease in swap levels and rates and the increased use of repurchase agreements as a percentage of total debt in the 2003 period at lower spreads to LIBOR than the credit facilities utilized in 2002.

We also utilize the capital provided by the outstanding step up convertible junior subordinated debentures to finance our interest-earning assets. During the year ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, we recognized \$9,730,000 and \$16,192,000, respectively, of net expenses related to its outstanding step up convertible junior subordinated debentures. This amount consisted of distributions to the holders totaling \$9,252,000 and \$14,887,000, respectively, and amortization of discount and origination costs totaling

\$478,000 and \$1,305,000, respectively, during the year ended December 31, 2003 and 2002. The decrease in the distribution amount and amortization of discount and origination costs resulted from the elimination of the distributions and discount and fees on the non-convertible amount of the convertible trust preferred securities, which was redeemed on September 30, 2002.

Other revenues decreased \$325,000 from \$9,924,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$9,599,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003. In 2002, Fund I increased its allowance for possible credit losses by establishing a specific reserve for the single non-performing loan it was carrying. The loss from equity investments in funds during the year ended December 31, 2002 was primarily due to this additional expense. On January 31, 2003, we purchased from affiliates of Citigroup Alternative Investments their 75% interest in Fund I and began consolidating the operations of Fund I into our consolidated financial statements, which further reduced earnings from equity investments in Funds. On January 1, 2003, the general partner of Fund II (owned by affiliates of us and Citigroup Alternative Investments) voluntarily reduced by 50% the management fees charged to Fund II for the remainder of the investment period due to a lower than expected level of deployment of Fund II's capital. This, along with the reduction in income when we began charging management fees on invested capital for Fund II, partially offset by the management fees charged to Fund III, reduced our management and advisory fees from funds by \$2.1 million for the period. Also in 2002, we earned a \$2.0 million fee from our final advisory assignment.

General and administrative expenses decreased \$676,000 to \$13,320,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003 from \$13,996,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002. The decrease in general and administrative expenses was primarily due to reduced employee compensation. We employed an average of 25 employees during the year ended December 31, 2003 and 27 during the year ended December 31, 2002. We had 23 full-time employees at June 30, 2004.

During the year ended December 31, 2002, we recaptured \$4,713,000 of our previously established allowance for possible credit losses. We deemed this recapture necessary due to the substantial reduction in the loan portfolio and a general reduction in the default risk of the loans remaining based upon current conditions. At December 31, 2003, we believe that the reserve of \$6,672,000 is adequate based on the existing loans in our balance sheet portfolio.

We intend to make an election to be taxed as a REIT under Section 856(c) of the Internal Revenue Code commencing with the tax year ending December 31, 2003. As a REIT, we generally are not subject to federal income tax. To maintain qualification as a REIT, we must distribute at least 90% of our REIT taxable income to our shareholders and meet certain other requirements. If we fail to qualify as a REIT in any taxable year, we will be subject to federal income tax on our taxable income at regular corporate rates. We may also be subject to certain state and local taxes on our income and property. Under certain circumstances, federal income and excise taxes may be due on our undistributed taxable income. At December 31, 2003, we were in compliance with all REIT requirements and as such, have only provided for income tax expense on taxable income attributed to our taxable REIT subsidiaries in 2003.

S-31

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002 COMPARED TO YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

We reported a net loss allocable to shares of class A common stock of \$9,738,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002, a decrease of \$18,502,000 from our net income allocable to shares of class A common stock of \$8,764,000 for the year ended December 31, 2001. This decrease was primarily the result

of the inability to utilize capital losses generated in 2002 to reduce current taxes, the write-down of deferred tax assets as a result of our decision to elect REIT status for 2003, the settlement of three cash flow hedges resulting in a \$6.7 million charge to earnings, the write-down of a loan in Fund I which caused a loss from equity investments in funds and decreased net interest income from loans and other investments. These decreases were partially offset by increased advisory and investment management fees, a recapture of the allowance for possible credit losses and the elimination of the preferred stock dividend.

Interest and related income from loans and other investments amounted to \$47,527,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002, a decrease of \$20,278,000 from the \$67,805,000 amount for the year ended December 31, 2001. Average interest earning assets decreased from approximately \$570.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2001 to approximately \$473.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2002. The average interest rate earned on such assets decreased from 11.8% in 2001 to 9.9% in 2002. During the year ended December 31, 2002, we recognized \$1.6 million in additional income on the early repayment of loans, while during the year ended December 31, 2001, we recognized \$4.8 million in additional income on the early repayment of loans. Without this additional interest income, the earning rate for the year ended December 31, 2002 would have been 9.6% versus 11.0% for the year ended December 31, 2001. LIBOR rates averaged 1.8% for the year ended December 31, 2002 and 3.9% for the year ended December 31, 2001, a decrease of 2.1%. Since substantial portions of our assets earned interest at fixed rates, the decrease in the average earning rate did not correspond to the full decrease in the average LIBOR rate.

Interest and related expenses on secured debt amounted to \$17,969,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002, a decrease of \$8,269,000 from the \$26,238,000 amount for the year ended December 31, 2001. The decrease in expense was due to a decrease in the amount of average interest bearing liabilities outstanding from approximately \$321.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2001 to approximately \$260.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 and a decrease in the average rate paid on interest bearing liabilities from 8.2% to 6.9% for the same periods. The decrease in the average rate was substantially due to the increased use of repurchase obligations for debt financing in the year ended December 31, 2002 at lower spreads to LIBOR than those obtainable under the credit facilities utilized in the year ended December 31, 2001 and the decrease in the average LIBOR rate. Due to the decrease in total debt, the percentage of debt that was swapped to fixed rates in the year ended December 31, 2002 increased, partially offsetting the previously discussed decreases in floating rates.

During the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, we recognized \$16,192,000 and \$16,508,000, respectively, of net expenses related to our outstanding step up convertible junior subordinated debentures. This amount consisted of distributions to the holders totaling \$14,887,000 and \$15,709,000, respectively, and amortization of discount and origination costs totaling \$1,305,000 and \$799,000, respectively, during the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001. On April 1, 2002, in accordance with the terms of the securities, the blended rate on such securities increased from 10.16% to 11.21%. On October 1, 2002, after redemption of the non-convertible amount of the step up convertible junior subordinated debentures, the rate on such securities was 10.00%. The increase in the amortization of discount and origination costs resulted from the recognition of the unamortized discount and fees on the non-convertible amount expensed upon redemption of the non-convertible amount on September 30, 2002.

During the year ended December 31, 2002, other revenues decreased \$1,403,000 to \$9,924,000 from \$11,327,000 in the year ended December 31, 2001. During the second quarter of 2001, Fund II commenced operations, which accounted for

approximately \$2.6 million of additional management and advisory fees in the year ended December 31, 2002. We also recognized \$2.0 million from our final advisory assignment. These increases were offset by the write-down of a \$26.0 million investment in Fund I, which decreased our income from equity investments in funds by approximately \$6.0 million.

General and administrative expenses decreased \$1,386,000 to \$13,996,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 from \$15,382,000 for the year ended December 31, 2001. The decrease in general and

S-32

administrative expenses was primarily due to reduced executive compensation. We employed an average of 27 employees during both the year ended December 31, 2002 and the year ended December 31, 2001. We had 26 full-time employees and one part-time employee at December 31, 2002.

During the year ended December 31, 2002, we recaptured \$4,713,000 of our previously established allowance for possible credit losses. We deemed this recapture necessary due to the substantial reduction in the loan portfolio and a general reduction in the default risk of the loans remaining based upon current conditions.

For the year ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, we accrued income tax expense of \$15,149,000 and \$9,325,000, respectively, for federal, state and local income taxes. The increase from 49.9% to 280.0% in the effective tax rate was primarily due to capital losses being generated in 2002 that were not deductible for tax purposes in that year and the reduction in deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty of use in the future. In December 2002, when we decided to elect REIT status for 2003, we wrote down our deferred tax asset to \$1.6 million, due to our inability to utilize the recorded tax benefits in the future. The remaining \$1.6 million deferred tax asset relates to future reversals of taxable income in subsidiaries which will be taxable REIT subsidiaries.

The preferred stock dividend and dividend requirement arose from previously issued and outstanding shares of class A preferred stock. Dividends accrued on these shares at a rate of 9.5% on a per share price of \$8.07. In 1999, 1,982,275 shares of our class A preferred stock were converted into an equal number of shares of our class A common stock thereby reducing the number of outstanding shares of class A preferred stock to 2,106,944 and the dividend requirement to \$1,615,000. In 2001, the remaining shares of our class A preferred stock were repurchased thereby eliminating the dividend requirement.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

At March 31, 2004, we had \$23,124,000 in cash. Our primary sources of liquidity for 2004 are expected to be cash on hand, cash generated from operations, principal and interest payments received on loans and investments, additional borrowings under our credit facility and repurchase obligations and proceeds from the sale of securities. We closed the Berkley transaction in two tranches on May 11 and June 21, 2004, and raised gross proceeds of \$30.7 million and \$7.6 million, respectively. We believe these sources of capital are adequate to meet future cash requirements for the remainder of 2004. We expect that during 2004, we will use a significant amount of our available capital resources to satisfy capital contributions required pursuant to our equity commitments to Fund III and to originate new loans and investments for our balance sheet. We intend to continue to employ leverage on our balance sheet assets to enhance our return on equity.

We experienced a net increase in cash of \$14,386,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2004, compared to a net increase of \$990,000 for the three

months ended March 31, 2003. Cash provided by operating activities during the three months ended March 31, 2004 was \$502,000, compared to \$1,849,000 during the same period of 2003. For the three months ended March 31, 2004, cash used in investing activities was \$45,469,000, compared to cash provided of \$21,393,000 during the same period in 2003. The change was primarily due to our new loan and investment activity totaling \$67.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2004. We financed the new investment activity with additional borrowings under our credit facility, term redeemable securities contract and repurchase obligations. This accounted for substantially all of the change in the net cash activity from financing activities.

We experienced a net decrease in cash of \$1,448,000 for the year ended December 31, 2003, compared to a net decrease of \$1,465,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002. Cash provided by operating activities during the year ended December 31, 2003 was \$13,532,000, compared to \$23,988,000 used during the same period of 2002 as we generated a net loss of \$9.7 million and used \$23.6 million of cash to settle a fair value hedge in 2002. For the year ended December 31, 2003, cash provided by investing activities was \$5,716,000, compared to \$301,336,000 during the same period in 2002 as we experienced lower levels of loan and investment repayments in the year ended December 31, 2003 than in the year ended December 31, 2002 and we began making new loans and investments for our balance sheet in the year ended December 31, 2003. We utilized the cash received on loan repayments in both periods to reduce borrowings under our credit facilities and our term redeemable securities contract that, together with the net proceeds from the private placement of

S - 33

1,075,000 shares of our class A common stock in June 2003, accounted for substantially all of the change in the net cash used in financing activities from \$278,813,000 in the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$20,696,000 in the year ended December 31, 2003.

During the investment periods for Fund I and Fund II, we generally did not originate or acquire loans or commercial mortgage-backed securities directly for our own balance sheet portfolio. When the Fund II investment period ended, we began originating loans and investments for our own account as permitted by the provisions of Fund III. We expect to use our available working capital to make contributions to Fund III or any other funds sponsored by us as and when required by the equity commitments made by us to such funds.

At March 31, 2004, we had outstanding borrowings under our credit facility of \$64,700,000, and outstanding repurchase obligations totaling \$194,333,000. The terms of these agreements are described above under the caption "Balance Sheet Overview". At March 31, 2004, we had pledged assets that enable us to borrow an additional \$25.4 million and had \$232.6 million of credit available for the financing of new and existing unpledged assets pursuant to these sources of financing.

The following table sets forth information about our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2003:

PAYME

LESS THAN

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

TOTAL

TOTAL

TOTAL

TOTAL

TOTAL

TOTAL

TOTAL

LONG-TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS

Credit Facility	\$ 38,868	\$
Repurchase Obligations	146,894	142,644
Term redeemable securities contract	11,651	11,651
Convertible junior subordinated debentures	89,742	
OPERATING LEASE OBLIGATIONS	4,338	971
COMMITMENT TO FUND III (1)	17,200	17,200
TOTAL	\$308 , 693	\$172,466

⁽¹⁾ Fund III's investment period continues until June 2005 at which time our equity commitment to the fund expires. While we do not believe that all of the equity commitment will be called by December 31, 2004, we have presented it as such as it could be called by then.

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

We have no off-balance sheet arrangements.

IMPACT OF INFLATION

Our operating results depend in part on the difference between the interest income earned on our interest-earning assets and the interest expense incurred in connection with our interest-bearing liabilities. Changes in the general level of interest rates prevailing in the economy in response to changes in the rate of inflation or otherwise can affect our income by affecting the spread between our interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities, as well as, among other things, the value of our interest-earning assets and our ability to realize gains from the sale of assets and the average life of our interest-earning assets. Interest rates are highly sensitive to many factors, including governmental monetary and tax policies, domestic and international economic and political considerations, and other factors beyond our control. We employ the use of correlated hedging strategies to limit the effects of changes in interest rates on our operations, including engaging in interest rate swaps to minimize our exposure to changes in interest rates. There can be no assurance that we will be able to adequately protect against the foregoing risks or that we will ultimately realize an economic benefit from any hedging contract into which we enter.

S-34

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Changes in management judgment, estimates and assumptions could have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements. Management has the obligation to ensure that its policies and methodologies are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. During 2003, management reviewed and evaluated its critical accounting policies and believes them to be appropriate. Our accounting policies are described in Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements. The following is a summary of our accounting policies that we believe are those most likely to be affected by management judgments, estimates and assumptions.

SECURITIES AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE

We have designated our investments in CMBS and certain other securities as available-for-sale. Available-for-sale securities are carried at estimated fair value with the net unrealized gains or losses reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income/(loss) in shareholders' equity. Many of

these investments are relatively illiquid and their values must be estimated by management. In making these estimates, management utilizes market prices provided by dealers who make markets in these securities, but may, under certain circumstances, adjust these valuations based on management's judgment. Changes in the valuations do not affect our reported income or cash flows, but impact shareholders' equity and, accordingly, book value per share.

Management must also assess whether unrealized losses on securities reflect a decline in value that is other than temporary and, accordingly, write-down the impaired security to its fair value, through a charge to earnings. We have assessed our securities to first determine whether there is an indication of possible other than temporary impairment and then where an indication exists to determine if other than temporary impairment did in fact exist. We expect a full recovery from our securities and did not recognize any other than temporary impairment. Significant judgment of management is required in this analysis that includes, but is not limited to, making assumptions regarding the collectibility of the principal and interest, net of related expenses, on the underlying loans.

Income on these securities available-for-sale is recognized based upon a number of assumptions that are subject to uncertainties and contingencies. Examples of these include, among other things, the rate and timing of expected principal payments, including prepayments, repurchases, defaults and liquidations, the pass-through or coupon rate and interest rate fluctuations. Additional factors that may affect our reported interest income on our mortgage-backed securities include interest payment shortfalls due to delinquencies on the underlying mortgage loans and the timing and magnitude of credit losses on the mortgage loans underlying the securities that are a result of the general condition of the real estate market, including competition for tenants and their related credit quality, and changes in market rental rates. These uncertainties and contingencies are difficult to predict and are subject to future events which may alter our assumptions.

We adopted Emerging Issues Task Force 99-20, "Recognition of Interest Income and Impairment on Purchased and Retained Beneficial Interests in Securitized Financial Assets" on January 1, 2001. In accordance with this guidance, on a quarterly basis, when significant changes in estimated cash flows from the cash flows previously estimated occur due to actual prepayment and credit loss experience, we calculate a revised yield based on the current amortized cost of the investment, including any other than temporary impairments recognized to date, and the revised cash flows. The revised yield is then applied prospectively to recognize interest income.

Prior to January 1, 2001, we recognized income from these beneficial interests using the effective interest method, based on an anticipated yield over the projected life of the security. Changes in the anticipated yields were calculated due to revisions in our estimates of future and actual credit losses and prepayments. Changes in anticipated yields resulting from credit loss and prepayment revisions were recognized through a cumulative catch-up adjustment at the date of the change which reflected the change in income from the security from the date of purchase through the date of change in the anticipated yield. The new yield was then used prospectively to account for interest income. Changes in yields from reduced estimates of losses were recognized prospectively.

S-35

LOANS RECEIVABLE

We purchase and originate commercial mortgage and mezzanine loans to be held as long-term investments. Management must periodically evaluate each of these

loans for possible impairment. Impairment is indicated when it is deemed probable that we will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the contract terms of the loan. If a loan is determined to be permanently impaired, we would write-down the loan through a charge to the reserve for possible credit losses. Given the nature of our loan portfolio and the underlying commercial real estate collateral, significant judgment of management is required in determining permanent impairment and the resulting charge to the reserve which includes, but is not limited to, making assumptions regarding the value of the real estate which secures the mortgage loan.

IMPAIRMENT OF SECURITIES

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 115, when the estimated fair value of a security classified as available-for-sale has been below amortized cost for a significant period of time and we conclude that we no longer have the ability or intent to hold the security for the period of time over which we expect the values to recover to amortized cost, the investment is written-down to its fair value. The resulting charge is included in income, and a new cost basis established. Additionally, under Emerging Issues Task Force 99-20, when significant changes in estimated cash flows from the cash flows previously estimated occur due to actual prepayment and credit loss experience and the present value of the revised cash flows using the current expected yield is less than the present value of the previously estimated remaining cash flows, adjusted for cash receipts during the intervening period, an other than temporary impairment is deemed to have occurred. Accordingly, the security is written down to fair value with the resulting change being included in income and a new cost basis established. In both instances, the original discount or premium is written-off when the new cost basis is established.

After taking into account the effect of the impairment charge, income is recognized under Emerging Issues Task Force 99-20 or Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 91, as applicable, using the market yield for the security used in establishing the write-down.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

The most significant sources of our revenue come from our lending operations. For our lending operations, we reflect income using the effective yield method, which recognizes periodic income over the expected term of the investment on a constant yield basis. We believe our revenue recognition policies are appropriate to reflect the substance of the underlying transactions.

PROVISION FOR LOAN LOSSES

Our accounting policies require that an allowance for estimated credit losses be reflected in our financial statements based upon an evaluation of known and inherent risks in our mortgage and mezzanine loans. While we have experienced minimal actual losses on our lending investments, we consider it prudent to reflect provisions for loan losses on a portfolio basis based upon our assessment of general market conditions, our internal risk management policies and credit risk rating system, industry loss experience, our assessment of the likelihood of delinquencies or defaults, and the value of the collateral underlying our investments. Actual losses, if any, could ultimately differ from these estimates.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

We utilize derivative financial instruments as a means to help to manage our interest rate risk exposure on a portion of our variable rate debt obligations

through the use of cash flow hedges. The instruments utilized are generally either pay fixed swaps or LIBOR-based interest rate caps, which are widely used in the industry and typically entered into with major financial institutions. Our accounting policies generally reflect these instruments at their fair value with unrealized changes in fair value reflected in "Accumulated other comprehensive income" on our consolidated balance sheets. Realized effects on cash flows are generally recognized currently in income. In December 2002, we entered into two new cash flow hedge contracts. The

S - 36

following table summarizes the notional value and fair value of our derivative financial instruments at March 31, 2004:

HEDGE	TYPE	NOTIONAL VALUE	INTERES RATE
Swap	Cash Flow Hedge	\$85,000,000	4.2425
Swap	Cash Flow Hedge	24,000,000	4.2325

On December 31, 2003, the derivative financial instruments were reported at their fair value as interest rate hedge assets and the increase in the fair value of the cash flow swaps of \$168,000 was deferred into other comprehensive loss and will be released to earnings over the remaining lives of the swaps. We believe the amount of the hedges' ineffectiveness is immaterial and, therefore, it is reported as a component of interest expense.

INCOME TAXES

Our financial results generally do not reflect provisions for current or deferred income taxes on our REIT taxable income. We believe that we have and intend to continue to operate in a manner that will continue to allow us to be taxed as a REIT and, as a result, we do not expect to pay substantial corporate-level taxes (other than taxes payable by our taxable REIT subsidiaries). Many of the REIT requirements, however, are highly technical and complex. If we were to fail to meet these requirements, we would be subject to federal income tax.

NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In September 2000, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 140, "Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities." This statement is applicable for transfers of assets and extinguishments of liabilities occurring after June 30, 2001. We adopted the provisions of this statement as required for all transactions entered into on or after January 1, 2001. Our adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 140 did not have a significant impact on us.

On January 1, 2001, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," as amended by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 137 and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities." Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, as amended, establishes accounting and reporting standards for derivative instruments. Specifically, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133 requires an entity to recognize all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets and to measure those

instruments at fair value. Additionally, the fair value adjustments will affect either shareholders' equity or net income depending on whether the derivative instrument qualifies as a hedge for accounting purposes and, if so, the nature of the hedging activity. As of January 1, 2001, the adoption of the new standard resulted in an adjustment of \$574,000 to accumulated other comprehensive loss.

In the case of the fair value hedge, we hedged the component of interest rate risk that can be directly controlled by the hedging instrument, and it is this portion of the hedge assets that was being recognized in earnings. Mark to market on non-hedged available for sale securities and the non-hedged aspect of CMBS are reported in accumulated other comprehensive income. Financial reporting for hedges characterized as fair value hedges and cash flow hedges are different. For those hedges characterized as a fair value hedge, the changes in fair value of the hedge and the hedged item are reflected in earnings each quarter. In the case of the fair value hedge, we hedged the component of interest rate risk that can be directly controlled by the hedging instrument, and it was this portion of the hedged assets that is recognized in earnings. The non-hedged balance is classified as an availablefor-sale security consistent with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 115, and was reported in accumulated other comprehensive income. For those hedges characterized as cash flow hedges, the unrealized gains/losses in the fair value of these hedges were reported on the balance sheet with a corresponding adjustment to either accumulated other comprehensive income or to earnings, depending on the type of hedging relationship. We discontinued our fair value hedge

S - 37

transaction in 2002. In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, on December 31, 2003, the derivative financial instruments were reported at their fair value as interest rate hedge assets of \$168,000.

We are exposed to credit loss in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to the interest rate swap and cap agreements, although we do not anticipate such non-performance. The counterparties would bear the interest rate risk of such transactions as market interest rates increase.

In July 2001, the SEC released Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 102, "Selected Loan Loss Allowance and Documentation Issues." Staff Accounting Bulletin 102 summarizes certain of the SEC's views on the development, documentation and application of a systematic methodology for determining allowances for loan and lease losses. Our adoption of Staff Accounting Bulletin 102 did not have a significant financial impact on us.

In July 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141, "Business Combinations" and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141 requires the purchase method of accounting to be used for all business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141 also addresses the initial recognition and measurement of goodwill and other intangible assets acquired in business combinations and requires intangible assets to be recognized apart from goodwill if certain tests are met. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142 requires that goodwill not be amortized, but instead, be measured for impairment at least annually, or when events indicate that there may be an impairment. We adopted the provisions of both statements, as required, on January 1, 2002, which did not have a significant financial impact on us.

In October 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or

Disposal of Long-Lived Assets." Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144 provides new guidance on the recognition of impairment losses on long-lived assets to be held and used or to be disposed of, and also broadens the definition of what constitutes a discontinued operation and how the results of a discontinued operation are to be measured and presented. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144 requires that current operations prior to the disposition of corporate tenant lease assets and prior period results of such operations be presented in discontinued operations in our consolidated statements of operations. The provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144 are effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001, and must be applied at the beginning of a fiscal year. We adopted the provisions of this statement on January 1, 2002, as required, which did not have a significant financial impact on us.

In November 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 45, "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others," an interpretation of Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies, "Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 57, "Related Party Disclosures," Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 107, "Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments" and a rescission of Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 34, "Disclosure of Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others, an Interpretation of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5." It requires that upon issuance of a guarantee, the guarantor must recognize a liability for the fair value of the obligation it assumes under that guarantee regardless of whether the guarantor receives separately identifiable consideration, such as a premium. The new disclosure requirements are effective December 31, 2002. Our adoption of Interpretation No. 45 did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements, nor do we expect that it will have a material impact on us in the future.

In January 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Interpretation No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities," an interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin 51. Interpretation No. 46 provides guidance on identifying entities for which control is achieved through means other than through voting rights, and how to determine when and which business enterprise should consolidate a variable interest entity. In addition, Interpretation No. 46 requires that both the primary beneficiary and all other enterprises with a significant variable interest in a variable interest entity make additional disclosures. The transitional

S-38

disclosure requirements took effect almost immediately and are required for all financial statements initially issued after January 31, 2003. In December 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued a revision of Interpretation No. 46, Interpretation No. 46R, to clarify the provisions of Interpretation No. 46. The application of Interpretation No. 46R is effective for public companies, other than small business issuers, after March 15, 2004. We have evaluated all of our investments and other interests in entities that may be deemed variable interest entities under the provisions of Interpretation No. 46 and have concluded that no additional entities need to be consolidated.

In evaluating Interpretation No. 46R, we concluded that we could no longer consolidate CT Convertible Trust I, the entity which had purchased our step up convertible junior subordinated debentures and issued company-obligated, mandatory redeemable, convertible trust common and preferred securities. Capital Trust, Inc. had issued the convertible junior subordinated debentures and had purchased the convertible trust common securities. The consolidation

of CT Convertible Trust I resulted in the elimination of both the convertible junior subordinated debentures and the convertible trust common securities with the convertible trust preferred securities being reported on our balance sheet after liabilities but before equity and the related expense being reported on the income statement below income taxes and net of income tax benefits. After the deconsolidation, we report the convertible junior subordinated debentures as liabilities and the convertible trust common securities as other assets. The expense from the payment of interest on the debentures is reported as interest and related expenses on convertible junior subordinated debentures and the income received from our investment in the common securities is reported as a component of interest and related income. We have elected to restate prior periods for the application of Interpretation 46R. The restatement was effected by a cumulative type change in accounting principle on January 1, 2002. There was no change to previously reported net income as a result of such restatement.

In May 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 150 "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of both Liabilities and Equity". This statement establishes standards for the classification and measurement of certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. The statement is effective for financial instruments entered into and modified after May 31, 2003 and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. It is to be implemented by reporting the cumulative effect of a change in an accounting principle of financial instruments created before the issuance date of the statement and still existing at the beginning of the interim period of adoption. The implementation of the statement did not have a material impact on us.

S - 39

BUSINESS

OVERVIEW

We are a fully integrated, self-managed finance and investment management company that specializes in originating and managing credit-sensitive structured financial products. Our investment programs are executed directly for our own account and for third-party funds that we manage. Through June 30, 2004, our activities have been focused exclusively in the commercial real estate mezzanine market where we have originated, both directly and on behalf of our managed funds, over \$3.6 billion of investments since 1997 and established ourselves as a leader in that sector. We are organized and conduct our operations to qualify as a real estate investment trust, or REIT, for federal income tax purposes and generally will not be subject to federal income tax if we comply with the applicable income, asset, distribution and organizational requirements of a REIT.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

During fiscal year 2003, we began to conduct our operations to qualify as a REIT and will elect REIT status when we file our federal tax return for 2003 in the fourth quarter of 2004. With our decision to elect to be taxed as a REIT requiring us to distribute substantially all of our taxable income, we began paying dividends on our class A common stock in the first quarter of 2003 and have paid quarterly dividends of \$0.45 per share since then.

With the expiration of the Fund II investment period in April 2003, we resumed our balance sheet investment program. During 2003, we originated or purchased loans and securities for our balance sheet totaling \$156.1 million.

From January 1, 2004 to June 30, 2004, we originated or acquired for our balance sheet \$83.5 million of investments.

On June 2, 2003, Fund III effected its initial closing on equity commitments and on August 8, 2003 its final closing, raising a total of \$425.0 million in equity commitments. From the initial closing through March 31, 2004, we have made equity investments in Fund III of \$4.0 million and have capitalized costs totaling \$914,000, which are being amortized over the remaining anticipated life of Fund III. As of March 31, 2004, Fund III had closed eleven investments, totaling \$319.5 million, of which \$268.4 million remains outstanding at March 31, 2004. From March 31, 2004 to June 30, 2004, we have originated or purchased \$202.0 million of loans for Fund III.

On May 11, 2004, we closed on the initial tranche of a direct public offering to Berkley. We issued 1,310,000 shares of our class A common stock and stock purchase warrants to purchase 365,000 shares of our class A common stock for a total purchase price of \$30.7 million. On June 21, 2004, we closed on the second tranche of the direct public offering and issued an additional 325,000 shares of our class A common stock for a total purchase price of \$7.6 million. The warrants have an exercise price of \$23.40 per share and expire on December 31, 2004. Pursuant to a director designation right granted to Berkley, we appointed Joshua A. Polan to our board of directors.

In June and July of 2004, CT Investment Management Co. was approved as a Special Servicer by Fitch Ratings, Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service. These approvals allow CT Investment Management Co. to act as a named Special Servicer for CMBS and B Note investments. As Special Servicer, CT Investment Management Co. will increase the control it has in managing certain portions of its portfolio while potentially generating additional fee income. Approval from the agencies was based upon, among other things, our experience in managing and working out problem assets, our established asset management policies and procedures and our technology systems. We believe our ability to be a Special Servicer improves the asset management of our existing portfolio, and facilitates our planned increase in our CMBS and B Note investment activity.

On July 20, 2004, we closed a \$320.8 million issue of collateralized debt obligations, commonly known as CDOs, that have been privately offered to institutional investors. In connection with the issuance of the CDOs, we closed on the following related transactions:

S-40

- o we purchased a \$251.2 million portfolio of floating rate B Notes and mezzanine loans from GMAC Commercial Mortgage Corporation;
- o we contributed those assets, along with \$72.9 million of B Notes, mezzanine loans and subordinate CMBS from our own portfolio, to Capital Trust RE CDO 2004-1 Ltd, our wholly-owned subsidiary that we call the Issuer:
- o the Issuer issued \$320.8 million of floating rate CDOs secured by the Issuer's assets;
- o the Issuer sold all of the \$252.8 million of CDOs that are rated investment grade to third-party investors; and
- o we acquired and retained all of the \$68.1 million of unrated and below investment grade rated notes in addition to ownership of all of the Issuer's \$3.2 million of equity.

Taken together, we refer to these related transactions as the CDO-1 transaction.

We will consolidate the Issuer into our financial statements, with the entity's investments shown as loans receivable and the investment grade notes held by third-parties shown as direct liabilities on our balance sheet. As a result of the CDO-1 transaction, our balance sheet assets increased by \$251.2 million and we recorded \$252.8 million of CDOs as liabilities at the time of the closing.

The GMAC Commercial Mortgage assets comprise 40 floating rate B Notes and one mezzanine loan with an aggregate balance of \$251.2 million. The assets contributed by us consist of seven B Notes, mezzanine loans and subordinate CMBS with an aggregate balance of \$72.9 million. Together, the Issuer's initial portfolio represents a combination of large-and small-balance commercial real estate mezzanine investments, ranging in size from \$575,489 to \$31.9 million with an average balance of \$6.8 million and a weighted average remaining contractual life of 19.9 months. Excluding CMBS, senior mortgage debt secured by the underlying properties totals \$1.7 billion and the initial portfolio has a weighted average last dollar loan-to-value ratio of 68.2% based on third-party appraisals. All the assets but one are floating rate, with a weighted average rate of LIBOR plus 4.59%.

The Issuer issued 10 classes of CDOs that are rated AAA to NR with a total face amount of \$320.8 million of which nine classes mature in July 2039 and one class matures in July 2019. The governing documents provide for a four year reinvestment period, commencing on July 20, 2004, during which principal proceeds from the repayment, amortization and sale of assets may be reinvested in qualifying replacement B Notes, mezzanine loans and subordinate CMBS based upon criteria agreed upon with the rating agencies. In certain circumstances, including the failure of interest coverage and over-collateralization tests, reinvestment may be suspended and principal proceeds will be used to amortize the CDOs sequentially in order of seniority until the Issuer or its collateral is brought back into compliance with the applicable test(s). Subsequent to the end of the reinvestment period, principal proceeds will be directed to repay the senior-most class of CDOs outstanding at that time. The CDOs are callable at par at our option as the holder of the entire equity in the Issuer commencing two years after July 20, 2004. The weighted average rate on the investment grade CDOs is LIBOR plus 0.62%.

The CDO-1 transaction provides us with a number of significant benefits including:

- o increasing our balance sheet interest earning assets by \$251.2 million, a 61% increase compared to March 31, 2004;
- o creating long-term, non-recourse financing at an all-in borrowing cost that is significantly lower than our existing sources of debt capital;
- o obtaining long term, floating rate financing that matches both the interest rate index and duration of our assets;

S-41

- o extending the useful life of the financing through a four year reinvestment period during which principal proceeds from the initial CDO assets can be reinvested in qualifying replacement assets; and
- o establishing us as a CDO issuer and collateral manager, which we believe will facilitate our issuance of additional CDOs in the future.

PLATFORM

We are a fully integrated, self-managed company that, as of June 30, 2004, has 23 full-time employees, all based in New York City. Our senior management team has an average of 18 years of experience in the fields of real estate, credit, capital markets and structured finance. Around this team of professionals, we have developed a platform to originate and manage portfolios of credit-sensitive structured products. Founded on our long-standing relationships with borrowers, brokers and first mortgage providers, our extensive origination network produces multiple investment opportunities from which we select only those transactions that we believe exhibit a compelling risk/return profile. Once a transaction that meets our parameters is identified, we apply a disciplined process founded on four elements:

- o intense credit underwriting;
- o creative financial structuring;
- o efficient use of leverage; and
- o aggressive asset management.

The first element, and the foundation of our past and future success, is our expertise in credit underwriting. For each prospective investment, an in-house underwriting team is assigned to perform a ground-up analysis of all aspects of credit risk. Our rigorous underwriting process is embodied in our proprietary credit policies and procedures that detail the due diligence steps from initial client contact through closing. Input and approval is required from our finance, capital markets, credit and legal teams, as well as from various third-parties including our credit providers.

Creative financial structuring is the second critical element in our process. Based upon our underwriting, we strive to create a customized structure for each investment that has the necessary real estate credit, interest rate and other applicable protections while meeting the varying needs of our borrowers and partners. We believe our demonstrated ability to structure solutions for our customers gives us a distinct competitive advantage in our market place.

The prudent use of leverage is the third integral element of our platform. Leverage can increase returns on equity and enhance portfolio diversification, but can also increase risk. We control this financial risk by actively managing our capital structure, seeking to match the duration and interest rate index of our assets and liabilities and, where appropriate, employing hedging instruments such as interest rate swaps, caps and other interest rate exchange agreements. Our objective is to minimize interest rate risk and optimize the difference between the yield on our assets and the cost of our liabilities to create net interest spread. We pursue innovative debt financing alternatives, such as our use of collateralized debt obligations to finance our balance sheet investments, to achieve our objectives.

The final element of our platform is aggressive asset management. We pride ourselves on our active style of managing our portfolios. From closing an investment through its final repayment, our dedicated asset management team is in constant contact with our borrowers, monitoring performance of the collateral and enforcing our rights as necessary. Our designation as a rated Special Servicer will allow us to exercise more direct control over certain of our CMBS and B Note investments.

By adhering to these four key elements that define our platform, from July 1997 through June 30, 2004, we have originated over \$3.6 billion of real estate-related investments in 123 separate transactions, both directly and on

behalf of our managed funds, and limited the loss experience of our investment portfolios to less than 1.0%.

S - 42

BUSINESS MODEL

Our business model is designed to produce a unique mix of net interest spread from our balance sheet investments and fee income from our investment management operations. Our goal is to deliver a stable, growing stream of earnings from these two complementary activities.

Our current balance sheet investment program focuses on structured commercial real estate debt investments, including B Notes, subordinate CMBS, and small-balance (under \$15 million) mezzanine loans. As of March 31, 2004, our interest-earning balance sheet assets (excluding cash, fund investments and other assets) totaled \$407.4 million and had a weighted average unleveraged yield of 8.8%. Our interest-bearing liabilities as of that date, including the convertible junior subordinated debentures, total \$351.4 million and had a weighted average interest rate cost of 4.8%.

We currently manage two private equity funds, CT Mezzanine Partners II LP and CT Mezzanine Partners III, Inc. Both funds were formed to specialize in making large-balance commercial real estate mezzanine loans. Fund II made \$1.2 billion of investments in 40 separate transactions during its contractual investment period that commenced in April 2001 and ended in April 2003. As of March 31, 2004, Fund II's remaining investments aggregate \$432.9 million, all of which were performing. Fund III held its initial closing in June 2003 and its final closing in August 2003, raising a total of \$425 million of committed equity capital. With leverage, we expect to make over \$1 billion of investments during Fund III's investment period, which expires in June of 2005. We have made co-investments in Fund II and Fund III, and our whollyowned taxable REIT subsidiary, CT Investment Management Co., is the manager of both funds. In addition to our pro-rata share of income as a co-investor, we earn base management fees and performance-oriented incentive management fees from each fund. We allocate commercial real estate investment opportunities to Fund III that meet the fund's duration, size and leveraged return parameters. Our investment management activities are described further under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations".

We operate our business to qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes. Our primary objective in deciding to elect REIT status was to pay dividends to our shareholders on a tax-efficient basis. We manage our balance sheet investments to produce a portfolio that meets the asset and income tests necessary to maintain our REIT qualification and otherwise conduct our investment management business through our wholly-owned subsidiary, CT Investment Management Co., which is subject to federal income tax.

INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

Since 1997, our investment programs have focused on various strategies designed to take advantage of investment opportunities that have developed in the commercial real estate mezzanine sector. These investment opportunities have been created largely by the evolution and growing importance of securitization in the real estate capital markets. With approximately \$2.1 trillion outstanding as of 2003, U.S. commercial real estate debt is a large and dynamic market that had traditionally been dominated by institutional lenders such as banks, insurance companies and thrifts making first mortgage loans for retention in their own portfolios. Securitized debt has captured an increasing share of this market, growing from less than 5% of the total amount

outstanding in 1990 to approximately 18% by year-end 2003. More important, according to industry estimates, CMBS now accounts for roughly 40% of annual new originations with domestic CMBS issuance in 2003 exceeding \$77.9 billion. In addition, many traditional lenders have adopted CMBS standards in their portfolio lending programs, further extending the influence of securitization in the market.

The essence of securitization is risk segmentation, whereby whole mortgage loans (or pools of loans) are split into multiple classes and sold to different buyers based on their risk tolerance and return requirements. The most senior classes, which have the lowest risk and therefore the lowest return, are rated investment grade (AAA through BBB-) by the credit rating agencies. The junior classes, which are subordinate to the senior debt but senior to the owner/operator's common equity investment, command a higher yield. These "mezzanine" tranches may carry sub-investment grade ratings or no rating at all.

S-43

Depending on our assessment of relative value, our real estate mezzanine investments may take a variety of forms including:

- o Property Mezzanine Loans -- These are secured property loans that are subordinate to a first mortgage loan, but senior to the owner's equity. A mezzanine loan is evidenced by its own promissory note and is typically made to the owner of the property-owning entity, which is typically the senior loan borrower. It is not secured by the first mortgage on the property, but by a pledge of the mezzanine borrower's ownership interest in the property-owning entity. Subject to negotiated contractual restrictions, the mezzanine lender has the right, following foreclosure, to become the sole indirect owner of the property, subject to the lien of the first mortgage.
- o B Notes -- These are loans evidenced by a junior participation in a first mortgage against one or more properties; the senior participation is known as an A Note. Although a B Note may be evidenced by its own promissory note, it shares a single borrower and mortgage with the A Note and is secured by the same collateral. B Note lenders have the same obligations, collateral and borrower as the A Note lender and in most instances are contractually limited in rights and remedies in the case of a default. The B Note is subordinate to the A Note by virtue of a contractual arrangement between the A Note lender and the B Note lender. For the B Note lender to actively pursue a full range of remedies, it must, in most instances, purchase the A Note.
- o Subordinate CMBS -- These commercial mortgage-backed securities are the junior classes of securitized pools of multiple first mortgage loans. Cash flows from the underlying mortgages are aggregated and allocated to the different classes in accordance with their priority ranking, typically ranging from the AAA rated through the unrated, first-loss tranche. Administration and management of the pool are performed by a trustee and servicers, who act on behalf of all holders in accordance with contractual agreements. Our investments generally represent the subordinated tranches ranging from the BBB rated through the unrated class.
- o Corporate Mezzanine Loans -- These are investments in or loans to real estate-related operating companies, including REITs. Such investments may take the form of secured debt, preferred stock and other hybrid instruments such as convertible debt. Corporate mezzanine loans may finance, among other things, operations, mergers and acquisitions,

management buy-outs, recapitalizations, start-ups and stock buy-backs generally involving real estate and real estate-related entities.

o First Mortgage Loans -- These are secured property loans evidenced by a first mortgage which is senior to any mezzanine financing and the owner's equity. These loans are typically bridge loans for equity holders who require interim financing until permanent financing can be obtained. Our first mortgage loans are generally not intended to be permanent in nature, but rather are intended to be of a relatively short duration, with extension options as deemed appropriate, and typically require a balloon payment of principal at maturity. We may also originate and fund first mortgage loans in which we intend to sell the senior tranche, thereby creating a property mezzanine loan.

We finance single properties, multiple property portfolios and operating companies, with our investment typically representing the portion of the capital structure ranging between 50% and 85% of underlying collateral value. Our objective is to create portfolios which are diversified by investment format, property type and geographic market. The following graphs illustrate the diversification achieved from July 1997 through June 30, 2004 in the origination of our investment portfolios.

S-44

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

PROPERTY TYPE

Office	41%
Hotel	19%
Retail	17%
Multifamily	6%
Other	3%
Mixed Use	14%

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Northeast	38%
Southeast	14%
Southwest	7%
West	18%
Midwest	3%
Diversified	20%

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

INVESTMENT TYPE

Property Mezzanine	54%
Corporate Mezzanine	12%
First Mortgage	9%
CMBS	17%
B Note	8%

If carefully underwritten and structured, we believe that portfolios of real

estate mezzanine investments can produce attractive risk-adjusted returns when compared to both senior debt and direct equity ownership.

BUSINESS PLAN

Our business strategy is to continue to grow our balance sheet investments and our third-party assets under management. We expect the growth of our business to be driven primarily by the following activities:

S - 45

- o we will continue to make commercial real estate mezzanine investments for our balance sheet;
- o we will expand our investment management business through additional offerings of subsequent CT Mezzanine Partners funds; and
- o we may pursue other balance sheet and investment management businesses that leverage our core skills in credit underwriting and financial structuring.

COMPETITION

We are engaged in a highly competitive business. We compete for loan and investment opportunities with numerous public and private real estate investment vehicles, including financial institutions, mortgage banks, pension funds, opportunity funds, REITs and other institutional investors, as well as individuals. Many competitors are significantly larger than us, have well-established operating histories and may have greater access to capital and other resources. In addition, the investment management industry is highly competitive and there are numerous well-established competitors possessing substantially greater financial, marketing, personnel and other resources than us. We compete with other investment management companies in attracting capital for funds under management.

GOVERNMENT REGULATION

Our activities, including the financing of our operations, are subject to a variety of federal and state regulations. In addition, a majority of states have ceilings on interest rates chargeable to certain customers in financing transactions.

EMPLOYEES

As of June 30, 2004, we had 23 full-time employees. None of our employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement and we consider the relationship with our employees to be good.

PROPERTIES

Our principal executive and administrative offices are located in approximately 11,885 square feet of office space leased at 410 Park Avenue, 14th Floor, New York, New York 10022 and our telephone number is (212) 655-0220. The lease for such space expires in June 2008. We believe that this office space is suitable for our current operations for the foreseeable future.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are not a party to any material litigation or legal proceedings, or to our knowledge, any threatened litigation or legal proceedings, which, in our

opinion, individually or in the aggregate, would have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

S - 46

FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following is a discussion of the material United States federal income tax considerations associated with our decision to elect to be taxed as a REIT and with the ownership of our class A common stock. The following discussion is not exhaustive of all possible tax considerations that may be relevant to the REIT election or with the ownership of our class A common stock. Moreover, the discussion contained herein does not address all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to you in light of your personal tax circumstances, including, for example, certain types of shareholders subject to special treatment under federal income tax laws, including insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, except to the extent discussed under the caption "Taxation of Tax-Exempt Shareholders", financial institutions, broker-dealers, and foreign corporations and persons who are not citizens or residents of the United States, except to the extent discussed under the caption "Taxation of Non-U.S. Shareholders".

The statements in this discussion are based upon, and qualified in their entirety by, current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, existing, temporary, and currently-proposed, Treasury Regulations promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code, existing administrative rulings and practices of the Internal Revenue Service and judicial decisions. We cannot give you any assurances that future legislative, administrative or judicial actions or decisions, which may be retroactive in effect, will not affect the accuracy of any of the statements contained herein.

You are urged to consult your own tax advisor regarding the specific tax consequences to you of the ownership and sale of stock in an entity electing to be taxed as a real estate investment trust, including the federal, state, local, foreign and other tax consequences of such ownership and sale, as well as potential changes in the applicable tax laws. This summary is based on the facts and applicable law as of the date hereof.

TAX CONSEQUENCES OF REIT ELECTION

Prior to January 1, 2003, all of our income was subject to income taxes that we paid, and our shareholders recognized income only to the extent that we paid a dividend from current or accumulated earnings and profits. Following the election, we generally will be taxable only on our undistributed income, and our shareholders generally will be taxable on the income distributed to them. However, because the operations of our wholly-owned subsidiary, CT Investment Management Co., are of a nature and scope that would cause us to fail to qualify as a real estate investment trust, it will be treated and operate as a taxable REIT subsidiary. As a result, CT Investment Management Co. will be directly taxed on its income, so that only its after-tax income will be available for reinvestment or for distribution to our shareholders. In general, any of the after-tax income of CT Investment Management Co. distributed to our shareholders will be includable in our shareholders' taxable income and will be subject to a second level of tax. We may own an interest in one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries, in addition to CT Investment Management Co.

In accordance with our decision to be taxed as a REIT, we will make a formal election to be so taxed under Section 856 of the Internal Revenue Code, commencing with our taxable year beginning January 1, 2003. The sections of

the Internal Revenue Code and Treasury Regulations applicable to qualification and operation as a real estate investment trust are technical and complex. Although we believe that we will be organized and will operate in a manner necessary to satisfy the requirements for taxation as a real estate investment trust under the Internal Revenue Code, many of which are discussed below, we cannot assure you that the REIT will be able to so operate for all periods following the election.

TAXATION OF A REIT

If we qualify as a real estate investment trust, the REIT generally will not be subject to federal corporate income taxes on net income currently distributed to shareholders. The benefit of this tax treatment is that it substantially eliminates the "double taxation" resulting from the taxation at both the corporate and shareholder levels that generally results from owning stock in a corporation. Accordingly, income generated

S = 47

by us generally will be subject to taxation solely at the shareholder level upon distribution. We will, however, be required to pay certain federal income taxes, including in the following circumstances:

- o We will be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates on taxable income, including net capital gain, that we do not distribute to shareholders during, or within a specified time period after, the calendar year in which such income is earned.
- o We will be subject to the "alternative minimum tax" on our undistributed items of tax preference.
- o We will be subject to a 100% tax on net income from certain sales or other dispositions of property that we hold primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business (known as "prohibited transactions").
- o If we fail to satisfy the 75% gross income test or the 95% gross income test, both described below, but nevertheless qualify as a real estate investment trust, we will be subject to a 100% tax on an amount equal to the gross income attributable to the greater of the amount by which we fail the 75% or 95% gross income test multiplied by a fraction intended to reflect our profitability.
- o If we have net income from the sale or other disposition of "foreclosure property," which is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business, or other nonqualifying income from foreclosure property, we will be required to pay tax at the highest corporate rate on this income. In general, foreclosure property is property acquired through foreclosure after a default on a loan secured by the property or on a lease of the property.
- o If we acquire an asset from a corporation which is not a REIT in a transaction in which the basis of the asset in our hands is determined by reference to the basis of the asset in the hands of the transferor corporation, and we subsequently sell the asset within ten years, then under Treasury Regulations, we would be required to pay tax at the highest regular corporate tax rate on this gain to the extent the fair market value of the asset exceeds our adjusted tax basis in the asset, in each case, determined as of the date on which we acquired the asset. The results described in this paragraph assume that we will elect this treatment in lieu of an immediate tax when the asset is acquired. We will also be subject to such tax liability for all of our assets that were

held as of January 1, 2003.

- o We will generally be subject to tax on the portion of any "excess inclusion" income derived from an investment in residual interests in real estate mortgage investment conduits to the extent our stock is held by specified tax exempt organizations not subject to tax on unrelated business taxable income.
- o If we fail to distribute during the calendar year at least the sum of (i) 85% of our real estate investment trust ordinary income for such year, (ii) 95% of our real estate investment trust capital gain net income for such year, and (iii) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, we will pay a 4% excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the amount actually distributed to shareholders.
- o We may elect to retain and pay income tax on some or all of our long-term capital gain, as described below.
- o We may be subject to a 100% excise tax on transactions with our taxable REIT subsidiary not conducted on an arm's-length basis.

REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFICATION AS A REIT

INTRODUCTION

In order to qualify as a real estate investment trust for federal income tax purposes, we must elect to be treated as a REIT and must satisfy certain statutory tests relating to, among other things, sources of our income, the nature of our assets, the amount of our distributions, and the ownership of our stock.

S-48

The Internal Revenue Code defines a REIT as a corporation, trust or association:

- (1) that is managed by one or more trustees or directors;
- (2) that issues transferable shares or transferable certificates of beneficial ownership to its owners;
- (3) that would be taxable as a regular corporation, but for its election to be taxed as a REIT;
- (4) that is not a financial institution or an insurance company under the Internal Revenue Code;
- (5) that is owned by 100 or more persons;
- (6) in which not more than 50% in value of the outstanding stock is owned, actually or constructively, by five or fewer individuals, as defined in the Internal Revenue Code to include some entities, during the last half of each year; and
- (7) that meets other tests, described below, regarding the nature of its income and assets, and the amount of its distributions.

The Internal Revenue Code provides that conditions (1) to (4) above must be met during the entire year and that condition (5) above must be met during at least 335 days of a year of twelve months, or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year. Conditions (5) and (6) above do not apply to the first

taxable year for which an election is made to be taxed as a REIT.

Our amended and restated charter provides for restrictions regarding ownership and transfer of our stock. These restrictions are intended to assist us in satisfying the share ownership requirements described in conditions (5) and (6) above. These stock ownership and transfer restrictions are described in the company prospectus under the caption "Description of Capital Stock -- Certain Provisions of Maryland Law and Our Charter and Bylaws -- REIT Qualification Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer." These restrictions, however, may not ensure that we will, in all cases, be able to satisfy the share ownership requirements described in conditions (5) and (6) above. If we fail to satisfy these share ownership requirements, our status as a REIT would terminate. If, however, we comply with the rules contained in applicable Treasury Regulations that require us to determine the actual ownership of our shares and we do not know, or would not have known through the exercise of reasonable diligence, that we failed to meet the requirement described in condition (6) above, we would not be disqualified as a REIT.

In addition, a corporation may not qualify as a REIT unless its taxable year is the calendar year. We have and will continue to have a calendar taxable year.

A corporation that is a "qualified REIT subsidiary" is not treated as a corporation separate from its parent real estate investment trust for federal income tax purposes. All assets, liabilities and items of income, deduction, and credit of a qualified REIT subsidiary are treated as the assets, liabilities and items of income, deduction and credit of the real estate investment trust. A qualified REIT subsidiary is a corporation, all of the capital stock of which is owned by a real estate investment trust and for which no election has been made to treat it as a "taxable REIT subsidiary" as discussed below. Thus, in applying the requirements described in this section, any qualified REIT subsidiary that we may own in the future will be ignored and all assets, liabilities and items of income, deduction and credit of such subsidiary will be treated as our assets, liabilities, and items of income, deduction and credit.

A REIT will be deemed to own its proportionate share (based upon its share of the capital of the partnership) of the assets of a partnership in which it is a partner and will be deemed to be entitled to the income of the partnership attributable to such share. In addition, the assets and income of the partnership attributed to a REIT shall retain their same character as in the hands of the partnership for purposes of determining whether the REIT satisfied the income and asset tests described below.

A real estate investment trust may own up to 100% of the stock of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries. A taxable REIT subsidiary may earn income that would not be REIT qualifying income, as

S-49

described below, if earned directly by the parent real estate investment trust. Both the subsidiary and the real estate investment trust must jointly elect to treat the subsidiary as a taxable REIT subsidiary. Overall, not more than 20% of the value of the real estate investment trust's assets may consist of securities of one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries. A taxable REIT subsidiary will pay tax at regular corporate rates on any income that it earns. There is a 100% excise tax imposed on transactions involving a taxable REIT subsidiary and its parent real estate investment trust that are not conducted on an arm's-length basis. Our wholly owned subsidiary, CT Investment Management Co. serves as our exclusive manager and subject to the supervision of our board of directors is responsible for our day-to-day operations pursuant to a management agreement. We believe the compensation, expense

reimbursement and other terms of the management agreement are comparable to those that could be obtained from unrelated parties on an arm's-length basis.

We and CT Investment Management Co. have made a taxable REIT subsidiary election with respect to CT Investment Management Co. CT Investment Management Co. will pay corporate income tax on its taxable income and its after-tax net income will be available for reinvestment and for distribution to us as its parent. We may own interests in one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries other than CT Investment Management Co.

INCOME TESTS

General

A REIT must satisfy annually two tests regarding the sources of its gross income in order to maintain its real estate investment trust status. First, at least 75% of a REIT's gross income, excluding gross income from certain "dealer" sales, for each taxable year generally must consist of defined types of income that the REIT derives, directly or indirectly, from investments relating to real property or mortgages on real property or temporary investment income. We refer to this test as the 75% gross income test. Qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test generally includes:

- o interest from debt secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property;
- o "rents from real property" (as defined below);
- o dividends or other distributions on, and gain from the sale of, shares in other real estate investment trusts;
- o gain from the sale or other disposition of real property; and
- o amounts, other than amounts the determination of which depends in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person, received as consideration for entering into agreements to make loans secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property or agreements to purchase or lease real property.

Second, at least 95% of the REIT's gross income, excluding gross income from certain "dealer" sales, for each taxable year generally must consist of income that is qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test, as well as dividends, other types of interest and gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities. We refer to this test as the 95% gross income test.

Interest from Debt Secured by Mortgages on Real Property or on Interests in Real Property

For these purposes, the term "interest" generally does not include any interest of which the amount received depends on the income or profits of any person. An amount will generally not be excluded from the term "interest," however, if such amount is based on a fixed percentage of receipts or sales.

Any amount includable in gross income by us with respect to a regular or residual interest in a real estate mortgage investment conduit, or REMIC, is generally treated as interest on an obligation secured by a mortgage on real property for purposes of the 75% gross income test. If, however, less than 95% of the assets of a real estate mortgage investment conduit consist of real estate assets, we will be treated as receiving

directly our proportionate share of the income of the REMIC, which would generally include non-qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test. In addition, if we receive interest income with respect to a mortgage loan that is secured by both real property and other property and the principal amount of the loan exceeds the fair market value of the real property on the date we purchased the mortgage loan, interest income on the loan will be apportioned between the real property and the other property, which apportionment would cause us to recognize income that is not qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test.

In general, and subject to the exceptions in the preceding paragraph, the interest, original issue discount, and market discount income that we derive from investments in mortgage-backed securities and mortgage loans will be qualifying interest income for purposes of both the 75% and the 95% gross income tests. It is possible, however, that interest income from a mortgage loan may be based in part on the borrower's profits or net income, which would generally disqualify such interest income for purposes of both the 75% and the 95% gross income tests.

We may acquire construction loans or mezzanine loans that have shared appreciation provisions. To the extent interest on a loan is based on the cash proceeds from the sale or value of property, income attributable to such provision would be treated as gain from the sale of the secured property, which generally should qualify for purposes of the 75% and 95% gross income tests. There is some uncertainty as to whether mezzanine loans constitute qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% asset test described below and result in qualifying income for purposes of the 75% gross income test. A Revenue Procedure and private letter rulings issued by the Internal Revenue Service to other taxpayers indicate that, in certain circumstances, mezzanine loans secured by interests in a partnership or limited liability company, substantially all of the assets of which represent interests in real estate, constitute qualifying assets and result in qualifying income. However, we may not rely on private letter rulings issued to other taxpayers. We believe that our mezzanine loans constitute qualifying assets and result in qualifying income. If our mezzanine loans are determined not to constitute qualifying assets and do not result in qualifying income for purposes of these tests, our ability to elect or maintain REIT status will be jeopardized.

We may employ, to the extent consistent with the REIT provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, forms of securitization of our assets under which a "sale" of an interest in a mortgage loan occurs, and a resulting gain or loss is recorded on our balance sheet for accounting purposes at the time of sale. In a "sale" securitization, only the net retained interest in the securitized mortgage loans would remain on our balance sheet. We may elect to conduct certain of our securitization activities, including such sales, through one or more taxable subsidiaries, or through qualified REIT subsidiaries, formed for such purpose. To the extent consistent with the REIT provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, such entities could elect to be taxed as real estate mortgage investment conduits or financial asset securitization investment trusts.

If we fail to satisfy one or both of the 75% or 95% gross income tests for any year, we may still qualify as a REIT if we are entitled to relief under the Internal Revenue Code. Generally, we may be entitled to relief if:

- o our failure to meet the gross income tests was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect;
- o we attach a schedule of the sources of our income to our federal income tax return; and

o any incorrect information on the schedule was not due to fraud with the intent to evade tax.

It is not possible to state whether in all circumstances we would be entitled to rely on these relief provisions. If these relief provisions do not apply to a particular set of circumstances, we would not qualify as a REIT. As discussed above under the caption "--Taxation of a REIT," even if these relief provisions apply, and we retain our status as a REIT, a tax would be imposed with respect to our income that does not meet the gross income tests. We may not always be able to maintain compliance with the gross income tests for REIT qualification despite frequently monitoring our income.

S-51

Foreclosure Property

Net income realized by us from foreclosure property would generally be subject to tax at the maximum federal corporate tax rate. Foreclosure property includes real property and related personal property that is acquired by us through foreclosure following a default on indebtedness owed to us that is secured by the property and for which we make an election to treat the property as foreclosure property.

Prohibited Transaction Income

Any gain realized by us on the sale of any property, other than foreclosure property, held as inventory or otherwise held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business will be prohibited transaction income and subject to a 100% penalty tax. This prohibited transaction income may also adversely affect our ability to satisfy the gross income tests for qualification as a REIT. Whether property is held as inventory or primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of a trade or business depends on all the facts and circumstances surrounding the particular transaction. While the Treasury Regulations provide standards which, if met, would not result in prohibited transaction income, we may not be able to meet these standards in all circumstances.

Hedging Transactions

We may enter into hedging transactions with respect to one or more of our assets or liabilities. Our hedging transactions could take a variety of forms, including interest rate swaps or cap agreements, options, futures contracts, forward rate agreements or similar financial instruments. To the extent that we enter into hedging transactions to reduce our interest rate risk on indebtedness incurred to acquire or carry real estate assets, any income or gain from the disposition of hedging transactions should be qualifying income for purposes of the 95% gross income test, but not the 75% gross income test.

RENTS FROM REAL PROPERTY

Rent that a REIT receives from real property that it owns and leases to tenants will qualify as "rents from real property" if the following conditions are satisfied:

- o First, the rent must not be based, in whole or in part, on the income or profits of any person. An amount will not fail to qualify as rent from real property solely by reason of being based on a fixed percentage, or percentages, of sales and receipts.
- o Second, neither a REIT nor any direct or indirect owner of 10% or more of its stock may own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the tenant

from which the REIT collects the rent.

- o Third, all of the rent received under a lease will not qualify as rents from real property unless the rent attributable to the personal property leased in connection with the real property constitutes no more than 15% of the total rent received under the lease.
- o Finally, a REIT generally must not operate or manage its real property or furnish or render services to its tenants, other than through an "independent contractor" who is adequately compensated and from whom the REIT does not derive revenue. The REIT may provide services directly, however, if the services are "usually or customarily rendered" in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not otherwise considered rendered "primarily for the occupant's convenience." In addition, the REIT may render, other than through an independent contractor, a de minimis amount of "non-customary" services to the tenants of a property as long as the REIT's income from such services does not exceed 1% of its gross income from the property.

Although no assurances can be given that either of the income tests will be satisfied in any given year, we anticipate that our operations will allow us to meet each of the 75% gross income test and the 95% gross income test. Such belief is premised in large part on our expectation that substantially all of the amounts received by us will qualify as interest from debt secured by mortgages on real property or on interests in real property.

S-52

ASSET TESTS

A REIT also must satisfy the following four tests relating to the nature of its assets at the close of each quarter of its taxable year:

- o First, at least 75% of the value of a REIT's total assets must consist of cash or cash items, including receivables, government securities, "real estate assets," or qualifying temporary investments. We refer to this test as the "75% asset test."
- o Second, no more than 25% of the value of a REIT's total assets may be represented by securities other than those that are qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% asset test. We refer to this test as the "25% asset test."
- o Third, of the investments included in the 25% asset test, the value of the securities of any one issuer (other than a "taxable REIT subsidiary") that a REIT owns may not exceed 5% of the value of the REIT's total assets, and a REIT may not own 10% or more of the total combined voting power or 10% or more of the total value of the securities of any issuer (other than a "taxable REIT subsidiary").
- o Fourth, while a REIT may own up to 100% of the stock of a corporation that elects to be treated as a "taxable REIT subsidiary" for federal income tax purposes, at no time may the total value of a REIT's stock in one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries exceed 20% of the value of the REIT's gross assets.

We expect that any mortgage-backed securities, real property and temporary investments that we acquire will generally be qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% asset test, except to the extent that less than 95% of the assets of a real estate mortgage investment conduit in which we own an interest consists of "real estate assets." Mortgage loans, including distressed

mortgage loans, construction loans, bridge loans and mezzanine loans also will generally be qualifying assets for purposes of the 75% asset test to the extent that the principal balance of each mortgage loan does not exceed the value of the associated real property.

We anticipate that we may securitize certain mortgage loans which we originate or acquire, in which event we will likely retain certain of the subordinated and interest only classes of mortgage-backed securities which may be created as a result of such securitization. The securitization of mortgage loans may be accomplished through one or more real estate mortgage investment conduits established by us or, if a non-real estate mortgage investment conduit securitization is desired, through one or more qualified REIT subsidiaries or taxable subsidiaries established by us. The securitization of the mortgage loans through either one or more real estate mortgage investment conduits or one or more qualified REIT subsidiaries or taxable subsidiaries should not affect our qualification as a REIT or result in the imposition of corporate income tax under the taxable mortgage pool rules. Income realized by us from a real estate mortgage investment conduit securitization could, however, be subject to a 100% tax as a "prohibited transaction." Such prohibited transactions are discussed above under the caption "--Income Tests--Prohibited Transaction Income."

We intend to operate so that we will not acquire any assets that would cause us to violate any of the asset tests. If, however, we should fail to satisfy any of the asset tests at the end of a calendar quarter, we would not lose our real estate investment trust status if (i) we satisfied the asset tests at the end of the close of the preceding calendar quarter and (ii) the discrepancy between the value of our assets and the asset test requirements arose from changes in the market values of our assets and was not wholly or partly caused by the acquisition of one or more nonqualifying assets. If we did not satisfy the condition described in clause (ii) of the preceding sentence, we could still avoid disqualification as a real estate investment trust by eliminating any discrepancy within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the discrepancy arose.

DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

Each taxable year, a REIT must distribute dividends to its shareholders in an amount at least equal to 90% of the REIT's "real estate investment trust taxable income," computed without regard to the dividends

S-53

paid deduction and the REIT's net capital gain or loss. Certain items of noncash income are excluded from this requirement.

A REIT must make such distributions in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year if the REIT declares the distribution before it timely files its federal income tax return for such year and pays the distribution on or before the first regular distribution date after such declaration. Further, if a REIT fails to meet the 90% distribution requirement as a result of an adjustment to its tax returns by the Internal Revenue Service, the REIT may, if the deficiency is not due to fraud with intent to evade tax or a willful failure to file a timely tax return, and if certain other conditions are met, retroactively cure the failure by paying a deficiency dividend (plus interest) to its shareholders.

A REIT will be subject to federal income tax on its taxable income, including net capital gain, that it did not distribute to its shareholders. Furthermore, if a REIT fails to distribute during a calendar year, or, in the case of distributions with declaration and record dates falling within the last three months of the calendar year, by the end of the January following

such calendar year, at least the sum of:

- o 85% of the REIT's real estate investment trust ordinary income for such year;
- o 95% of the REIT's real estate investment trust capital gain income for such year; and
- o any of the REIT's undistributed taxable income from prior periods;

the REIT will be subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the amount actually distributed. If the REIT elects to retain and pay income tax on the net capital gain that it receives in a taxable year, the REIT will be deemed to have distributed any such amount for the purposes of the 4% excise tax described in the preceding sentence.

We intend to make distributions to our holders of class A common stock in a manner that will allow us to satisfy the distribution requirements described above. It is possible that, from time to time, our pre-distribution taxable income may exceed our cash flow and we may have difficulty satisfying the distribution requirements. We intend to monitor closely the relationship between our pre-distribution taxable income and our cash flow and intend to borrow funds or liquidate assets in order to overcome any cash flow shortfalls if necessary to satisfy the distribution requirements imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. It is possible, although unlikely, that we may decide to terminate our REIT status as a result of any such cash shortfall. Such a termination would have adverse consequences to our shareholders. The consequences are described above under the caption "--Taxation of a REIT."

RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS

A REIT must maintain records of information specified in applicable Treasury Regulations in order to maintain its qualification as a real estate investment trust. In addition, in order to avoid a monetary penalty, a REIT must request on an annual basis certain information from its shareholders designed to disclose the actual ownership of the REIT's outstanding stock. We intend to comply with these recordkeeping requirements.

OWNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

For a REIT to qualify as a real estate investment trust, shares of the REIT must be held by a minimum of 100 persons for at least 335 days in each taxable year after the REIT's first taxable year. Further, at no time during the second half of any taxable year after the REIT's first taxable year may more than 50% of the REIT's shares be owned, actually or constructively, by five or fewer "individuals." As of the date hereof, we satisfy the requirement that we not be closely held as described in the foregoing sentence. Our class A common stock is held by 100 or more persons. Our amended and restated charter contains ownership and transfer restrictions designed to prevent violation of these requirements. The provisions of the amended and restated charter restricting the ownership and transfer of our class A common stock are described in the

S-54

company prospectus under the caption "Description of Capital Stock--Certain Provisions of Our Charter and Bylaws and of Maryland Law--REIT Qualification Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer."

EARNINGS AND PROFITS

In order for us to qualify as a REIT, on or before the end of the 2003 tax

year (the first year to which our election to be taxed as a REIT relates), we must have distributed to our shareholders an amount equal to any earnings and profits accumulated from years in which we were taxed as a regular corporation. We have been treated as a regular corporation subject to Federal income taxes for the years 1997 through 2002. Any distribution made by us to satisfy this requirement will be treated as taxable income by the shareholders and we generally will not be permitted to include such amounts when computing our dividends paid deduction. If we were found to have miscalculated our earnings and profits accumulated from years in which we were a regular corporation, our ability to qualify as a REIT could be jeopardized. We believe, as of January 1, 2003, we have no accumulated earnings or profits from any non-REIT qualifying tax year for which we were taxed as a regular corporation as a result of losses we triggered in December 2002.

FAILURE TO QUALIFY

If a REIT fails to qualify as a real estate investment trust in any taxable year, and no relief provisions applied, the REIT would be subject to federal, state and local income tax, including any applicable alternative minimum tax, on its taxable income at regular corporate rates. In calculating a REIT's taxable income in a year in which it did not qualify as a real estate investment trust, the REIT would not be able to deduct amounts paid out to its shareholders. In fact, the REIT would not be required to distribute any amounts to its shareholders in such taxable year. In such event, to the extent of the REIT's current and accumulated earnings and profits, all distributions to shareholders would be taxable as ordinary income. Moreover, subject to certain limitations under the Internal Revenue Code, corporate shareholders might be eligible for the dividends received deduction. Unless the REIT qualified for relief under specific statutory provisions, the REIT would be disqualified from taxation as a real estate investment trust for the four taxable years following the year in which it ceased to qualify as a real estate investment trust. We cannot predict whether, in all circumstances, we would qualify for such statutory relief.

TAXABLE MORTGAGE POOLS

An entity, or a portion of an entity, may be classified as a taxable mortgage pool, or TMP, under the Internal Revenue Code if (1) substantially all of its assets consist of debt obligations or interests in debt obligations, (2) more than 50% of those debt obligations are real estate mortgages or interests in real estate mortgages as of specified testing dates, (3) the entity has issued debt obligations (liabilities) that have two or more maturities, and (4) the payments required to be made by the entity on its debt obligations (liabilities) "bear a relationship" to the payments to be received by the entity on the debt obligations that it holds as assets. Financing arrangements entered into, directly or indirectly, by us could give rise to TMPs, with the consequences described in the next paragraph. Such financing arrangements include the CDO-1 transaction and may include additional collateralized debt obligation transactions we enter into in the future.

Where an entity, or a portion of an entity, is classified as a TMP, it is generally treated as a taxable corporation for federal income tax purposes. Special rules apply, however, in the case of a TMP that is a REIT, a portion of a REIT, or a disregarded subsidiary of a REIT. In that event, the TMP is not treated as a corporation that is subject to corporate income tax, and the TMP classification does not directly affect the tax status of the REIT. Rather, the consequences of the TMP classification would, in general, except as described below, be limited to the shareholders of the REIT. Although the Treasury Department has not yet issued regulations to govern the treatment of shareholders, a portion of the REIT's income from the TMP arrangement, which might be non-cash accrued income, could be treated as "excess inclusion income." Moreover, the REIT's excess inclusion income would be allocated among

its shareholders. A shareholder's share of excess inclusion income (i) would not be allowed to be offset by any net operating losses otherwise available to the shareholder, (ii) would be subject to tax as unrelated business taxable income in the hands of most types of shareholders that are otherwise generally exempt from federal income tax, and (iii) would result

S - 55

in the application of U.S. federal income tax withholding at the maximum rate (30%) (and any otherwise available rate reductions under income tax treaties would not apply), to the extent allocable to most types of foreign shareholders. To the extent that excess inclusion income were allocated to a tax-exempt shareholder of a REIT that is not subject to unrelated business income tax (such as government entities), the REIT would be taxable on this income at the highest applicable corporate tax rate (currently 35%). Tax-exempt investors, foreign investors and taxpayers with net operating losses should carefully consider the tax consequences described above and should consult their tax advisors.

TAXATION OF TAXABLE U.S. SHAREHOLDERS

TAXABLE U.S. SHAREHOLDER

As used herein, the term "Taxable U.S. Shareholder" means a holder of our class A common stock that, for United States federal income tax purposes, is:

- o a citizen or resident of the United States;
- o a corporation, partnership, or other entity created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state or political subdivision thereof;
- o an estate, the income of which from sources without the United States is includible in gross income for United States federal income tax purposes regardless of its connection with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States; or
- o any trust with respect to which a United States court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of such trust and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

For any taxable year in which we qualify as a REIT, amounts distributed to Taxable U.S. Shareholders will be taxed as follows.

DISTRIBUTIONS GENERALLY

Distributions made to our Taxable U.S. Shareholders out of current or accumulated earnings and profits, and not designated as a capital gain dividend, will be taken into account by such shareholder as ordinary income and will not, in the case of a corporate shareholder, be eligible for the dividends received deduction. To the extent that we make a distribution with respect to holders of our class A common stock that is in excess of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, the distribution will be treated by a Taxable U.S. Shareholder first as a tax-free return of capital, reducing the shareholder's tax basis in the class A common stock, and any portion of the distribution in excess of the shareholder's tax basis in the class A common stock will then be treated as gain from the sale of such class A common stock. Dividends declared by us in October, November, or December of any year payable to a shareholder of record on a specified date in any such month shall be treated as both paid by us and received by shareholders on December 31 of such year, provided that the dividend is actually paid by us during January of

the following calendar year. Taxable U.S. Shareholders may not include on their federal income tax returns any of our tax losses.

CAPITAL GAIN DIVIDENDS

Dividends to Taxable U.S. Shareholders that properly are designated by us as capital gain dividends will be treated by such shareholders as long-term capital gain, to the extent that such dividends do not exceed our actual net capital gain, without regard to the period for which the shareholders have held our class A common stock. Taxable U.S. Shareholders that are corporations may be required, however, to treat up to 20% of particular capital gain dividends as ordinary income. Capital gain dividends, like regular dividends from a real estate investment trust, are not eligible for the dividends received deduction for corporations.

S-56

RETAINED CAPITAL GAINS

A REIT may elect to retain, rather than distribute, its net long-term capital gain received during the tax year. To the extent designated in a notice from the REIT to its shareholders, the REIT will pay the income tax on such gains and Taxable U.S. Shareholders must include their proportionate share of the undistributed net long-term capital gain so designated in their income for the tax year. Each Taxable U.S. Shareholder will be deemed to have paid its share of the tax paid by the REIT, which tax will be credited or refunded to such shareholder.

PASSIVE ACTIVITY LOSS AND INVESTMENT INTEREST LIMITATIONS

Distributions, including deemed distributions of undistributed net long-term capital gain, from us and gain from the disposition of our class A common stock will not be treated as passive activity income, and, therefore, Taxable U.S. Shareholders who are subject to the passive loss limitation rules of the Internal Revenue Code will not be able to apply any passive activity losses against such income. Distributions from us, to the extent they do not constitute a return of capital, generally will be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment income limitation on deductibility of investment interest. However, net capital gain from the disposition of our class A common stock or capital gain dividends, including deemed distributions of undistributed net long-term capital gains, generally will be excluded from investment income.

SALE OF CLASS A COMMON STOCK

Upon the sale of our class A common stock, a Taxable U.S. Shareholder generally will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on such sale and the holder's tax basis in the class A common stock sold. To the extent that the class A common stock is held as a capital asset by the Taxable U.S. Shareholder, the gain or loss will be a long-term capital gain or loss if the class A common stock has been held for more than a year, and will be a short-term capital gain or loss if the class A common stock has been held for a shorter period. In general, however, any loss upon a sale of the class A common stock by a Taxable U.S. Shareholder who has held such class A common stock for six months or less, after applying certain holding period rules, will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent that distributions from us were required to be treated as long-term capital gain by that holder.

TAXATION OF TAX-EXEMPT SHAREHOLDERS

Tax-exempt entities, including qualified employee pension and profit sharing trusts and individual retirement accounts, which we refer to as exempt organizations, generally are exempt from federal income taxation. Exempt organizations are subject to tax, however, on their unrelated business taxable income, or UBTI. UBTI is defined as the gross income derived by an exempt organization from an unrelated trade or business, less the deductions directly connected with that trade or business, subject to certain exceptions. While many investments in real estate generate UBTI, the Internal Revenue Service has issued a ruling that dividend distributions from a REIT to an exempt employee pension trust do not constitute UBTI, provided that the shares of the REIT are not otherwise used in an unrelated trade or business of the exempt employee pension trust. Based on that ruling, amounts distributed to exempt organizations generally should not constitute UBTI. However, if an Exempt Organization finances its acquisition of class A common stock with debt, a portion of its income from a REIT will constitute UBTI pursuant to the "debtfinanced property" rules.

In addition, in certain circumstances, a pension trust that owns more than 10% of the stock of a REIT will be required to treat a percentage of the dividends paid by the REIT as UBTI based upon the percentage of the REIT's income that would constitute UBTI to the shareholder if received directly by it. This rule applies to a pension trust holding more than 10% (by value) of our class A common stock only if (i) the percentage of the income from us that is UBTI (determined as if we were a pension trust) is at least 5% and (ii) we are treated as a "pension-held REIT." We do not expect to qualify as a "pension-held REIT" and have covenanted not to become one in connection with our prior convertible trust preferred financing.

S - 57

TAXATION OF NON-U.S. SHAREHOLDERS

GENERAL

The rules governing United States federal income taxation of nonresident alien individuals, foreign corporations, foreign partnerships, foreign trusts and certain other foreign shareholders, which we refer to as Non-U.S. Shareholders, are complex and no attempt is made herein to provide more than a general summary of such rules. This discussion does not consider the tax rules applicable to all Non-U.S. Shareholders and, in particular, does not consider the special rules applicable to U.S. branches of foreign banks or insurance companies or certain intermediaries. Non-U.S. shareholders should consult with their own tax advisors to determine the impact of federal, state, local and foreign tax laws with regard to the election, including any reporting and withholding requirements.

ORDINARY DIVIDENDS

Distributions to Non-U.S. Shareholders that are not attributable to gain from sales or exchanges by a REIT of United States real property interests and are not designated by a REIT as capital gain dividends (or deemed distributions of retained capital gains) will be treated as ordinary dividends to the extent that they are made out of current or accumulated earnings and profits of the REIT. Any portion of a distribution in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits of the REIT will not be taxable to a Non-U.S. Shareholder to the extent that such distribution does not exceed the adjusted basis of the shareholder in the REIT's stock, but rather will reduce the adjusted basis of such shares. To the extent that the portion of the distribution in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits exceeds the adjusted basis of a Non-U.S. Shareholder in our class A common stock, such excess generally will be treated as gain from the sale or disposition of the

class A common stock and will be taxed as described below.

WITHHOLDING

Dividends paid to Non-U.S. Shareholders may be subject to U.S. withholding tax. If an income tax treaty does not apply and the Non-U.S. Shareholder's investment in the REIT's stock is not effectively connected with a trade or business conducted by the Non-U.S. Shareholder in the United States (or if a tax treaty does apply and the investment in the stock is not attributable to a United States permanent establishment maintained by the Non-U.S. Shareholder), ordinary dividends (i.e., distributions out of current and accumulated earnings and profits) will be subject to a U.S. withholding tax at a 30% rate, or, if an income tax treaty applies, at a lower treaty rate. Because we generally cannot determine at the time that a distribution is made whether or not it will be in excess of earnings and profits, we intend to withhold on the gross amount of each distribution at the 30% rate (or lower treaty rate) (other than distributions subject to the 35% FIRPTA withholding rules described below). To receive a reduced treaty rate, a Non-U.S. Shareholder must furnish us or our paying agent with a duly completed Form 1001 or Form W-8BEN (or authorized substitute form) certifying such holder's qualification for the reduced rate. Generally, a Non-U.S. Shareholder will be entitled to a refund from the IRS to the extent the amount withheld by us from a distribution exceeds the amount of United States tax owed by such shareholder.

In the case of a Non-U.S. Shareholder that is a partnership or a trust, the withholding rules for a distribution to such a partnership or trust will be dependent on numerous factors, including (1) the classification of the type of partnership or trust, (2) the status of the partner or beneficiary, and (3) the activities of the partnership or trust. Non-U.S. Shareholders that are partnerships or trusts are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the withholding rules applicable to them based on their particular circumstances.

If an income tax treaty does not apply, ordinary dividends that are effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business within the United States by a Non-U.S. Shareholder (and, if a tax treaty applies, ordinary dividends that are attributable to a United States permanent establishment maintained by the Non-U.S. Shareholder) are exempt from U.S. withholding tax. In order to claim such exemption, a Non-U.S. Shareholder must provide us or our paying agent with a duly completed Form W-8ECI (or authorized substitute form) certifying such holder's exemption. However, ordinary dividends exempt from U.S. withholding tax because they are effectively connected or are attributable to a United States permanent

S-58

establishment maintained by the Non-U.S. Shareholder generally are subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis at regular graduated rates. In the case of Non-U.S. Shareholders that are corporations, any effectively connected ordinary dividends or ordinary dividends attributable to a United States permanent establishment maintained by the Non-U.S. Shareholder may, in certain circumstances, be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate, or lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

CAPITAL GAIN DIVIDENDS

For any year in which we qualify as a REIT, distributions that are attributable to gain from sales or exchanges by us of United States real property interests will be taxed to a Non-U.S. Shareholder under the provisions of the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980, which is commonly referred to as FIRPTA. Under FIRPTA, distributions attributable to gain from sales of United States real property are taxed to a Non-U.S. Shareholder as if such gain were effectively connected with a United States

trade or business. Non-U.S. Shareholders thus would be taxed at the regular capital gain rates applicable to Taxable U.S. Shareholders (subject to the applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals). Distributions subject to FIRPTA also may be subject to a 30% branch profits tax in the hands of a corporate Non-U.S. Shareholder not otherwise entitled to treaty relief or exemption.

WITHHOLDING

Under FIRPTA, a REIT is required to withhold 35% of any distribution that is designated as a capital gain dividend or which could be designated as a capital gain dividend and is attributable to gain from the disposition of a United States real property interest. Moreover, if a REIT designates previously made distributions as capital gain dividends, subsequent distributions (up to the amount of the prior distributions so designated) will be treated as capital gain dividends for purposes of FIRPTA withholding.

SALE OF CLASS A COMMON STOCK

A Non-U.S Shareholder generally will not be subject to United States federal income tax under FIRPTA with respect to gain recognized upon a sale of our class A common stock, if less than 50% of our assets during a prescribed testing period consist of interests in real property located within the United States (excluding interests in real property solely in the capacity as a creditor) or we are a "domestically-controlled REIT." A domesticallycontrolled REIT generally is defined as a real estate investment trust in which at all times during a specified testing period less than 50% in value of the stock was held directly or indirectly by non-U.S. persons. Although currently it is anticipated that we will be a domestically-controlled REIT, and, therefore, that the sale of class A common stock will not be subject to taxation under FIRPTA, there can be no assurance that we will, at all relevant times, be a domestically-controlled REIT. If we are not a domesticallycontrolled REIT, a Non-U.S. Shareholder's sale of our stock will generally not be subject to tax under FIRPTA if (a) the stock is treated as "regularly traded" on an established securities market and (b) the seller held 5% or less of our stock at all times during a specified testing period. If the gain on the sale of our class A common stock were subject to taxation under FIRPTA, a Non-U.S. Shareholder would be subject to the same treatment as Taxable U.S. Shareholders with respect to such gain (subject to the applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of nonresident alien individuals). In addition, a purchaser of our class A common stock from a Non-U.S. Shareholder subject to taxation under FIRPTA generally would be required to deduct and withhold a tax equal to 10% of the amount realized by a Non-U.S. Shareholder on the disposition. Any amount withheld would be creditable against the Non-U.S. Shareholder's FIRPTA tax liability.

Even if gain recognized by a Non-U.S. Shareholder upon the sale of our class A common stock is not subject to FIRPTA, such gain generally will be taxable to such shareholder if:

o an income tax treaty does not apply and the gain is effectively connected with a trade or business conducted by the Non-U.S. Shareholder in the United States (or, an income tax treaty applies and the gain is attributable to a United States permanent establishment maintained by the Non-U.S. Shareholder), in which case, unless an applicable treaty provides otherwise, a Non-U.S. Shareholder

S-59

will be taxed on his or her net gain from the sale at regular graduated U.S. federal income tax rates. In the case of a Non-U.S. Shareholder that is a corporation, such shareholder may be subject to an additional branch

profits tax at a 30% rate, unless an applicable income tax treaty provides for a lower rate and the shareholder demonstrates its qualification for such rate; or

o the Non-U.S. Shareholder is a nonresident alien individual who holds our class A common stock as a capital asset and was present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and certain other conditions apply, in which case the Non-U.S. Shareholder will be subject to a 30% tax on capital gains.

ESTATE TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The value of our class A common stock owned, or treated as owned, by a Non-U.S. Shareholder who is a nonresident alien individual at the time of his or her death will be included in the individual's gross estate for United States federal estate tax purposes, unless otherwise provided in an applicable estate tax treaty.

INFORMATION REPORTING AND BACKUP WITHHOLDING

A REIT is required to report to its shareholders and to the IRS the amount of distributions paid during each tax year, and the amount of tax withheld, if any. These requirements apply even if withholding was not required with respect to payments made to a shareholder. In the case of Non-U.S. Shareholders, the information reported may also be made available to the tax authorities of the Non-U.S. Shareholder's country of residence, if an applicable income tax treaty so provides.

Backup withholding generally may be imposed on certain payments to shareholders unless the shareholder (i) furnishes certain information, or (ii) is otherwise exempt from backup withholding.

A shareholder who does not provide a REIT with his or her correct taxpayer identification number also may be subject to penalties imposed by the IRS. In addition, the REIT may be required to withhold a portion of capital gain distributions to any shareholders who fail to certify their non-foreign status to the REIT.

You should consult your own tax advisor regarding your qualification for an exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining an exemption. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Rather, the amount of any backup withholding with respect to a distribution to a shareholder will be allowed as a credit against such holder's United States federal income tax liability and may entitle the Taxable U.S. Shareholder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

In general, backup withholding and information reporting will not apply to a payment of the proceeds of the sale of our class A common stock by a Non-U.S. Shareholder by or through a foreign office of a foreign broker effected outside of the United States; provided, however, that foreign brokers having certain connections with the United States may be obligated to comply with the backup withholding and information reporting rules. Information reporting (but not backup withholding) will apply, however, to a payment of the proceeds of a sale of our class A common stock by foreign offices of certain brokers, including foreign offices of a broker that:

- o is a United States person;
- o derives 50% or more of its gross income for certain periods from the conduct of a trade or business in the United States; or
- o is a "controlled foreign corporation" for United States tax purposes.

Information reporting will not apply in the above cases if the broker has documentary evidence in its records that the holder is a Non-U.S. Shareholder and certain conditions are met, or the Non-U.S. Shareholder otherwise establishes an exemption.

S-60

Payment to or through a United States office of a broker of the proceeds of a sale of our class A common stock is subject to both backup withholding and information reporting unless the shareholder certifies in the manner required that he or she is a Non-U.S. Shareholder and satisfies certain other qualifications under penalties of perjury or otherwise establishes an exemption.

STATE AND LOCAL TAX

The discussion herein concerns only the United States federal income tax treatment likely to be accorded to a REIT and its shareholders. No consideration has been given to the state and local tax treatment of such parties. The state and local tax treatment may not conform to the federal treatment described above. As a result, you should consult your own tax advisor regarding the specific state and local tax consequences of the REIT Election and ownership and sale of our class A common stock.

S-61

UNDERWRITING

Under the terms and subject to the conditions in an underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, the underwriters named below, for whom Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., Jefferies & Company, Inc. and JMP Securities LLC are acting as representatives, have severally agreed to purchase, and we and the selling shareholders have agreed to sell to them, the number of shares of our class A common stock indicated below:

UNDERWRITER	NUMBER OF SHARES		
Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated	1,330,000		
Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc	997,500		
Jefferies & Company, Inc	498,750		
JMP Securities LLC	498,750		
Conifer Securities, LLC	175,000		
Total	3,500,000		

The expenses of this offering, not including the underwriting discount and commissions, are estimated to be approximately \$1.0 million. All of the expenses of this offering incurred by or on behalf of us will be paid pro rata based on the number of shares sold in this offering among us and the selling shareholders, except for any expenses of the selling shareholders' separate attorneys, which will be paid by the selling shareholders.

The underwriters are offering the shares of class A common stock subject to their acceptance of the shares from us and the selling shareholders and

subject to prior sales. The underwriting agreement provides that the obligation of the several underwriters to pay for and accept delivery of the shares of class A common stock offered by this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectuses are subject to the approval of certain legal matters by their counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to take and pay for all of the shares offered by this prospectus supplement if any such shares are purchased. However, the underwriters are not required to take or pay for the shares of class A common stock covered by the underwriters' over-allotment option described below.

The underwriters initially propose to offer part of the shares of class A common stock directly to the public at the public offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and part to certain dealers at a price that represents a concession not in excess of \$0.80 per share under the public offering price. After the initial offering of the shares, the offering price and other selling terms may from time to time be varied by the underwriters.

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to an aggregate of 525,000 additional shares of class A common stock from us at the public offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, less underwriting discount and commissions. The underwriters may exercise this option solely for the purpose of covering over-allotments, if any, made in connection with the offering of the shares offered by this prospectus supplement. An over-allotment occurs when the underwriters sell more shares of our class A common stock than are shown on the cover of this prospectus. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter will become obligated, subject to specified conditions, to purchase approximately the same percentage of the additional shares of class A common stock as the number listed next to the underwriter's name in the preceding table bears to the total number of shares listed next to the names of all underwriters in the preceding table.

The following table shows the per share and total public offering price, underwriting discount and commissions and proceeds, before expenses to us and to the selling shareholders. The amounts below are shown assuming no exercise and full exercise of the over-allotment option to purchase 525,000 additional shares of our class A common stock.

S-62

Public offering price	\$23.75
Underwriting discount and commissions allowed by us	\$ 1.22
Underwriting discount allowed by the selling shareholders	\$ 1.22
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$22.52
Proceeds, before expenses, to the selling shareholders	\$22.52

The underwriters have informed us that they do not intend sales to discretionary accounts to exceed five percent of the total number of shares of our class A common stock offered by them.

Shares of our class A common stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange

PER SH

under the symbol "CT."

We have agreed that, without the prior written consent of Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, on behalf of the underwriters, we will not, from the date of this prospectus supplement through 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement:

- o offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, lend or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of our class A common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of our class A common stock; or
- o enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of our shares of class A common stock,

whether any transaction described above is to be settled by delivery of shares of our class A common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise.

The restrictions described in the immediately preceding paragraph do not apply to:

- o the sale of shares of our class A common stock to the underwriters;
- o the issuance by us of shares of our class A common stock upon the exercise, conversion or exchange of options, warrants or other convertible or exchangeable securities outstanding on the date of this prospectus supplement;
- o grants of options or warrants pursuant to the terms of a plan in effect on the date of this prospectus supplement provided that any option or warrant issued may not be exercised during the 90-day lock up period; or
- o grants of restricted stock pursuant to the terms of a plan or agreement in effect on the date of this prospectus supplement provided that any such stock does not vest during the 90-day lock up period or the recipient of such stock agrees not to transfer such stock during the 90-day lock up period.

The selling shareholders, other than the EOP Operating Limited Partnership which is selling all of its shares of class A common stock in this offering, our executive officers and directors and certain of our shareholders, including Berkley, have agreed that they will not without, in each case, the prior written consent of Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, on behalf of the underwriters, from the date of this prospectus supplement through 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement:

- o offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, lend or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of our class A common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of our class A common stock; or
- o enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of shares of common stock of class A common stock,

whether any transaction described above is to be settled by delivery of our shares or other securities, in cash or otherwise.

The restrictions described in the immediately preceding paragraph relating to the selling shareholders, our executive officers and directors and our shareholders do not apply to:

S-63

- o the acquisition of any shares of our class A common stock in the open market after the closing of this offering; or
- o the transfer of any shares of our class A common stock to family members or for estate planning purposes, provided that transferee agrees to the restrictions described above.

In addition, the restrictions above relating to Berkley do not apply to:

- o the transfer of any shares of our class A common stock among its controlled affiliates; or
- o the transfer of that number of shares of our class A common stock and other voting stock such that after such transfer Berkley owns just less than 20% of our outstanding class A common stock and other voting stock.

To the extent Berkley does transfer any shares of our class A common stock among its controlled affiliates, it may be required to report such changes under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

In order to facilitate this offering of the class A common stock, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the class A common stock. Specifically, the underwriters may sell more shares than they are obligated to purchase under the underwriting agreement, creating a short position. A short sale is "covered" if the short position is no greater than the number of shares available for purchase by the underwriters under the over-allotment option. The underwriters can close out a covered short sale by exercising the over-allotment option or purchasing shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close out a covered short sale, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the open market price of shares compared to the price available under the over-allotment option. The underwriters may also sell shares in excess of the over-allotment option, creating a "naked" short position. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the class A common stock in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in this offering. In addition, to stabilize the price of the class A common stock, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, our class A common stock in the open market. Finally, the underwriters may reclaim selling concessions allowed to a dealer for distributing the class ${\tt A}$ common stock in this offering, if the underwriters repurchase shares previously distributed by such dealer to cover short positions, in stabilization transactions or otherwise. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of the common stock above independent market levels. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time. These transactions may be effected on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise.

A prospectus supplement or accompanying prospectuses in electronic format may be made available on the websites maintained by one or more of the underwriters. Other than the prospectus supplement or accompanying prospectuses in electronic format, the information on any of these websites and any other information contained on a website maintained by an underwriter

or syndicate member is not part of this prospectus supplement or accompanying prospectuses.

We and the selling shareholders have agreed to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933.

From time to time the underwriters and their affiliates have provided, continue to and may in the future provide investment banking, lending, financial advisory and other financial services for us. The underwriters and their affiliates may in the future receive customary fees from their services. Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. and Conifer Securities, LLC or their affiliates have acted for us and our funds as follows:

- o Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated or its affiliates are lenders to Capital Trust, Fund II and Fund III;
- o Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. or its affiliates and a funding conduit managed by an affiliate of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. are lenders to Capital Trust and Fund III and are counterparties to a swap agreement with Capital Trust;
- o Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated acted as the lead manager and Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. acted as a co-manager for our CDO-1 transaction; and

S - 64

o Conifer Securities, LLC served as our placement agent in connection with our private placement of 1,075,000 shares of our class A common stock which closed in June 2003. The chairman of our board of directors, Samuel Zell, serves as a trustee of a trust that owns less than 5% of Conifer Securities, LLC.

If we reduce such indebtedness with the proceeds from this offering, these affiliates of the underwriters will receive their proportionate share of any amounts repaid. If on the date that we enter into the underwriting agreement, it appears that 10% or more of our net proceeds would be so paid to affiliates of the underwriters, this offering will be conducted in accordance with Conduct Rule 2710(c)(8) of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.

S-65

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the shares of class A common stock offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Venable LLP, Baltimore, Maryland. Certain other matters in connection with the offering of securities by this prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP. Martin L. Edelman, who serves as one of our directors, is of counsel to Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP. Certain legal matters related to this offering will be passed upon for the underwriters by O'Melveny & Myers LLP, San Francisco, California.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Capital Trust appearing in Capital

Trust Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2003, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon included therein and included and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements are included and incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any materials we have filed with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. The SEC also maintains a web site at http://www.sec.gov that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information concerning issuers that file electronically with the SEC, including us. Our class A common stock is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange. These reports, proxy statements and other information are also available for inspection at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, NY 10005. We also maintain an internet site at www.capitaltrust.com that contains information concerning us. The information contained or referred to on our website is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectuses and is not a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectuses.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933 to register the common stock being offered in this prospectus supplement and the company prospectus by us and a second registration statement on Form S-3 registering the securities being offered by the selling shareholder in this prospectus supplement and the selling shareholder prospectus. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses, which form part of the registration statements, do not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statements or the exhibits and schedules to the registration statements. For further information regarding us and the class A common stock offered in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectuses, please refer to the registration statements and the documents filed or incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statements. You may obtain the registration statements and their exhibits from the SEC as indicated above or from us. Statements contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectuses or any additional prospectus supplement as to the contents of any contract or other document that is filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statements are not necessarily complete and we refer you to the full text of the contract or other document filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statements.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those filed documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information.

The following documents, which have been filed with the SEC (File No. 001-14788), are incorporated herein by reference:

S-66

o our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003;

- o amendment no. 1 to our annual report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2003;
- o our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2004; and
- o our current reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 10, 2003 (including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating the description of our class A common stock contained therein), May 11, 2004 and June 14, 2004.

All documents subsequently filed by us with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 after the date of this prospectus supplement and prior to the termination of this offering are deemed incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and a part hereof from the date of filing of those documents. Any statement contained in the accompanying prospectuses or any document incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be amended, modified or superseded for the purposes of this prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus supplement, any additional prospectus summary or a later document that is or is considered to be incorporated by reference herein amends, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statements so amended, modified or superseded shall not be deemed to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement, except as so amended, modified or superseded.

We will provide without charge to each person to whom this prospectus supplement is delivered, upon written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents referred to above which have been or may be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement. Requests for such documents should be directed to Capital Trust, Inc., 410 Park Avenue, 14th Floor, New York, New York 10022, Attention: Investor Relations (Telephone: (212) 655-0220).

S-67

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Report of Independent Auditors	F-2
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2003 and 2002	F-3
Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31,	
2003, 2002 and 2001	F-4
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity for the years ended	
December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31,	
2003, 2002 and 2001	F-6
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-7
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2004 (unaudited) and	
December 31, 2003 (audited)	F - 40
Consolidated Statements of Income for the three months ended March 31,	
2004 and 2003 (unaudited)	F - 41
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity for the three	
months ended	
March 31, 2004 and 2003 (unaudited)	F - 42
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended	
March 31, 2004 and 2003 (unaudited)	F-43

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited) F-44

F-1

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

The Board of Directors
Capital Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Capital Trust, Inc. and Subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the related consolidated statements of operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Company at December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

New York, New York February 17, 2004

F-2

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)

	2003	2002
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,738	\$ 10,186
Available-for-sale securities, at fair value	20,052	65 , 233
Commercial mortgage-backed securities available-for-		

sale, at fair value	158,136	155 , 780
possible credit losses at December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002, respectively	177,049	116,347
Equity investment in CT Mezzanine Partners I LLC ("Fund I"), CT Mezzanine Partners II LP ("Fund II"), CT MP II LLC ("Fund II GP") and CT Mezzanine		
Partners III, Inc. ("Fund III") (together "Funds")	21,988	28 , 974
Deposits and other receivables	345	431
Accrued interest receivable	3,834 168	4,422
Deferred income taxes		1,585
Prepaid and other assets	6,247	
Total assets	 \$399 , 926	 \$387 , 759
	======	=======
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Liabilities: Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 11,041	\$ 9,068
Credit facilities	38,868	40,000
Term redeemable securities contract	11,651	,
Repurchase obligations	146,894	
Step up convertible junior subordinated debentures		91,770
Deferred origination fees and other revenue Interest rate hedge liabilities	3 , 207	987 1 , 822
interest rate heage frabilities		•
Total liabilities		303 , 703
Shareholders' equity:	=======	======
Class A 9.5% cumulative convertible preferred stock,		
\$0.01 par value,		
\$0.26 cumulative annual dividend, no shares		
authorized, issued or outstanding at December 31, 2003 and 2002 ("class A		
preferred stock")		
Class B 9.5% cumulative convertible non-voting		
preferred stock, \$0.01 par value,		
\$0.26 cumulative annual dividend, no shares		
authorized, issued or outstanding at December 31, 2003 and 2002 ("class B preferred		
stock" and together with		
class A preferred stock, "preferred stock")		
Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000 shares		
authorized, 6,502 and 5,405 shares issued and outstanding at		
December 31, 2003 and 2002,		
respectively ("class A common stock")	65	54
Class B common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000 shares		
authorized, no shares		
issued and outstanding at December 31, 2003 and 2002 ("class B common stock")		
Restricted class A common stock, \$0.01 par value, 34		
and 100 shares issued and		
outstanding at December 31, 2003 and December 31,		
2002, respectively		
("restricted class A common stock" and together with class A common stock		
and class B common stock, "common stock")		1
Additional paid-in capital	141,402	126,919
Unearned compensation	(247)	(320)

Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$399 , 926	\$387 , 759
Total shareholders' equity	96,017	84,056
Accumulated deficit	(11,323)	(13,610)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(33,880)	(28,988)

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-3

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003, 2002 AND 2001 (IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)

Income from loans and other investments: Interest and related income
Income from loans and other investments, net
Other revenues: Management and advisory fees from affiliated Funds managed
Total other revenues
Other expenses: General and administrative. Other interest expense. Depreciation and amortization. Net unrealized (gain)/loss on derivative securities and corresponding hedged risk on CMBS securities. Net realized loss on sale of fixed assets, investments and settlement of derivative securities. Provision for/(recapture of) allowance for possible credit losses.
Total other expenses
Income before income taxes Provision for income taxes
Net income/(loss) Less: Preferred stock dividend
Net income/(loss) allocable to common stock
Per share information:

Net earnings/(loss) per share of common stock	
Basic	\$
Diluted	\$
Dividends declared per share of common stock	\$
Weighted average shares of common stock outstanding Basic	5,9
Diluted	10,2

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-4

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003, 2002 AND 2001 (IN THOUSANDS)

	COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS)	CLASS A PREFERRED STOCK	CLASS B PREFERRED STOCK	CLASS A COMMON STOCK
Balance at January 1, 2001 Net income	\$ 9 , 370	\$ 8 	\$ 13 	\$63
Transition adjustment for recognition of derivative financial instruments Unrealized loss on derivative financial				
instruments, net of related income taxes Unrealized loss on available-for-sale	(2,963)			
securities, net of related income taxes . Issuance of warrants to purchase shares	(16,220)			
of class A common stock				
awards Issuance of restricted class A common				
stock				
Restricted class A common stock earned Vesting of restricted class A common stock to unrestricted class A common				
stock				1
Dividends paid on preferred stock Repurchase and retirement of shares of				
stock previously outstanding		(8)	(13)	(3)
Balance at December 31, 2001	\$ (9,813) ======			61
Net loss	\$ (9,738)			
instruments, net of related income taxes	1,715			

Unrealized loss on available-for-sale				
securities, net of related income taxes . Issuance of class A common stock unit	(794)			
awards				
Issuance of restricted class A common				
stock				
Restricted class A common stock earned				
Vesting of restricted class A common				
stock to unrestricted class A common				1
stock				1
class A common stock previously				
outstanding				(8)
Balance at December 31, 2002	\$ (8,817) ======			54
Net income	\$ 13,525			
Unrealized gain on derivative financial				
instruments, net of related income taxes	1,990			
Unrealized loss on available-for-sale				
securities, net of related income taxes . Issuance of restricted class A common	(6,882)			
stock				
Restricted class A common stock earned				
Sale of shares of class A common stock				
under stock option agreement				
Cancellation of restricted class A common				
stock Vesting of restricted class A common				
stock to unrestricted class A common				
stock				1
Repurchase and retirement of shares of				
class A common stock previously				
outstanding				(1)
Repurchase of warrants to purchase shares of class A common stock				
Dividends declared on class A common				
stock				
Shares redeemed in one for three reverse				
stock split				
Shares of class A common stock issued in				1.1
private offering				11
Balance at December 31, 2003	\$ 8,633	\$	\$	\$65
	=======	===	====	===
			ACCUMULATED	
	ADDITIONAL		OTHER	
	PAID-IN	UNEARNED	COMPREHENSIVE	ACCUMU
	CAPITAL	COMPENSATION	INCOME/(LOSS)	DEFI
Balance at January 1, 2001	\$181 , 697	\$ (468)	\$(10,152)	\$(12,
Net income			(±0 / ±02)	9,
Transition adjustment for recognition of				- /
derivative financial instruments			(574)	
Unrealized loss on derivative financial			(2, 063)	
			1.1 (17.37)	

instruments, net of related income taxes
Unrealized loss on available-for-sale
securities, net of related income taxes .

(2,963)

(16, 220)

Issuance of warrants to purchase shares of class A common stock	3,276			
awards Issuance of restricted class A common	625			
stock	1,024 	(1,025) 910		
stock				
Dividends paid on preferred stock Repurchase and retirement of shares of stock previously outstanding	 (49,692)			(
Balance at December 31, 2001	136,930	(583)	 (29,909)	(3,
Net loss				(9,
Unrealized gain on derivative financial instruments, net of related income taxes			1,715	
Unrealized loss on available-for-sale securities, net of related income taxes . Issuance of class A common stock unit			(794)	
Issuance of class A common stock unit awards	313			
stock	399	(400)		
Restricted class A common stock earned Vesting of restricted class A common stock to unrestricted class A common		663		
stock Repurchase and retirement of shares of class A common stock previously				
outstanding	(10,723)			
Balance at December 31, 2002	126,919	(320)	(28,988)	(13,
Net income Unrealized gain on derivative financial				13,
instruments, net of related income taxes Unrealized loss on available-for-sale			1,990	
securities, net of related income taxes . Issuance of restricted class A common			(6,882)	
stock	356	(356)		
Restricted class A common stock earned Sale of shares of class A common stock		237		
under stock option agreement Cancellation of restricted class A common	281			
stock Vesting of restricted class A common stock to unrestricted class A common	(192)	192		
stock to unrestricted class A common stock				
outstanding	(946)			
of class A common stock	(2,132)			
stock				(11,
stock split	(8)			
Shares of class A common stock issued in private offering	17,124			
Balance at December 31, 2003	\$141,402 =======	\$ (247) ======	\$ (33,880) =======	\$(11, =====

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-5

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003, 2002 AND 2001 (IN THOUSANDS)

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: Net income/(loss)	
Accretion of discounts and fees on convertible trust preferred securities, net	
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Deposits and other receivables	
Accrued interest receivable	
Prepaid and other assets	
Deferred origination fees and other revenue	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	
necounts payable and accided expenses	•
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:	
Purchases of available-for-sale securities	
Principal collections on and proceeds from sales of available-for-sale securities	
Purchases of CMBS	
Principal collections on and proceeds from sale of CMBS	
Principal collections on certificated mezzanine investments	
Origination and purchase of loans receivable	
Principal collections on loans receivable	
Equity investments in Funds	
Return of capital from Funds	
Purchases of equipment and leasehold improvements	
Purchase of remaining interest in Fund I	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Proceeds from repurchase obligations	
Repayment of repurchase obligations	•

Repayment of credit facilities
Repayment of notes payable
Repayment of convertible trust preferred securities
Proceeds from term redeemable securities contract
Repayment of term redeemable securities contract
Sale of shares of class A common stock under stock option agreement
Dividends paid on class A preferred stock
Dividends paid on class A common stock
Repurchase of warrants to purchase shares of class A common stock
Proceeds from sale of shares of class A common stock
Repurchase and retirement of shares of common and preferred stock previously outstanding.
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

F-6

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ORGANIZATION

References herein to "we," "us" or "our" refer to Capital Trust, Inc. and its subsidiaries unless the context specifically requires otherwise.

We are a finance and investment management company that specializes in originating and managing credit sensitive structured financial products. We will continue to make, for our own account and as investment manager for the account of funds under management, loans and debt-related investments in various types of commercial real estate assets and operating companies.

On April 2, 2003, our charter was amended and restated and then further amended to eliminate from our authorized stock the entire 100,000,000 shares of our authorized but unissued class B common stock and to effect a one (1) for three (3) reverse stock split of our class A common stock. Fractional shares resulting from the reverse stock split were settled in cash at a rate of \$16.65 multiplied by the percentage of a share owned after the split.

All per share information concerning the computation of earnings per share, dividends per share, authorized stock, and per share conversion and exercise prices reported in the accompanying consolidated interim financial statements and these notes to consolidated financial statements have been adjusted as if the amendments to our charter were in effect for all fiscal periods and as of all balance sheet dates presented.

2. REIT ELECTION

In December 2002, our board of directors authorized our election to be taxed as a real estate investment trust ("REIT") for the 2003 tax year. We will continue to make, for our own account and as investment manager for the account of funds under management, credit sensitive structured financial products including loans and debt-related investments in various types of

commercial real estate.

In view of our election to be taxed as a REIT, we have tailored our balance sheet investment program to originate or acquire loans and investments to produce a portfolio that meets the asset and income tests necessary to maintain qualification as a REIT. In order to accommodate our REIT status, the legal structure of future investment funds we sponsor may be different from the legal structure of our existing investment funds.

In order to qualify as a REIT, five or fewer individuals may own no more than 50% of our common stock. As a means of facilitating compliance with such qualification, shareholders controlled by John R. Klopp and Craig M. Hatkoff and trusts for the benefit of the family of Samuel Zell each sold 166,666 shares of class A common stock to an institutional investor in a transaction that closed on February 7, 2003. Following this transaction, our largest five individual shareholders own in the aggregate less than 50% of the class A common stock.

3. APPLICATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARD

In January 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Interpretation No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities," an interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin 51. Interpretation No. 46 provides guidance on identifying entities for which control is achieved through means other than through voting rights, and how to determine when and which business enterprise should consolidate a variable interest entity. In addition, Interpretation No. 46 requires that both the primary beneficiary and all other enterprises with a significant variable interest in a variable interest entity make additional disclosures. The transitional disclosure requirements took effect almost immediately and are required for all financial statements initially issued after January 31, 2003. In December 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued a revision of Interpretation No. 46, Interpretation No. 46R, to clarify the provisions of Interpretation No. 46. The application of Interpretation No. 46R is effective for public companies, other than small business issuers, after March 15, 2004. We have evaluated all of our investments and other interests in entities that may be deemed

F-7

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

3. APPLICATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARD -- (CONTINUED)

variable interest entities under the provisions of Interpretation No. 46 and have concluded that no additional entities need to be consolidated.

In evaluating Interpretation No. 46R, we concluded that we could no longer consolidate CT Convertible Trust I, the entity which had purchased our step up convertible junior subordinated debentures and issued company-obligated, mandatory redeemable, convertible trust common and preferred securities. Capital Trust, Inc. had issued the convertible junior subordinated debentures and had purchased the convertible trust common securities. The consolidation of CT Convertible Trust I resulted in the elimination of both the convertible junior subordinated debentures and the convertible trust common securities with the convertible trust preferred securities being reported on our balance sheet after liabilities but before equity and the related expense being reported on the income statement below income taxes and net of income tax benefits. After the deconsolidation, we report the convertible junior subordinated debentures as liabilities and the convertible trust common

securities as other assets. The expense from the payment of interest on the debentures is reported as interest and related expenses on convertible junior subordinated debentures and the income received from our investment in the common securities is reported as a component of interest and related income. We have elected to restate prior periods for the application of Interpretation 46R. The restatement was effected by a cumulative type change in accounting principle on January 1, 2002. There was no change to previously reported net income as a result of such restatement.

4. VENTURE WITH CITIGROUP ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS LLC

On March 8, 2000, we entered into a venture with affiliates of Citigroup Alternative Investments LLC pursuant to which they agreed, among other things, to co-sponsor and invest capital in a series of commercial real estate mezzanine investment funds managed by us. Pursuant to the venture agreement, which was amended in 2003, we have co-sponsored three funds with Citigroup Alternative Investments; CT Mezzanine Partners I LLC, CT Mezzanine Partners II LP and CT Mezzanine Partners III, Inc., which we refer to as Fund I, Fund II and Fund III, respectively.

Fund I was formed in March 2000. An affiliate of Citigroup Alternative Investments and our wholly-owned subsidiary, as members thereof, made capital commitments of up to \$150 million and \$50 million, respectively. During its investment period, Fund I made approximately \$330 million of investments. In January 2003, we purchased the 75% interest in Fund I held by an affiliate of Citigroup Alternative Investments for a purchase price of approximately \$38.4 million (including the assumption of liabilities), equal to the book value of the fund. On January 31, 2003, we began consolidating the balance sheet and operations of Fund I in our consolidated financial statements.

Fund II was formed in April 2001. Fund II effected its final closing on third-party investor equity commitments in August 2001. Fund II had total equity commitments of \$845.2 million including \$49.7 million made by us and \$198.9 million made by affiliates of Citigroup Alternative Investments. Third-party private equity investors made the remaining equity commitments. During its investment period (April 9, 2001 to April 9, 2003), Fund II made approximately \$1.2 billion of investments.

Fund III was formed in June 2003. Fund III effected its final closing on third-party investor equity commitments in August 2003. Fund III has total equity commitments of \$425 million including \$20 million made by us and \$80 million made by affiliates of Citigroup Alternative Investments. Third-party private equity investors made the remaining equity commitments. Through December 31, 2003, Fund III made approximately \$213 million of investments.

Our wholly-owned subsidiary, CT Investment Management Co., LLC, serves as the exclusive investment manager to Fund I, Fund II and Fund III.

In connection with entering into the venture agreement and formation of Fund I, we issued to affiliates of Citigroup Alternative Investments warrants to purchase 1,416,667 shares of class A common stock. In

F-8

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

4. VENTURE WITH CITIGROUP ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS LLC -- (CONTINUED)

connection with the closings on third-party investor equity commitments to Fund II, we issued to affiliates of Citigroup Alternative Investments warrants

to purchase 1,426,155 shares of our class A common stock. In total, we had issued warrants to purchase 2,842,822 shares of our class A common stock. The warrants had a \$15.00 per share exercise price and were exercisable until expiration on March 8, 2005. We capitalized the value of the warrants at issuance and they are being amortized over the anticipated lives of the Funds. In January 2003, we purchased all of the outstanding warrants for \$2.1 million. We had no further obligations to issue additional warrants to Citigroup at December 31, 2003.

5. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

PRINCIPLES OF CONSOLIDATION

Our consolidated financial statements include our accounts and the accounts of our wholly-owned subsidiaries, CT Investment Management Co. (as described in Note 3), CT-F1, LLC (direct member and equity owner of Fund I), CT-F2-LP, LLC (limited partner of Fund II), CT-F2-GP, LLC (direct member and equity owner of Fund II GP), CT-BB Funding Corp. (finance subsidiary for three mezzanine loans), CT Convertible Trust I (as described in Note 13), CT LF Funding Corp. (finance subsidiary for all of our CMBS securities), CT BSI Funding Corp. and VIC, Inc., which together with us wholly owns Victor Capital Group, L.P. and VCG Montreal Management, Inc. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

Interest income for our loans and investments is recognized over the life of the investment using the effective interest method and recognized on the accrual basis.

Fees received in connection with loan commitments, net of direct expenses, are deferred until the loan is advanced and are then recognized over the term of the loan as an adjustment to yield. Fees on commitments that expire unused are recognized at expiration. Exit fees are also recognized over the estimated term of the loan as an adjustment to yield.

Income recognition is generally suspended for loans at the earlier of the date at which payments become 90 days past due or when, in the opinion of management, a full recovery of income and principal becomes doubtful. Income recognition is resumed when the loan becomes contractually current and performance is demonstrated to be resumed.

Fees from investment management services are recognized when earned on an accrual basis. Fees from professional advisory services are generally recognized at the point at which all Company services have been performed and no significant contingencies exist with respect to entitlement to payment. Fees from asset management services are recognized as services are rendered.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

We classify highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of purchase as cash equivalents. At December 31, 2003 and 2002, a majority of the cash and cash equivalents consisted of overnight investments in commercial paper. We had no bank balances in excess of federally insured amounts at December 31, 2003 and 2002. We have not experienced any losses on our demand deposits, commercial paper or money market investments.

AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE SECURITIES AND COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES ("CMBS")

We have designated our investments in commercial mortgage-backed securities

and certain other securities as available-for-sale. Available-for-sale securities are carried at estimated fair value with the net

F-9

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

5. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (CONTINUED)

unrealized gains or losses reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income/(loss) in shareholders' equity. Many of these investments are relatively illiquid and management must estimate their values. In making these estimates, management utilizes market prices provided by dealers who make markets in these securities, but may, under certain circumstances, adjust these valuations based on management's judgment. Changes in the valuations do not affect our reported income or cash flows, but impact shareholders' equity and, accordingly, book value per share.

Management must also assess whether unrealized losses on securities reflect a decline in value that is other than temporary, and, accordingly, write the impaired security down to its fair value, through a charge to earnings. We have assessed our securities to first determine whether there is an indication of possible other than temporary impairment and then where an indication exists to determine if other than temporary impairment did in fact exist. We expect a full recovery from our securities and did not recognize any other than temporary impairment. Significant judgment of management is required in this analysis that includes, but is not limited to, making assumptions regarding the collectibility of the principal and interest, net of related expenses, on the underlying loans.

Income on these available-for-sale securities is recognized based upon a number of assumptions that are subject to uncertainties and contingencies. Examples of these include, among other things, the rate and timing of principal payments, including prepayments, repurchases, defaults and liquidations, the pass-through or coupon rate and interest rate fluctuations. Additional factors that may affect our reported interest income on our mortgage-backed securities include interest payment shortfalls due to delinquencies on the underlying mortgage loans and the timing and magnitude of credit losses on the mortgage loans underlying the securities that are a result of the general condition of the real estate market, including competition for tenants and their related credit quality, and changes in market rental rates. These uncertainties and contingencies are difficult to predict and are subject to future events that may alter the assumptions.

We adopted Emerging Issues Task Force 99-20, "Recognition of Interest Income and Impairment on Purchased and Retained Beneficial Interests in Securitized Financial Assets" on January 1, 2001. In accordance with this guidance, on a quarterly basis, when significant changes in estimated cash flows from the cash flows previously estimated occur due to actual prepayment and credit loss experience, we calculate a revised yield based on the current amortized cost of the investment, including any other-than-temporary impairments recognized to date, and the revised cash flows. The revised yield is then applied prospectively to recognize interest income.

IMPAIRMENT OF AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE SECURITIES AND CMBS

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 115, when the estimated fair value of a security classified as available-for-sale has been below amortized cost for a significant period of time and we conclude that we no longer have the ability or intent to hold the security for the

period of time over which we expect the values to recover to amortized cost, the investment is written down to its fair value. The resulting charge is included in income, and a new cost basis established. Additionally, under Emerging Issues Task Force 99-20, when significant changes in estimated cash flows from the cash flows previously estimated occur due to actual prepayment and credit loss experience and the present value of the revised cash flows using the current expected yield is less than the present value of the previously estimated remaining cash flows, adjusted for cash receipts during the intervening period, an other-than-temporary impairment is deemed to have occurred. Accordingly, the security is written down to fair value with the resulting change being included in income and a new cost basis established. In both instances, the original discount or premium is written off when the new cost basis is established.

After taking into account the effect of the impairment charge, income is recognized under Emerging Issues Task Force 99-20 or Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 91, as applicable, using the market yield for the security used in establishing the write-down.

F-10

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

5. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (CONTINUED)

LOANS RECEIVABLE AND RESERVE FOR POSSIBLE CREDIT LOSSES

We purchase and originate commercial mortgage and mezzanine loans to be held as long-term investments. Management must periodically evaluate each of these loans for possible impairment. Impairment is indicated when it is deemed probable that we will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan. If a loan were determined to be permanently impaired, we would write down the loan through a charge to the reserve for possible credit losses. Given the nature of our loan portfolio and the underlying commercial real estate collateral, significant judgment of management is required in determining permanent impairment and the resulting charge to the reserve, which includes but is not limited to making assumptions regarding the value of the real estate that secures the mortgage loan.

Our accounting policies require that an allowance for estimated credit losses be reflected in our financial statements based upon an evaluation of known and inherent risks in our mortgage and mezzanine loans. While we have experienced minimal actual losses on our lending investments, management considers it prudent to reflect provisions for loan losses on a portfolio basis based upon our assessment of general market conditions, our internal risk management policies and credit risk rating system, industry loss experience, our assessment of the likelihood of delinquencies or defaults, and the value of the collateral underlying our investments. Actual losses, if any, could ultimately differ from these estimates.

SALES OF REAL ESTATE

We comply with the provisions of the FASB's Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 66, "Accounting for Sales of Real Estate."

Accordingly, the recognition of gains is deferred until such transactions have complied with the criteria for full profit recognition under the statement.

EQUITY INVESTMENTS IN FUND I, FUND II, CT MP II LLC (WHICH WE REFER TO AS FUND II GP) AND FUND III (WHICH TOGETHER WE REFER TO AS FUNDS)

As the Funds are not majority owned or controlled by us, we do not consolidate the Funds in our consolidated financial statements. We account for our interest in the Funds on the equity method of accounting. As such, we report a percentage of the earnings of the Funds equal to our ownership percentage on a single line item in the consolidated statement of operations as income from equity investments in the Funds.

DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In the normal course of business, we use a variety of derivative financial instruments to manage, or hedge, interest rate risk. These derivative financial instruments must be effective in reducing its interest rate risk exposure in order to qualify for hedge accounting. When the terms of an underlying transaction are modified, or when the underlying hedged item ceases to exist, all changes in the fair value of the instrument are marked-to-market with changes in value included in net income each period until the derivative instrument matures or is settled. Any derivative instrument used for risk management that does not meet the hedging criteria is marked-to-market with the changes in value included in net income.

We use interest rate swaps to effectively convert variable rate debt to fixed rate debt for the financed portion of fixed rate assets. The differential to be paid or received on these agreements is recognized as an adjustment to the interest expense related to debt and is recognized on the accrual basis.

We have also used interest rate caps to reduce our exposure to interest rate changes on investments. We would have received payments on an interest rate cap if the variable rate for which the cap was purchased exceed a specified threshold level and would have recorded an adjustment to the interest income related to the related earning asset. We had no interest rate caps in place at December 31, 2003.

F-11

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

5. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (CONTINUED)

To determine the fair values of derivative instruments, we use a variety of methods and assumptions that are based on market conditions and risks existing at each balance sheet date. For the majority of financial instruments including most derivatives, long-term investments and long-term debt, standard market conventions and techniques such as discounted cash flow analysis, option pricing models, replacement cost, and termination cost are used to determine fair value. All methods of assessing fair value result in a general approximation of value, and such value may never actually be realized.

The swap and cap agreements are generally held-to-maturity and we do not use derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

EQUIPMENT AND LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, NET

Equipment and leasehold improvements, net, are stated at original cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method based on the estimated lives of the depreciable assets. Amortization is computed over the remaining terms of the related leases.

Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged directly to expense at the time incurred. Expenditures determined to represent additions and betterments are capitalized. Cost of assets sold or retired and the related amounts of accumulated depreciation are eliminated from the accounts in the year of sale or retirement. Any resulting profit or loss is reflected in the consolidated statement of operations.

DEFERRED FINANCING COSTS

The deferred financing costs which are included in other assets on our consolidated balance sheets include issuance costs related to our debt and are amortized using the straight-line method which is similar to the results of the effective interest method.

ACCOUNTING FOR STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

We comply with the provisions of the Financial Accounting Standards Board's Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation". Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 encourages the adoption of a new fair-value based accounting method for employee stock-based compensation plans. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 also permits companies to continue accounting for stockbased compensation plans as prescribed by Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25. However, companies electing to continue accounting for stock-based compensation plans under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, must make pro forma disclosures as if we adopted the cost recognition requirements under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123. We have continued to account for stock-based compensation under Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25. Accordingly, no compensation cost has been recognized for the incentive stock plan or the director stock plan in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations as the exercise price of the stock options granted thereunder equaled the market price of the underlying stock on the date of the grant.

Pro forma information regarding net income and net earnings per common share has been estimated at the date of the grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model based on the following assumptions for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001 (no options were granted during the year ended December 31, 2003):

	2002	2001
Risk-free interest rate	4.30%	4.75%
Volatility	25.0%	25.0%
Dividend yield	0.0%	0.0%
Expected life (years)	5.0	5.0

F - 12

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

5. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (CONTINUED)

The Black-Scholes option valuation model was developed for use in estimating the fair value of traded options that have no vesting restrictions and are fully transferable. In addition, option valuation models require the input of

highly subjective assumptions including the expected stock price volatility. Because our employee stock options have characteristics significantly different from those of traded options, and because changes in the subjective input assumptions can materially affect the fair value estimate, in our opinion, the existing models do not necessarily provide a reliable single measure of the fair value of our employee stock options. Weighted average fair value of each stock option granted during the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001 were \$1.64 and \$1.47, respectively.

For purposes of pro forma disclosures, the estimated fair value of the options is amortized to expense over the options' vesting period. Our pro forma information for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001 is as follows (in thousands, except for net earnings (loss) per share of common stock):

	2003		2002	
	AS REPORTED	PRO FORMA	AS REPORTED	PR
Net income Net earnings per share of common stock:	\$13,525	\$13 , 280	\$(9,738)	\$
Basic	•	\$ 2.23 \$ 2.21		\$

The pro forma information presented above is not representative of the effect stock options will have on pro forma net income or earnings per share for future years.

INCOME TAXES

Our financial results generally do not reflect provisions for current or deferred income taxes on our REIT taxable income. Management believes that we have and intend to continue to operate in a manner that will continue to allow us to be taxed as a REIT and, as a result, do not expect to pay substantial corporate-level taxes (other than taxes payable by our taxable REIT subsidiaries). Many of these requirements, however, are highly technical and complex. If we were to fail to meet these requirements, we would be subject to Federal income tax.

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Effective January 1, 1998, we adopted the FASB's Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 130, "Reporting Comprehensive Income" ("SFAS No. 130"). The statement changes the reporting of certain items currently reported in the shareholders' equity section of the balance sheet and establishes standards for reporting of comprehensive income and its components in a full set of general-purpose financial statements. Total comprehensive income/(loss) was \$8,633,000, (\$8,817,000) and (\$9,813,000) for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The primary component of comprehensive income other than net income was the unrealized gain/(loss) on derivative financial instruments and available-for-sale securities, net of related income taxes. At December 31, 2003, accumulated other comprehensive loss is comprised of unrealized losses on CMBS of \$34,809,000 and unrealized gains on cash flow swaps of \$168,000 offset by unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities of \$761,000 netting to a total of \$33,880,000.

EARNINGS PER SHARE OF COMMON STOCK

Earnings per share of common stock are presented based on the requirements of the FASB's Statement of Accounting Standards No. 128 ("SFAS No. 128"). Basic EPS is computed based on the income applicable to common stock (which is net income or loss reduced by the dividends on the preferred stock) divided by weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS is based on

F-13

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

5. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (CONTINUED)

the net earnings applicable to common stock plus, if dilutive, dividends on the preferred stock and interest paid on convertible trust preferred securities, net of tax benefit, divided by weighted average number of shares of common stock and potentially dilutive shares of common stock that were outstanding during the period. At December 31, 2003, potentially dilutive shares of common stock include convertible trust preferred securities, dilutive common stock options. At December 31, 2002, potentially dilutive shares of common stock include convertible trust preferred securities, dilutive common stock warrants and options and future commitments for stock unit awards. At December 31, 2001, potentially dilutive shares of common stock include the convertible preferred stock, convertible trust preferred securities, dilutive common stock warrants and options and future commitments for stock unit awards.

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

RECLASSIFICATIONS

Certain reclassifications have been made in the presentation of the 2002 and 2001 consolidated financial statements to conform to the 2003 presentation.

SEGMENT REPORTING

We have established two reportable segments beginning January 1, 2003. We have an internal information system that produces performance and asset data for its two segments along service lines.

The Balance Sheet Investment segment includes all of our activities related to direct loan and investment activities (including direct investments in Funds) and the financing thereof.

The Investment Management segment includes all of our activities related to investment management services provided to us and funds under management and includes our taxable REIT subsidiary, CT Investment Management Co., and its subsidiaries.

Prior to January 1, 2003, we managed our operations as one segment, therefore separate segment reporting is not presented for 2002 and 2001, as the financial information for that segment is the same as the information in

the consolidated financial statements.

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In September 2000, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 140, "Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities." This statement is applicable for transfers of assets and extinguishments of liabilities occurring after June 30, 2001. We adopted the provisions of this statement as required for all transactions entered into on or after January 1, 2001. Our adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 140 did not have a significant impact on us.

On January 1, 2001, we adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," as amended by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 137 and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities." Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, as amended, establishes accounting and reporting standards for derivative instruments. Specifically Statement of

F - 14

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

5. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (CONTINUED)

Financial Accounting Standards No. 133 requires an entity to recognize all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets and to measure those instruments at fair value. Additionally, the fair value adjustments will affect either shareholders' equity or net income depending on whether the derivative instrument qualifies as a hedge for accounting purposes and, if so, the nature of the hedging activity. As of January 1, 2001, the adoption of the new standard resulted in an adjustment of \$574,000 to accumulated other comprehensive loss.

In the case of the fair value hedge, we hedged the component of interest rate risk that can be directly controlled by the hedging instrument, and it is this portion of the hedge assets that was being recognized in earnings. Mark to market on non-hedged available for sale securities and non-hedged aspect of CMBS are reported in accumulated in other comprehensive income. Financial reporting for hedges characterized as fair value hedges and cash flow hedges are different. For those hedges characterized as a fair value hedge, the changes in fair value of the hedge and the hedged item are reflected in earnings each quarter. In the case of the fair value hedge, we hedged the component of interest rate risk that can be directly controlled by the hedging instrument, and it was this portion of the hedged assets that is recognized in earnings. The non-hedged balance is classified as an available-for-sale security consistent with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 115, and was reported in accumulated other comprehensive income. For those hedges characterized as cash flow hedges, the unrealized gains/losses in the fair value of these hedges were reported on the balance sheet with a corresponding adjustment to either accumulated other comprehensive income or to earnings, depending on the type of hedging relationship. We discontinued our fair value hedge transaction in 2002. In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, on December 31, 2003, the derivative financial instruments were reported at their fair value as interest rate hedge assets of \$168,000.

We are exposed to credit loss in the event of non-performance by the

counterparties to the interest rate swap and cap agreements, although we do not anticipate such non-performance. The counterparties would bear the interest rate risk of such transactions as market interest rates increase.

In July 2001, the SEC released Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 102, "Selected Loan Loss Allowance and Documentation Issues." Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 102 summarizes certain of the SEC's views on the development, documentation and application of a systematic methodology for determining allowances for loan and lease losses. Our adoption of Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 102 did not have a significant impact on us.

In July 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141, "Business Combinations" and Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141 requires the purchase method of accounting to be used for all business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141 also addresses the initial recognition and measurement of goodwill and other intangible assets acquired in business combinations and requires intangible assets to be recognized apart from goodwill if certain tests are met. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142 requires that goodwill not be amortized but instead be measured for impairment at least annually, or when events indicate that there may be an impairment. We adopted the provisions of both statements, as required, on January 1, 2002, which did not have a significant impact on us.

In October 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets." Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144 provides new guidance on the recognition of impairment losses on long-lived assets to be held and used or to be disposed of, and also broadens the definition of what constitutes a discontinued operation and how the results of a discontinued operation are to be measured and presented. Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144 requires that current operations prior to the disposition of corporate tenant lease assets and prior period results of such operations be presented in discontinued operations in our consolidated statements of operations. The provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting

F-15

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

5. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES -- (CONTINUED)

Standards No. 144 are effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001, and must be applied at the beginning of a fiscal year. We adopted the provisions of this statement on January 1, 2002, as required, which did not have a significant financial impact on us.

In November 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Interpretation No. 45, "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others," an interpretation of Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies," Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 57, "Related Party Disclosures," Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 107, "Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments" and rescission of Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 34, "Disclosure of Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others, an Interpretation of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 5." It requires that upon issuance of a quarantee, the quarantor must

recognize a liability for the fair value of the obligation it assumes under that guarantee regardless of whether the guarantor receives separately identifiable consideration, such as a premium. The new disclosure requirements are effective December 31, 2002. Our adoption of Interpretation No. 45 did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements, nor is it expected to have a material impact in the future.

In January 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Interpretation No. 46, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities," an interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin 51. Interpretation No. 46 provides guidance on identifying entities for which control is achieved through means other than through voting rights, and how to determine when and which business enterprise should consolidate a variable interest entity. In addition, Interpretation No. 46 requires that both the primary beneficiary and all other enterprises with a significant variable interest in a variable interest entity make additional disclosures. The transitional disclosure requirements took effect almost immediately and are required for all financial statements initially issued after January 31, 2003. In December 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued a revision of Interpretation No. 46, Interpretation No. 46R, to clarify the provisions of Interpretation No. 46. The application of Interpretation No. 46R is effective for public companies, other than small business issuers, after March 15, 2004. We have evaluated all of our investments and other interests in entities that may be deemed variable interest entities under the provisions of Interpretation No. 46. We have concluded that no additional entities need to be consolidated. We have deconsolidated CT Convertible Trust I in these financial statements and all prior periods have been restated. The deconsolidation did not result in a significant impact to us.

In May 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 150 "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of both Liabilities and Equity". This statement establishes standards for the classification and measurement of certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. The statement is effective for financial instruments entered into and modified after May 31, 2003 and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. It is to be implemented by reporting the cumulative effect of a change in an accounting principle of financial instruments created before the issuance date of the statement and still existing at the beginning of the interim period of adoption. The implementation of the statement did not have a material impact on the Company.

F-16

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

6. AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE SECURITIES

At December 31, 2003, our available-for-sale securities consisted of the following (in thousands):

AMORTIZ COST

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold, fixed rate interest at 6.50%, due
September 1, 2031
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold, fixed rate interest at 6.50%, due
September 1, 2031
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold, fixed rate interest at 6.50%, due
September 1, 2031
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold, fixed rate interest at 6.50%, due April 1,
2032

We purchased the securities due September 1, 2031 on September 28, 2001 at a premium to yield 6.07% with an anticipated average life of 5.15 years with financing provided by the seller through a repurchase agreement.

We purchased the security due April 1, 2032 in March 2002 at a discount with seller provided financing through a repurchase agreement.

At December 31, 2002, our available-for-sale securities consisted of the following (in thousands):

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold, fixed rate interest at 6.50%, due September 1, 2031
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold, fixed rate interest at 6.50%, due September 1, 2031
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold, fixed rate interest at 6.50%, due September 1, 2031
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Gold, fixed rate interest at 6.50%, due April 1, 2032

We sold three securities due September 1, 2031 in June 2002 with an amortized cost of \$75,006,000 for \$75,358,000 resulting in a total gain of \$352,000.

7. COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES

We acquire rated and unrated subordinated investments in public and private CMBS issues.

Because of a decision to sell a held-to-maturity security in 1998, we transferred all of our investments in commercial mortgage-backed securities from held-to-maturity securities to available-for-sale and continue to classify the CMBS as such.

During the year ended December 31, 1998, we purchased \$36,509,000 face amount of interests in three CMBS issued by a financial asset securitization investment trust for \$36,335,000. In April 2001, we received \$1.4 million of additional discount from the issuer of the securities in settlement of a

\$ 2,36

8,41

7,78

\$19,29

AMORTIZE COST

\$ 6,513

31,017

1,770

23,698

\$62,998

72

dispute with the issuer.

F-17

CAPITAL TRUST, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

7. COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES -- (CONTINUED)

In May 2002, we received full satisfaction of \$36,509,000. In connection with the early payoff, we recognized an additional \$370,000 of unamortized discou