

# HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES INC

## FORM 424B5

(Prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5))

Filed 7/10/1996

Address	3100 SMOKETREE CT STE 600 RALEIGH, North Carolina 27604
Telephone	919-872-4924
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Industry	Real Estate Operations
Sector	Services
Fiscal Year	12/31

**424B5**  
333-3890  
333-3890-01

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**  
(TO PROSPECTUS DATED JUNE 20, 1996)

**250,000 SHARES**

**HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC.**  
**COMMON STOCK**

Highwoods Properties, Inc. (the "Company") offers hereby 250,000 shares of its common stock (the "Common Stock"), par value \$.01 per share (the "Offering"), to the several underwriters (the "Underwriters") who participated in the Company's offering of 11,500,000 shares of Common Stock which closed on June 26, 1996 (the "June Offering"). The shares offered hereby are being sold by the Company to the Underwriters at a price of \$27.375 per share so that they may cover a portion of their short position resulting from over-allotments in connection with the June Offering. On July 8, 1996, the last reported sale price of the Common Stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$27 1/2.

The proceeds to the Company from the Offering will be \$6,843,750 before deducting estimated expenses payable by the Company of \$10,000. The Company intends to use the net cash proceeds of the Offering to fund a portion of the purchase price of all of the outstanding shares of Crocker Realty Trust, Inc. Pending such uses, the net proceeds may be invested in short-term income-producing investments such as commercial paper, government securities or money market funds that invest in government securities.

**SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 4 IN THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS**

**FOR CERTAIN FACTORS RELEVANT TO AN INVESTMENT IN THE COMMON STOCK.**

**THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE SECURITIES AND  
EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES  
COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY  
OF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT OR THE PROSPECTUS.  
ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A  
CRIMINAL OFFENSE.**

**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK HAS NOT PASSED ON OR ENDORSED  
THE MERITS OF THIS OFFERING. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS UNLAWFUL.**

It is expected that delivery of the Common Stock offered hereby will be made in New York, New York on or about July 12, 1996.

**The date of this Prospectus Supplement is July 8, 1996.**

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Subject to the terms and conditions contained in the purchase agreement between the Underwriters and the Company and Highwoods/Forsyth Limited Partnership (the "Purchase Agreement"), the Company has agreed to sell to each of the Underwriters named below, and each of the Underwriters, for whom Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Dean Witter Reynolds Inc., Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, PaineWebber Incorporated, Prudential Securities Incorporated, The Robinson-Humphrey Company, Inc. and Scott & Stringfellow, Inc. are acting as representatives, has severally agreed to purchase from the Company, the respective number of shares of Common Stock set forth below opposite their respective names.

UNDERWRITER	NUMBER OF SHARES
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated.....	22,450
Dean Witter Reynolds Inc.....	22,300
Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated.....	22,300
PaineWebber Incorporated.....	22,300
Prudential Securities Incorporated.....	22,300
The Robinson-Humphrey Company, Inc.....	22,300
Scott & Stringfellow, Inc.....	22,300
Alex. Brown & Sons Incorporated.....	3,750
Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities Corporation.....	3,750
A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.....	3,750
Oppenheimer & Co., Inc.....	3,750
Salomon Brothers Inc.....	3,750
Schroder Wertheim & Co. Incorporated.....	3,750
Smith Barney Inc.....	3,750
Advest, Inc.....	1,875
Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated.....	1,875
J.C. Bradford & Co.....	1,875
Cowen & Company.....	1,875
Craigie Incorporated.....	1,875
Dain Bosworth Incorporated.....	1,875
Davenport & Co. of Virginia, Inc.....	1,875
Dominick & Dominick, Incorporated.....	1,875
Equitable Securities Corporation.....	1,875
EVEREN Securities, Inc.....	1,875
Fahnestock & Co. Inc.....	1,875
First Albany Corporation.....	1,875
First of Michigan Corporation.....	1,875
Furman Selz LLC.....	1,875
Gruntal & Co., Incorporated.....	1,875
J.J.B. Hillard, W.L. Lyons, Inc.....	1,875
Interstate/Johnson Lane Corporation.....	1,875
Janney Montgomery Scott Inc.....	1,875
Edward D. Jones & Co.....	1,875
Ladenburg, Thalmann & Co. Inc.....	1,875
Legg Mason Wood Walker, Incorporated.....	1,875
Marion Bass Securities Corporation.....	1,875
McDonald & Company Securities, Inc.....	1,875
Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc.....	1,875
Piper Jaffray Inc.....	1,875
Principal Financial Securities, Inc.....	1,875
Ragen MacKenzie Incorporated.....	1,875
Rauscher Pierce Refsnes, Inc.....	1,875
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.....	1,875

Southeast Research Partners, Inc.....	1,875
Stephens Inc.....	1,875
Sterne, Agee & Leach, Inc.....	1,875
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated.....	1,875
Sutro & Co. Incorporated.....	1,875
Tucker Anthony Incorporated.....	1,875
Wheat, First Securities, Inc.....	1,875
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Total.....	250,000
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As previously described, the shares offered hereby are being sold by the Company to the Underwriters at a price of \$27.375 per share so that they may cover a portion of their short position resulting from over-allotments in connection with the June Offering.

# PROSPECTUS

\$1,000,000,000  
**HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC.**  
**COMMON STOCK, PREFERRED STOCK AND DEPOSITARY SHARES**  
**HIGHWOODS/FORSYTH LIMITED PARTNERSHIP**  
**DEBT SECURITIES**

Highwoods Properties, Inc. (the "Company") may from time to time offer in one or more series (i) shares of common stock, \$.01 par value per share ("Common Stock"), (ii) shares of preferred stock, \$.01 par value per share ("Preferred Stock") and (iii) shares of Preferred Stock represented by depositary shares (the "Depositary Shares"), with an aggregate public offering price of up to \$650,000,000 (or its equivalent in another currency based on the exchange rate at the time of sale) in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined at the time of offering. Highwoods/Forsyth Limited Partnership (the "Operating Partnership") may from time to time offer in one or more series unsecured non-convertible debt securities ("Debt Securities"), with an aggregate public offering price of up to \$350,000,000 (or its equivalent in another currency based on the exchange rate at the time of sale) in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined at the time of offering. The Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares and Debt Securities, (collectively, the "Securities") may be offered, separately or together, in separate series in amounts, at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this Prospectus (each a "Prospectus Supplement"). If any Debt Securities issued by the Operating Partnership are rated below investment grade at the time of issuance, such Debt Securities will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Company as to payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest (the "Guarantees"). Debt securities rated investment grade may also be accompanied by a Guarantee to the extent and on the terms described herein and in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement. The Company conducts substantially all of its activity through, and all of its properties are held directly or indirectly by, the Operating Partnership. Consequently, the Company's operating cash flow and its ability to service its financial obligations, including the Guarantees, is dependent upon the cash flow of and distributions or other payments from the Operating Partnership to the Company.

The specific terms of the Securities in respect of which this Prospectus is being delivered will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement and will include, where applicable: (i) in the case of Common Stock, any initial public offering price; (ii) in the case of Preferred Stock, the specific title and stated value, any dividend, liquidation, redemption, conversion, voting and other rights, and any initial public offering price; (iii) in the case of Depositary Shares, the fractional share of Preferred Stock represented by each such Depositary Share; and (iv) in the case of Debt Securities, the specific title, aggregate principal amount, currency, form (which may be registered or bearer, or certificated or global), authorized denominations, maturity, rate (or manner of calculation thereof) and time of payment of interest, terms for redemption at the option of the Operating Partnership or repayment at the option of the holder, terms for sinking fund payments, covenants, applicability of any Guarantees and any initial public offering price. In addition, such specific terms may include limitations on direct or beneficial ownership and restrictions on transfer of the Securities, in each case as may be appropriate to preserve the status of the Company as a real estate investment trust ("REIT") for Federal income tax purposes.

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will also contain information, where applicable, about certain United States Federal income tax considerations relating to, and any listing on a securities exchange of, the Securities covered by such Prospectus Supplement.

**SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 4 OF THIS PROSPECTUS FOR A DESCRIPTION OF CERTAIN FACTORS THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY PURCHASERS OF THE SECURITIES.**

The Securities may be offered directly, through agents designated from time to time by the Company or the Operating Partnership, or to or through underwriters or dealers. If any agents or underwriters are involved in the sale of any of the Securities, their names, and any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between or among them, will be set forth, or will be calculable from the information set forth, in an accompanying Prospectus Supplement. See "Plan of Distribution." No Securities may be sold without delivery of a Prospectus Supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such series of Securities.

**THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS**

**PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE  
CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.**

**THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK HAS NOT PASSED  
ON OR ENDORSED THE MERITS OF THIS OFFERING. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS UNLAWFUL.**

The date of this Prospectus is June 20, 1996.

## AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Company and the Operating Partnership are subject to the information requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and in accordance therewith the Company files reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") and the Operating Partnership will file reports with the Commission. Such reports, proxy statements and other information may be inspected and copied, at prescribed rates, at the public reference facilities of the Commission at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20549, Room 1024, and at the Commission's New York regional office at Seven World Trade Center, New York, New York 10048 and at the Commission's Chicago regional office at Citicorp Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661. Copies of such material can also be obtained at prescribed rates by writing to the public reference section of the Commission at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20549. In addition, the Common Stock of the Company is listed on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), and similar information concerning the Company can be inspected and copied at the offices of the NYSE, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The Company and the Operating Partnership have filed with the Commission a registration statement on Form S-3 (the "Registration Statement") under the Securities Act, with respect to the Securities. This prospectus ("Prospectus"), which constitutes a part of the Registration Statement, does not contain all of the information set forth in the Registration Statement and in the exhibits and schedules thereto. For further information with respect to the Company, the Operating Partnership and the Securities, reference is hereby made to such Registration Statement, exhibits and schedules. The Registration Statement may be inspected without charge at, or copies obtained upon payment of prescribed fees from, the Commission and its regional offices at the locations listed above. Any statements contained herein concerning a provision of any document are not necessarily complete, and, in each instance, reference is made to the copy of such document filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement or otherwise filed with the Commission. Each such statement is qualified in its entirety by such reference.

## INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The following documents filed by the Company (Commission File No. 1-13100) with the Commission pursuant to the Exchange Act are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof:

- a. The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1995 (as amended on Form 10-K/A on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996);
- b. The description of the Common Stock of the Company included in the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A, dated May 16, 1994;
- c. The Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 1996 (as amended on Form 10-Q/A on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996); and
- d. The Company's Current Reports on Form 8-K, dated February 10, 1995, July 12, 1995 (as amended on Form 8-K/A on September 6, 1995 and June 3, 1996), December 18, 1995, April 1, 1996 (as amended on Form 8-K/A on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996), and April 29, 1996 (as amended on Form 8-K/A on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996).

All documents filed by the Company or the Operating Partnership with the Commission pursuant to Sections 13(a) and 13(c) of the Exchange Act and any definitive proxy statements so filed pursuant to Section 14 of the Exchange Act and any reports filed pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this Prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering of the Securities to which this Prospectus relates shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for the purposes of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document that is incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such earlier statement. Any such statements modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

Copies of any or all of the documents specifically incorporated herein by reference (not including the exhibits to such documents, unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference in such documents) will be furnished without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a copy of this Prospectus is delivered upon written or oral request. Requests should be made to: Investor Relations, 3100 Smoketree Court, Suite 600, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604.

## THE COMPANY AND THE OPERATING PARTNERSHIP

The Company is a self-administered and self-managed real estate investment trust ("REIT") that began operations through a predecessor in 1978. At May 31, 1996, the Company owned a portfolio of 200 office and industrial properties (the "Properties"), together with approximately 215 acres of land (the "Development Land") for future development. The Properties consist of 102 suburban office properties and 98 industrial (including 62 service center) properties, located in Raleigh-Durham, Winston-Salem, Greensboro and Charlotte, North Carolina, Nashville, Tennessee and Richmond, Virginia. As of May 31, 1996, the Properties consisted of approximately 10.3 million square feet, which were leased to approximately 1,100 tenants.

The Company conducts substantially all of its activities through, and all of the Properties are held directly or indirectly by, Highwoods/Forsyth Limited Partnership (the "Operating Partnership"). The Company is the sole general partner of the Operating Partnership and as of May 31, 1996, owned 82% of the partnership interests (the "Units") in the Operating Partnership. The remaining Units are owned by limited partners (including certain officers and directors of the Company). Each Unit may be redeemed by the holder thereof for cash or, at the Company's option, one share (subject to certain adjustments) of the Common Stock. With each such exchange, the number of Units owned by the Company and, therefore, the Company's percentage interest in the Operating Partnership, will increase. Because the Company conducts substantially all of its activity through, and all of its properties are held directly or indirectly by, the Operating Partnership, the description of the business, property information, policies with respect to certain activities, investment policies and management information for the Operating Partnership are the same as the Company. Such information may be found in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1995.

The only businesses or assets of the Company which are not conducted or owned directly or indirectly through the Operating Partnership are the brokerage and property management business and related assets acquired on April 1, 1996 through the Company's merger with Nashville, Tennessee-based Eakin & Smith, Inc. (the "Eakin & Smith Transaction"). In addition to owning the Properties and the Development Land, the Operating Partnership also provides services associated with leasing, property management, real estate development, construction and miscellaneous tenant services for the Properties as well as for third parties. The Company conducts its third-party fee-based services through two subsidiaries of the Operating Partnership, Highwoods Services, Inc. and Forsyth Properties Services, Inc. (the "Service Companies"), and Forsyth-Carter Brokerage L.L.C. ("Forsyth-Carter Brokerage"), a joint venture with Carter Oncor International.

On April 29, 1996, the Company entered into a merger agreement (the "Merger Agreement") with Crocker Realty Trust, Inc. ("Crocker") pursuant to which the Company will acquire 58 suburban office properties and 12 service center properties (the "Crocker Properties") located in 15 Southeastern markets in Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Virginia and Alabama. The Crocker Properties encompass 5.7 million rentable square feet and, at March 31, 1996, were 95% leased. Through the merger with Crocker (the "Merger"), which is expected to occur in the third quarter of 1996, the Company will establish itself as one of the largest real estate operating companies in the Southeastern United States specializing in the ownership, management, acquisition and development of suburban office and industrial properties. Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, the Company will acquire all of the outstanding capital stock of Crocker in exchange for a cash payment of \$11.02 per share, subject to certain adjustments. Based on Crocker's 26,981,087 million shares of outstanding capital stock at May 31, 1996, the purchase price will total approximately \$297 million. In addition, the Company will cash out certain existing options and warrants to purchase Crocker common stock for an estimated \$4.2 million and assume approximately \$240 million of Crocker's currently outstanding indebtedness, having a weighted average interest rate of 8.6%. In connection with the Merger, the Company has also entered into a Stock Purchase Agreement (the "Stock Purchase Agreement") with certain stockholders of Crocker, who together own approximately 83% of Crocker's outstanding common stock (collectively, the "Crocker Selling Stockholders"), which obligates such stockholders to sell their shares to the Company at a cash price of \$11.02, subject to the same adjustments as required under the Merger Agreement. The approximately \$247 million purchase price for such shares is part of the total approximately \$297 million purchase price for all of Crocker's outstanding shares. The Merger Agreement and the Stock Purchase Agreement may be terminated by the respective parties only in certain limited circumstances. In addition, under the terms of the Merger Agreement, certain specified assets and liabilities of Crocker will not be acquired by the Company. The Merger will be accounted for by



the Company under the purchase method of accounting in accordance with Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 16, "Business Combinations," as amended. Under this method of accounting, the purchase price will be allocated to assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair value at the closing date of the Merger.

The Company is a Maryland corporation that was incorporated in 1994. The Operating Partnership is a North Carolina limited partnership formed in 1994. The Company's and the Operating Partnership's executive offices are located at 3100 Smoketree Court, Suite 600, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604, and their telephone number is (919) 872-4924. The Company maintains offices in each of its primary markets.

## **RISK FACTORS**

Prospective investors should carefully consider, among other factors, the matters described below before purchasing offered Securities.

### **NO LIMITATION IN ORGANIZATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON INCURRENCE OF DEBT**

The Company intends to limit the extent of its borrowing to less than 50% of its total market capitalization (i.e., the market value of issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock and Units plus total debt), but the organizational documents of the Company do not contain any limitation on the amount or percentage of indebtedness the Company might incur. The Indenture (as defined herein), however, will contain limits on the Company's ability to incur indebtedness. If the Company's policy limiting borrowing were changed, the Company could become more highly leveraged, resulting in an increase in debt service that could adversely affect the Company's funds from operations and ability to make expected distributions to stockholders and in an increased risk of default on its obligations. As of May 31, 1996, the Company's ratio of debt to total market capitalization was approximately 28%.

### **GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION**

The Company's revenues and the value of its Properties may be affected by a number of factors, including the local economic climate (which may be adversely impacted by business layoffs or downsizing, industry slowdowns, changing demographics and other factors) and local real estate conditions (such as oversupply of or reduced demand for office and other competing commercial properties). As of May 31, 1996, the Properties were located in the following areas (with the number of Properties noted parenthetically): Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina (60); Greensboro, Winston-Salem and High Point, North Carolina (100); Charlotte, North Carolina (22); Richmond, Virginia (11); and Nashville, Tennessee (7). Using March 1996 base rent totals, the North Carolina properties represented 87.5% of the annualized base rent of the Properties, with Raleigh-Durham Properties alone constituting 53.1%. Although the Merger would broaden the Company's geographic focus by adding 11 new markets throughout the Southeastern United States, based on March 1996 rent rolls, the North Carolina Properties would still represent 56.4% of the Company's annualized rental revenue, with properties located in Raleigh-Durham accounting for 31.8% following the Merger. The Company's performance and its ability to make distributions to stockholders is therefore dependent on the economic conditions in these market areas. In addition, there can be no assurance as to the continued growth of the economy in these markets.

### **ABILITY OF THE COMPANY TO PAY ON GUARANTEES**

With the exception of the Nashville, Tennessee brokerage and property management operations, all other operations of the Company are conducted by the Operating Partnership. The principal asset of the Company is its interest (82% as of May 31, 1996) in the Operating Partnership. As a result, the Company is dependent upon the receipt of distributions or other payments from the Operating Partnership in order to meet its financial obligations, including its obligations under any Guarantees. Any Guarantees will be effectively subordinated to existing and future liabilities of the Operating Partnership. At May 31, 1996, the Operating Partnership had approximately \$275 million of indebtedness outstanding, of which approximately \$207 million is secured by interests in certain real estate assets. The Operating Partnership is a party to loan agreements with various bank lenders which require the Operating Partnership to comply with various financial and other covenants before it may make distributions to the Company. Although the Operating

Partnership presently is in compliance with such covenants, there is no assurance that it will continue to be in compliance and that it will be able to continue to make distributions to the Company.

## **RISKS IN THE EVENT OF CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS BY THE OPERATING PARTNERSHIP OR THE COMPANY**

The Indenture does not contain any provisions that would afford holders of Debt Securities protection in the event of (i) a highly leveraged or similar transaction involving the Operating Partnership, the management of the Operating Partnership or the Company, or any affiliate of any such party, (ii) a change of control, or (iii) certain reorganizations, restructures, mergers or similar transactions involving the Operating Partnership or the Company.

## **CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS IN THE BUSINESS OF THE COMPANY**

**TAX CONSEQUENCES UPON SALE OR REFINANCING OF PROPERTIES.** Holders of Units may suffer different and more adverse tax consequences than the Company upon the sale or refinancing of any of the Properties and, therefore, such holders, including certain of the Company's officers and directors, and the Company may have different objectives regarding the appropriate pricing and timing of any sale or refinancing of such Properties. While the Company, as the sole general partner of the Operating Partnership, has the exclusive authority as to whether and on what terms to sell or refinance an individual Property, those members of the Company's management and Board of Directors of the Company who hold Units may influence the Company not to sell or refinance the Properties even though such sale might otherwise be financially advantageous to the Company, or may influence the Company to refinance Properties with a high level of debt.

**POLICIES WITH RESPECT TO CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS.** The Company has adopted certain policies relating to conflicts of interest. These policies include a bylaw provision requiring all transactions in which executive officers or directors have a conflicting interest to be approved by a majority of the independent directors of the Company or a majority of the shares of capital stock held by disinterested stockholders. There can be no assurance that the Company's policies will be successful in eliminating the influence of such conflicts, and if they are not successful, decisions could be made that might fail to reflect fully the interests of all stockholders.

**COMPETITIVE REAL ESTATE ACTIVITIES OF MANAGEMENT.** John W. Eakin and Thomas S. Smith, both of whom became officers and directors of the Company in connection with the Eakin & Smith Transaction, maintain an ownership interest in an office building in the central business district of Nashville, Tennessee, which building may compete for potential tenants with the Company's Nashville office properties.

## **LIMITATIONS ON ACQUISITION AND CHANGE IN CONTROL**

**OWNERSHIP LIMIT.** The Company's Articles of Incorporation prohibit ownership of more than 9.8% of the outstanding capital stock of the Company by any person. Such restriction is likely to have the effect of precluding acquisition of control of the Company by a third party without consent of the Board of Directors even if a change in control were in the interest of stockholders.

**REQUIRED CONSENT OF THE OPERATING PARTNERSHIP FOR MERGER OR OTHER SIGNIFICANT CORPORATE ACTION.** The Company may not merge, consolidate or engage in any combination with another person or sell all or substantially all of its assets unless such transaction includes the merger of the Operating Partnership, which requires the approval of the holders of a majority of the outstanding Units. Should the Company ever own less than a majority of the outstanding Units, this voting requirement might limit the possibility for acquisition or change in the control of the Company. As of May 31, 1996, the Company owned approximately 82% of the Units.

**STAGGERED BOARD.** The Board of Directors of the Company has three classes of directors, the terms of which will expire in 1996, 1997 and 1998. Directors for each class will be chosen for a three-year term. The staggered terms for directors may affect the stockholders' ability to change control of the Company even if a change in control were in the stockholders' interest.

## **DEPENDENCE ON DISTRIBUTIONS FROM OPERATING PARTNERSHIP IN ORDER TO QUALIFY AS A REIT**

To obtain the favorable tax treatment associated with REITs, the Company generally will be required each year to distribute to its stockholders at least 95% of its net taxable income. Because the Company conducts substantially all of its business activities through the Operating Partnership, the ability of the Company to make such distributions is dependent upon the receipt of distributions or other payments from the Operating Partnership.

## **ADVERSE IMPACT ON DISTRIBUTIONS OF FAILURE TO QUALIFY AS A REIT**

The Company and the Operating Partnership intend to operate in a manner so as to permit the Company to remain qualified as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Although the Company believes that it will operate in such a manner, no assurance can be given that the Company will remain qualified as a REIT. If in any taxable year the Company were to fail to qualify as a REIT, the Company would not be allowed a deduction for distributions to stockholders in computing taxable income and would be subject to Federal income tax (including any applicable alternative minimum tax) on its taxable income at regular corporate rates.

## **BROAD DISCRETION IN USE OF PROCEEDS**

The Company and the Operating Partnership may use the proceeds from sales of Securities for many different purposes and will not be restricted by any provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of the Company or the agreement of limited partnership of the Operating Partnership. As a result, no assurance can be given that such proceeds will be employed in a manner consistent with the current investment practices of the Company and the Operating Partnership.

## **REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT RISKS**

**GENERAL RISKS.** Real property investments are subject to varying degrees of risk. The yields available from equity investments in real estate depend in large part on the amount of income generated and expenses incurred. If the Company's properties do not generate revenues sufficient to meet operating expenses, including debt service, tenant improvements, leasing commissions and other capital expenditures, the Company may have to borrow additional amounts to cover fixed costs and the Company's cash flow and ability to make distributions to its stockholders will be adversely affected.

The Company's revenues and the value of its properties may be adversely affected by a number of factors, including the national economic climate; the local economic climate; local real estate conditions; the perceptions of prospective tenants of the attractiveness of the property; the ability of the Company to provide adequate management, maintenance and insurance; and increased operating costs (including real estate taxes and utilities). In addition, real estate values and income from properties are also affected by such factors as applicable laws, including tax laws, interest rate levels and the availability of financing.

**COMPETITION.** Numerous office and industrial properties compete with the Company's properties in attracting tenants to lease space. Some of these competing properties are newer or better located than some of the Company's properties. Significant development of office or industrial properties in a particular area could have a material effect on the Company's ability to lease space in its properties and on the rents charged.

**BANKRUPTCY AND FINANCIAL CONDITION OF TENANTS.** At any time, a tenant of the Company's Properties may seek the protection of the bankruptcy laws, which could result in the rejection and termination of such tenant's lease and thereby cause a reduction in the cash flow available for distribution by the Company. Although the Company has not experienced material losses from tenant bankruptcies, no assurance can be given that tenants will not file for bankruptcy protection in the future or, if any tenants file, that they will affirm their leases and continue to make rental payments in a timely manner. In addition, a tenant from time to time may experience a downturn in its business which may weaken its financial condition and result in the failure to make rental payments when due. If tenant leases are not affirmed following bankruptcy or if a tenant's financial condition weakens, the Company's income may be adversely affected.

**RENEWAL OF LEASES AND RELETTING OF SPACE.** The Company will be subject to the risks that upon expiration of leases for space located in its properties, the leases may not be renewed, the space may not be relet or the terms of renewal or reletting (including the cost of required renovations) may be less favorable than current lease terms. If the Company were unable to promptly relet or renew the leases for all or a substantial portion of this space or if the rental rates upon such renewal or reletting were significantly lower than expected rates, then the Company's cash flow and ability to make expected distributions to stockholders may be adversely affected.

**ILLIQUIDITY OF REAL ESTATE.** Equity real estate investments are relatively illiquid. Such illiquidity will tend to limit the ability of the Company to vary its portfolio promptly in response to changes in economic or other conditions. In addition, the Code limits the Company's ability to sell properties held for fewer than four years, which may affect the Company's ability to sell properties without adversely affecting returns to holders of Common Stock.

**CHANGES IN LAWS.** Because increases in income, service or transfer taxes are generally not passed through to tenants under leases, such increases may adversely affect the Company's cash flow and its ability to make distributions to stockholders. The Properties are also subject to various Federal, state and local regulatory requirements, such as requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and state and local fire and life safety requirements. Failure to comply with these requirements could result in the imposition of fines by governmental authorities or awards of damages to private litigants. The Company believes that the Properties are currently in compliance with all such regulatory requirements. However, there can be no assurance that these requirements will not be changed or that new requirements will not be imposed which would require significant unanticipated expenditures by the Company and could have an adverse effect on the Company's cash flow and expected distributions.

**CONSEQUENCES OF INABILITY TO SERVICE MORTGAGE DEBT.** Pursuant to loan agreements with bank lenders, a portion of the Properties are mortgaged to secure payment of such indebtedness, and if the Company or the Operating Partnership were to be unable to meet such payments, a loss could be sustained as a result of foreclosure on the Properties by the bank lenders.

## **RISK OF DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND ACQUISITION ACTIVITIES**

The Company intends to actively continue development and construction of office and industrial properties, including development on the Development Land. Risks associated with the Company's development and construction activities, including activities relating to the Development Land, may include: abandonment of development opportunities; construction costs of a property exceeding original estimates, possibly making the property uneconomical; occupancy rates and rents at a newly completed property may not be sufficient to make the property profitable; financing may not be available on favorable terms for development of a property; and construction and lease-up may not be completed on schedule, resulting in increased debt service expense and construction costs. In addition, new development activities, regardless of whether or not they are ultimately successful, typically require a substantial portion of management's time and attention. Development activities are also subject to risks relating to the inability to obtain, or delays in obtaining, all necessary zoning, land-use, building, occupancy, and other required governmental permits and authorizations.

The Company intends to actively continue to acquire office and industrial properties. Acquisitions of office and industrial properties entail risks that investments will fail to perform in accordance with expectations. Estimates of the costs of improvements to bring an acquired property up to standards established for the market position intended for that property may prove inaccurate. In addition, there are general investment risks associated with any new real estate investment.

Although the Company has limited its development, acquisition, management and leasing business primarily to markets with which management is familiar, the Company may expand its business to new geographic markets. Management believes that much of its past success has been a result of its local expertise. The Company may not initially possess the same level of familiarity with new markets, which could adversely affect its ability to develop, acquire, manage or lease properties in any new localities.

## **POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITIES**

Under various Federal, state and local laws, ordinances and regulations, such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act or "CERCLA," and common laws, an owner or operator of real estate is liable for the costs of removal or remediation of certain hazardous or toxic substances on or in such property as well as certain other costs, including governmental fines and injuries to persons and property. Such laws often impose such liability without regard to whether the owner or operator knew of, or was responsible for, the presence of such hazardous or toxic substances. The presence of such substances, or the failure to remediate such substances properly, may adversely affect the owner's or operator's ability to sell or rent such property or to borrow using such property as collateral. Persons who arrange for the disposal or treatment of hazardous or toxic substances may also be liable for the costs of removal or remediation of such substances at a disposal or treatment facility, whether or not such facility is owned or operated by such person. Certain environmental laws impose liability for release of asbestos-containing materials into the air, and third parties may seek recovery from owners or operators of real property for personal injuries associated with asbestos-containing materials.

As of the date hereof, all but one of the Properties had been subjected to a Phase I environmental assessment. These assessments have not revealed, nor is management of the Company aware of, any environmental liability that it believes would have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position, operations or liquidity taken as a whole. This projection, however, could prove to be incorrect depending on certain factors. For example, the Company's assessments may not reveal all environmental liabilities or there may be material environmental liabilities of which the Company is unaware. In addition, assumptions regarding groundwater flow and the existence of contamination are based on available sampling data, and there are no assurances that the data is reliable in all cases. Moreover, there can be no assurance that (i) future laws, ordinances or regulations will not impose any material environmental liability or (ii) the current environmental condition of the Properties will not be affected by tenants, by the condition of land or operations in the vicinity of the Properties (such as the presence of underground storage tanks), or by third parties unrelated to the Company.

Some tenants use or generate hazardous substances in the ordinary course of their respective businesses. These tenants are required under their leases to comply with all applicable laws and have agreed to indemnify the Company for any claims resulting from noncompliance, and the Company is not aware of any environmental problems resulting from tenants' use or generation of hazardous substances. There are no assurances that all tenants will comply with the terms of their leases or remain solvent and that the Company may not at some point be responsible for contamination caused by such tenants.

## **EFFECT ON COMMON STOCK PRICE OF SHARES AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE SALE UPON CONVERSION OF UNITS**

Sales of a substantial number of shares of Common Stock, or the perception that such sales could occur, could adversely affect prevailing market prices of the Common Stock. In connection with the Company's initial formation and public offering and certain subsequent acquisitions, as of the date hereof, approximately 4.2 million Units have been issued to various holders, including certain officers and directors of the Company. In connection with the issuance of Units, each holder thereof agreed not to sell or otherwise dispose of such Units or shares of Common Stock received upon exchange of such Units for a period of one year. At the conclusion of such period, any shares of Common Stock issued upon exchange of Units may be sold in the public markets upon registration or available exemptions from registration. No prediction can be made about the effect that future sales of Common Stock will have on the market price of shares. At May 31, 1996, the one-year lock-up period with respect to 3.4 million Units had expired.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Company and the Operating Partnership intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of Securities for general corporate purposes, including the development and acquisition of additional properties and other acquisition transactions, the payment of certain outstanding debt, and improvements to certain properties in the Company's portfolio. The Company is required, by the terms of the partnership agreement of the Operating Partnership, to invest the net proceeds of any sale of Common Stock, Preferred Stock or Depositary Shares in the Operating Partnership in exchange for additional Units or preferred Units, as the case may be.

## **RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS**

The ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for the Company and the Operating Partnership for the three months ended March 31, 1996 and for the years ended December 31, 1995, 1994, 1993, 1992 and 1991 were 2.93x, 3.00x, 2.42x, 0.97x, 0.95x and 0.79x, respectively. Earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges by \$171,000, \$239,000 and \$913,000 for the years ended December 31, 1993, 1992 and 1991, respectively. These deficiencies occurred prior to the Company's initial public offering of Common Stock in June 1994. Prior to the completion of this offering, the Company's predecessor (the "Highwoods Group") operated in a manner as to minimize taxable income to the owners. As a result, although the Properties have generated positive net cash flow, the Highwoods Group had net losses for the years ended December 31, 1991 through 1993. The initial public offering allowed the Operating Partnership to significantly deleverage the Properties and improve its ratio of earnings to fixed charges.

The ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges were computed by dividing earnings by fixed charges. For this purpose, earnings consist of income from continuing operations before minority interest and fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense (including interest costs capitalized) and the amortization of debt issuance costs. To date, the Company has not issued any Preferred Stock.

## **DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

The Debt Securities will be issued under an Indenture (the "Indenture"), between the Operating Partnership, the Company and a trustee to be named prior to the first issuance of Debt Securities. A form of the Indenture has been filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus is a part and will be available for inspection at the corporate trust office of the trustee or as described above under "Available Information." The Indenture is subject to, and governed by, the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the "TIA"). The statements made hereunder relating to the Indenture and the Debt Securities to be issued thereunder are summaries of certain provisions thereof and do not purport to be complete and are subject to, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, all provisions of the Indenture and such Debt Securities. All section references appearing herein are to sections of the Indenture, and capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the respective meanings set forth in the Indenture.

## **GENERAL**

The Debt Securities will be direct, unsecured obligations of the Operating Partnership and will rank equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the Operating Partnership. At May 31, 1996, the total outstanding debt of the Operating Partnership was \$275 million, \$207 million of which was secured debt. The Debt Securities may be issued without limit as to aggregate principal amount, in one or more series, in each case as established from time to time in or pursuant to authority granted by a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Company as sole general partner of the Operating Partnership or as established in one or more indentures supplemental to the Indenture. All Debt Securities of one series need not be issued at the same time and, unless otherwise provided, a series may be reopened, without the consent of the holders of the Debt Securities of such series, for issuances of additional Debt Securities of such series (Section 301).

If any Debt Securities are rated below investment grade at the time of issuance, such Debt Securities will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Company as to payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest.

The Indenture provides that there may be more than one trustee (the "Trustee") thereunder, each with respect to one or more series of Debt Securities. Any Trustee under the Indenture may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of Debt Securities, and a successor Trustee may be appointed to act with respect to such series (Section 608). In the event that two or more persons are acting as Trustee with respect to different series of Debt Securities, each such Trustee shall be a trustee of a trust under the Indenture separate and apart from the trust administered by any other Trustee (Section 609), and, except as otherwise indicated herein, any action described herein to be taken by a Trustee may be taken by each such Trustee with respect to, and only with respect to, the one or more series of Debt Securities for which it is Trustee under the Indenture.

Reference is made to the Prospectus Supplement relating to the series of Debt Securities being offered for the specific terms thereof, including:

- (1) the title of such Debt Securities;
- (2) the aggregate principal amount of such Debt Securities and any limit on such aggregate principal amount;
- (3) the percentage of the principal amount at which such Debt Securities will be issued and, if other than the principal amount thereof, the portion of the principal amount thereof payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof;
- (4) the date or dates, or the method for determining such date or dates, on which the principal of such Debt Securities will be payable;
- (5) the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable), or the method by which such rate or rates shall be determined, at which such Debt Securities will bear interest, if any;
- (6) the date or dates, or the method for determining such date or dates, from which any interest will accrue, the dates on which any such interest will be payable, the record dates for such interest payment dates, or the method by which any such date shall be determined, the person to whom such interest shall be payable, and the basis upon which interest shall be calculated if other than that of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months;
- (7) the place or places where the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, on such Debt Securities will be payable, such Debt Securities may be surrendered for registration of transfer or exchange and notices or demands to or upon the Operating Partnership in respect of such Debt Securities and the Indenture may be served;
- (8) the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions upon which such Debt Securities may be redeemed, as a whole or in part, at the option of the Operating Partnership, if the Operating Partnership is to have such an option;
- (9) the obligation, if any, of the Operating Partnership to redeem, repay or purchase such Debt Securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provision or at the option of a holder thereof, and the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions upon which such Debt Securities will be redeemed, repaid or purchased, as a whole or in part, pursuant to such obligation;
- (10) if other than U.S. dollars, the currency or currencies in which such Debt Securities are denominated and payable, which may be a foreign currency or units of two or more foreign currencies or a composite currency or currencies, and the terms and conditions relating thereto;
- (11) whether the amount of payments of principal of (and premium, if any) or interest, if any, on such Debt Securities may be determined with reference to an index, formula or other method (which index, formula or method may, but need not be, based on a currency, currencies, currency unit or

units or composite currency or currencies) and the manner in which such amounts shall be determined;

(12) the events of default or covenants of such Debt Securities, to the extent different from or in addition to those described herein;

(13) whether such Debt Securities will be issued in certificated and/or book-entry form;

(14) whether such Debt Securities will be in registered or bearer form and, if in registered form, the denominations thereof if other than \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof and, if in bearer form, the denominations thereof if other than \$5,000 and terms and conditions relating thereto;

(15) with respect to any series of Debt Securities rated below investment grade at the time of issuance, the Guarantees (the "Guaranteed Securities");

(16) if the defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions described herein are to be inapplicable or any modification of such provisions;

(17) whether and under what circumstances the Operating Partnership will pay additional amounts on such Debt Securities in respect of any tax, assessment or governmental charge and, if so, whether the Operating Partnership will have the option to redeem such Debt Securities in lieu of making such payment;

(18) with respect to any Debt Securities that provide for optional redemption or prepayment upon the occurrence of certain events (such as a change of control of the Operating Partnership), (i) the possible effects of such provisions on the market price of the Operating Partnership's or the Company's securities or in deterring certain mergers, tender offers or other takeover attempts, and the intention of the Operating Partnership to comply with the requirements of Regulation 14E under the Exchange Act and any other applicable securities laws in connection with such provisions; (ii) whether the occurrence of the specified events may give rise to cross-defaults on other indebtedness such that payment on such Debt Securities may be effectively subordinated; and (iii) the existence of any limitation on the Operating Partnership's financial or legal ability to repurchase such Debt Securities upon the occurrence of such an event (including, if true, the lack of assurance that such a repurchase can be effected) and the impact, if any, under the Indenture of such a failure, including whether and under what circumstances such a failure may constitute an Event of Default;

(19) if other than the Trustee, the identify of each security registrar and/or paying agent; and

(20) any other terms of such Debt Securities.

The Debt Securities may provide for less than the entire principal amount thereof to be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof ("Original Issue Discount Securities"). If material or applicable, special U.S. Federal income tax, accounting and other considerations applicable to Original Issue Discount Securities will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Except as described under "Merger, Consolidation or Sale" or as may be set forth in any Prospectus Supplement, the Indenture does not contain any other provisions that would limit the ability of the Operating Partnership to incur indebtedness or that would afford holders of the Debt Securities protection in the event of (i) a highly leveraged or similar transaction involving the Operating Partnership, the management of the Operating Partnership or the Company, or any affiliate of any such party, (ii) a change of control, or (iii) a reorganization, restructuring, merger or similar transaction involving the Operating Partnership that may adversely affect the holders of the Debt Securities. In addition, subject to the limitations set forth under "Merger, Consolidation or Sale," the Operating Partnership or the Company may, in the future, enter into certain transactions, such as the sale of all or substantially all of its assets or the merger or consolidation of the Operating Partnership or the Company, that would increase the amount of the Operating Partnership's indebtedness or substantially reduce or eliminate the Operating Partnership's assets, which may have an adverse effect on the Operating Partnership's ability to service its indebtedness, including the Debt Securities. In addition, restrictions on ownership and transfers of the Company's common stock and preferred stock which are designed to preserve its status as a REIT may act to prevent or hinder a change of control.



See "Description of Common Stock -- Certain Provisions Affecting Change of Control" and "Description of Preferred Stock -- Restrictions on Ownership." Reference is made to the applicable Prospectus Supplement for information with respect to any deletions from, modifications of or additions to the events of default or covenants that are described below, including any addition of a covenant or other provision providing event risk or similar protection.

Reference is made to " -- Certain Covenants" below and to the description of any additional covenants with respect to a series of Debt Securities in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Except as otherwise described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, compliance with such covenants generally may not be waived with respect to a series of Debt Securities by the Board of Directors of the Company as sole general partner of the Operating Partnership or by the Trustee unless the Holders of at least majority in principal amount of all outstanding Debt Securities of such series consent to such waiver, except to the extent that the defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions of the Indenture described under " -- Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance" below apply to such series of Debt Securities. See " -- Modification of the Indenture."

## **GUARANTEES**

The Company will fully, unconditionally and irrevocably guarantee the due and punctual payment of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on any Debt Securities rated below investment grade at the time of issuance by the Operating Partnership, and the due and punctual payment of any sinking fund payments thereon, when and as the same shall become due and payable, whether at a maturity date, by declaration of acceleration, call for redemption or otherwise. In addition, Debt Securities rated investment grade may also be accompanied by a Guarantee to the extent and on the terms described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

## **DENOMINATIONS, INTEREST, REGISTRATION AND TRANSFER**

Unless otherwise described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Debt Securities of any series which are registered securities, other than registered securities issued in global form (which may be of any denomination), shall be issuable in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof and the Debt Securities which are bearer securities, other than bearer securities issued in global form (which may be of any denomination), shall be issuable in denominations of \$5,000 (Section 302).

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on any series of Debt Securities will be payable at the corporate trust office of the Trustee, provided that, at the option of the Operating Partnership, payment of interest may be made by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as it appears in the applicable Security Register or by wire transfer of funds to such Person at an account maintained within the United States (Sections 301, 307 and 1002).

Any interest not punctually paid or duly provided for on any Interest Payment Date with respect to a Debt Security ("Defaulted Interest") will forthwith cease to be payable to the Holder on the applicable Regular Record Date and may either be paid to the Person in whose name such Debt Security is registered at the close of business on a special record date (the "Special Record Date") for the payment of such Defaulted Interest to be fixed by the Trustee, notice whereof shall be given to the Holder of such Debt Security not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, or may be paid at any time in any other lawful manner, all as more completely described in the Indenture.

Subject to certain limitations imposed upon Debt Securities issued in book-entry form, the Debt Securities of any series will be exchangeable for other Debt Securities of the same series and of a like aggregate principal amount and tenor of different authorized denominations upon surrender of such Debt Securities at the corporate trust office of the Trustee referred to above. In addition, subject to certain limitations imposed upon Debt Securities issued in book-entry form, the Debt Securities of any series may be surrendered for registration of transfer thereof at the corporate trust office of the Trustee referred to above. Every Debt Security surrendered for registration of transfer or exchange shall be duly endorsed or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer. No service charge will be made for any registration of transfer or exchange of any Debt Securities, but the Trustee or the Operating Partnership may require payment of a sum sufficient to

cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith (Section 305). If the applicable Prospectus Supplement refers to any transfer agent (in addition to the Trustee) initially designated by the Operating Partnership with respect to any series of Debt Securities, the Operating Partnership may at any time rescind the designation of any such transfer agent or approve a change in the location through which any such transfer agent acts, except that Operating Partnership will be required to maintain a transfer agent in each place of payment for such series. The Operating Partnership may at any time designate additional transfer agents with respect to any series of Debt Securities (Section 1002).

Neither the Operating Partnership nor the Trustee shall be required (i) to issue, register the transfer of or exchange any Debt Security if such Debt Security may be among those selected for redemption during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before selection of the Debt Securities to be redeemed and ending at the close of business on the day of such selection, or (ii) to register the transfer of or exchange any Registered Security so selected for redemption in whole or in part, except, in the case of any Registered Security to be redeemed in part, the portion thereof not to be redeemed, or (iii) to exchange any Bearer Security so selected for redemption except that such a Bearer Security may be exchanged for a Registered Security of that series and like tenor, provided that such Registered Security shall be simultaneously surrendered for redemption, or (iv) to issue, register the transfer of or exchange any Security which has been surrendered for repayment at the option of the Holder, except the portion, if any, of such Debt Security not to be so repaid (Section 305).

## **MERGER, CONSOLIDATION OR SALE**

The Operating Partnership or the Company may consolidate with, or sell, lease or convey all or substantially all of its assets to, or merge with or into, any other entity, provided that (a) the Operating Partnership or the Company, as the case may be, shall be the continuing entity, or the successor entity (if other than the Operating Partnership or the Company, as the case may be) formed by or resulting from any such consolidation or merger or which shall have received the transfer of such assets shall expressly assume payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on all the Debt Securities and the due and punctual performance and observance of all of the covenants and conditions contained in the Indenture; (b) immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no Event of Default under the Indenture, and no event which, after notice or the lapse of time, or both, would become such an Event of Default, shall have occurred and be continuing; and (c) an officer's certificate and legal opinion covering such conditions shall be delivered to the Trustee (Sections 801 and 803).

## **CERTAIN COVENANTS**

**LIMITATIONS ON INCURRENCE OF DEBT.** The Operating Partnership will not, and will not permit any Subsidiary to, incur any Debt (as defined below), other than intercompany debt (representing Debt to which the only parties are the Company, the Operating Partnership and any of their Subsidiaries (but only so long as such Debt is held solely by any of the Company, the Operating Partnership and any Subsidiary) that is subordinate in right of payment to the Debt Securities) if, immediately after giving effect to the incurrence of such additional Debt, the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Debt of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles is greater than 60% of the sum of (i) the Operating Partnership's Total Assets (as defined below) as of the end of the calendar quarter covered in the Operating Partnership's Annual Report on Form 10-K or Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as the case may be, most recently filed with the Commission (or, if such filing is not permitted under the Exchange Act, with the Trustee) prior to the incurrence of such additional Debt and (ii) the increase in Total Assets from the end of such quarter including, without limitation, any increase in Total Assets resulting from the incurrence of such additional Debt (such increase together with the Operating Partnership's Total Assets shall be referred to as the "Adjusted Total Assets") (Section 1011).

In addition to the foregoing limitations on the incurrence of Debt, the Operating Partnership will not, and will not permit any Subsidiary to, incur any Debt secured by any mortgage, lien, charge, pledge, encumbrance or security interest of any kind upon any of the property of the Operating Partnership, or any Subsidiary ("Secured Debt"), whether owned at the date of the Indenture or thereafter acquired, if, immediately after giving effect to the incurrence of such additional Secured Debt, the aggregate principal amount of all

outstanding Secured Debt of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis is greater than 40% of the Operating Partnership's Adjusted Total Assets (Section 1011).

In addition to the foregoing limitations on the incurrence of Debt, the Operating Partnership will not, and will not permit any Subsidiary to, incur any Debt if the ratio of Consolidated Income Available for Debt Service to the Annual Service Charge (in each case as defined below) for the four consecutive fiscal quarters most recently ended prior to the date on which such additional Debt is to be incurred shall have been less than 1.5 to 1.0 on a pro forma basis after giving effect to the incurrence of such Debt and to the application of the proceeds therefrom, and calculated on the assumption that (i) such Debt and any other Debt incurred by the Operating Partnership or its Subsidiaries since the first day of such four-quarter period and the application of the proceeds therefrom, including to refinance other Debt, had occurred at the beginning of such period, (ii) the repayment or retirement of any other Debt by the Operating Partnership or its Subsidiaries since the first day of such four-quarter period had been incurred, repaid or retired at the beginning of such period (except that, in making such computation, the amount of Debt under any revolving credit facility shall be computed based upon the average daily balance of such Debt during such period), (iii) the income earned on any increase in Adjusted Total Assets since the end of such four-quarter period had been earned, on an annualized basis, during such period, and (iv) in the case of any acquisition or disposition by the Operating Partnership or any Subsidiary of any asset or group of assets since the first day of such four-quarter period, including, without limitation, by merger, stock purchase or sale, or asset purchase or sale, such acquisition or disposition or any related repayment of Debt had occurred as of the first day of such period with the appropriate adjustments with respect to such acquisition or disposition being included in such pro forma calculation (Section 1011).

For purposes of the foregoing provisions regarding the limitation on the incurrence of Debt, Debt shall be deemed to be "incurred" by the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis whenever the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis shall create, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable in respect thereof.

**MAINTENANCE OF TOTAL UNENCUMBERED ASSETS.** The Operating Partnership is required to maintain Total Unencumbered Assets of not less than 200% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of all outstanding Unsecured Debt (Section 1013).

**LIMITATIONS ON DISTRIBUTIONS.** The Operating Partnership will not make any distribution, by reduction of capital or otherwise (other than distributions payable in securities evidencing interests in the Operating Partnership's capital for the purpose of acquiring interests in real property or otherwise) unless, immediately after giving pro forma effect to such distribution (a) no default under the Indenture or event of default under any mortgage, indenture or instrument under which there may be issued, or by which there may be secured or evidenced, any Debt of the Operating Partnership, the Company or any Subsidiary shall have occurred or be continuing, and (b) the aggregate sum of all distributions made after the date of the Indenture shall not exceed the sum of

(i) 95% of the aggregate cumulative Funds From Operations of the Operating Partnership accrued on a cumulative basis from the date of the Indenture until the end of the last fiscal quarter prior to the contemplated payment, and (ii) the aggregate Net Cash Proceeds received by the Operating Partnership after the date of the Indenture from the issuance and sale of Capital Stock of the Operating Partnership or the Company; provided, however, that the foregoing limitation shall not apply to any distribution or other action which is necessary to maintain the Company's status as a REIT, under the Code, if the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Debt of the Company and the Operating Partnership on a consolidated basis at such time is less than 60% of Adjusted Total Assets (Section 1012).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Operating Partnership will not be prohibited from making the payment of any distribution within 30 days of the declaration thereof if at such date of declaration such payment would have complied with the provisions of the immediately preceding paragraph.

**EXISTENCE.** Except as permitted under "Merger, Consolidation or Sale," the Operating Partnership and the Company are required to do or cause to be done all things necessary to preserve and keep in full force and effect their existence, rights and franchises; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Operating Partnership or the Company shall not be required to preserve any right or franchise if it determines that the preservation thereof is no longer desirable in the conduct of its business and that the loss thereof is not disadvantageous in any material respect to the Holders of the Debt Securities (Section 1007).

**MAINTENANCE OF PROPERTIES.** The Operating Partnership is required to cause all of its material properties used or useful in the conduct of its business or the business of any Subsidiary to be maintained and kept in good condition, repair and working order and supplied with all necessary equipment and to cause to be made all necessary repairs, renewals, replacements, betterments and improvements thereof, all as in the judgment of the Operating Partnership may be necessary so that the business carried on in connection therewith may be properly and advantageously conducted at all times; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries shall not be prevented from selling or otherwise disposing for value their respective properties in the ordinary course of business (Section 1005).

**INSURANCE.** The Operating Partnership is required to, and is required to cause each of its Subsidiaries to, keep all of its insurable properties insured against loss or damage at least equal to their then full insurable value with financially sound and reputable insurance companies (Section 1006).

**PAYMENT OF TAXES AND OTHER CLAIMS.** The Operating Partnership and the Company are required to pay or discharge or cause to be paid or discharged, before the same shall become delinquent, (i) all taxes, assessments and governmental charges levied or imposed upon it or any Subsidiary or upon its income, profits or property or that of any Subsidiary, and (ii) all lawful claims for labor, materials and supplies which, if unpaid, might by law become a lien upon the property of the Operating Partnership, the Company, or any Subsidiary; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Operating Partnership and the Company shall not be required to pay or discharge or cause to be paid or discharged any such tax, assessment, charge or claim whose amount, applicability or validity is being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings (Section 1014).

**PROVISION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION.** The Holders of Debt Securities will be provided with copies of the annual reports and quarterly reports of the Operating Partnership. Whether or not the Operating Partnership is subject to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act and for so long as any Debt Securities are outstanding, the Operating Partnership will, to the extent permitted under the Exchange Act, be required to file with the Commission the annual reports, quarterly reports and other documents that the Operating Partnership would have been required to file with the Commission pursuant to such Section 13 or 15(d) (the "Financial Statements") if the Operating Partnership were so subject, such documents to be filed with the Commission on or prior to the respective dates (the "Required Filing Dates") by which the Operating Partnership would have been required so to file such documents if the Operating Partnership were so subject. The Operating Partnership will also in any event (x) within 15 days of each Required Filing Date (i) transmit by mail to all Holders of Debt Securities, as their names and addresses appear in the Security Register, without cost to such Holders, copies of the annual reports and quarterly reports which the Operating Partnership would have been required to file with the Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act if the Operating Partnership were subject to such Sections and (ii) file with the Trustee copies of the annual reports, quarterly reports and other documents that the Operating Partnership would have been required to file with the Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act if the Operating Partnership were subject to such Sections and (y) if filing such documents by the Operating Partnership with the Commission is not permitted under the Exchange Act, promptly upon written request and payment of the reasonable cost of duplication and delivery, supply copies of such documents to any prospective Holder (Section 1015).

As used herein and in the Prospectus Supplement:

"ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE" as of any date means the amount which is expensed and capitalized in any 12-month period for interest on Debt.

"CAPITAL STOCK" of any Person means any and all shares, interests, rights to purchase, warrants, options, participations, rights in or other equivalents (however designated) of such Person's capital stock or other equity participations, including partnership interests, whether general or limited, in such Person, including any preferred stock, and any rights (other than debt securities convertible into capital stock), warrants or options exchangeable for or convertible into such capital stock, whether now outstanding or issued after the date of this Prospectus.

"CONSOLIDATED INCOME AVAILABLE FOR DEBT SERVICE" for any period means Consolidated Net Income (as defined below) of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries (i) plus amounts which have been deducted for (a) interest on Debt of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries, (b) provision for taxes of the

Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries based on income, (c) amortization of debt discount, (d) depreciation and amortization, (e) the effect of any noncash charge resulting from a change in accounting principles in determining Consolidated Net Income for such period, (f) amortization of deferred charges and (g) provisions for or realized losses on properties and (ii) less amounts that have been included for gains on properties.

"CONSOLIDATED NET INCOME" for any period means the amount of consolidated net income (or loss) of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries for such period determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP").

"DEBT" means any indebtedness, whether or not contingent, in respect of (i) borrowed money evidenced by bonds, notes, debentures or similar instruments,

(ii) indebtedness secured by any mortgage, pledge, lien, charge, encumbrance or any security interest existing on property, (iii) the reimbursement obligations, contingent or otherwise, in connection with any letters of credit actually issued or amounts representing the balance deferred and unpaid of the purchase price of any property except any such balance that constitutes an accrued expense or trade payable or (iv) any lease of property which would be reflected on a consolidated balance sheet as a capitalized lease in accordance with GAAP, in the case of items of indebtedness under (i) through (iii) above to the extent that any such items (other than letters of credit) would appear as a liability on a consolidated balance sheet in accordance with GAAP, and also includes, to the extent not otherwise included, any obligation to be liable for, or to pay, as obligor, guarantor or otherwise (other than for purposes of collection in the ordinary course of business), indebtedness of another person.

"FUNDS FROM OPERATIONS" ("FFO") for any period means the Consolidated Net Income of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries for such period without giving effect to depreciation and amortization, gains or losses from extraordinary items, gains or losses on sales of real estate, gains or losses on investments in marketable securities and any provision/benefit for income taxes for such period, plus the allocable portion, based on the Operating Partnership's ownership interest, of funds from operations of unconsolidated joint ventures, all determined on a consistent basis.

Management considers Funds from Operations to be a useful financial performance measure of the operating performance of an equity REIT because, together with net income and cash flows, Funds from Operations provides investors with an additional basis to evaluate the ability of a REIT to incur and service debt and to fund acquisitions and other capital expenditures. Funds from Operations does not represent net income or cash flows from operations as defined by GAAP and Funds from Operations should not be considered as an alternative to net income as an indicator of the Operating Partnership's operating performance or as an alternative to cash flows as a measure of liquidity. Funds from Operations does not measure whether cash flow is sufficient to fund all of the Company's cash needs including principal amortization, capital improvements and distributions to stockholders. Funds from Operations does not represent cash flows from operating, investing or financing activities as defined by GAAP. Further, Funds from Operations as disclosed by other REITS, may not be comparable to the Company's calculation of Funds from Operations, as described above.

"NET CASH PROCEEDS" means the proceeds of any issuance or sale of Capital Stock or options, warrants or rights to purchase Capital Stock, in the form of cash or cash equivalents, including payments in respect of deferred payment obligations when received in the form of, or stock or other assets when disposed for, cash or cash equivalents (except to the extent that such obligations are financed or sold with recourse to the Operating Partnership or any Subsidiary), net of attorney's fees, accountant's fees and brokerage, consultation, underwriting and other fees and expenses actually incurred in connection with such issuance or sale and net of taxes paid or payable as a result thereof.

"SUBSIDIARY" means any entity of which the Operating Partnership or one or more other Subsidiaries owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of the shares of Voting Stock.

"TOTAL ASSETS" as of any date means the sum of (i) the Undepreciated Real Estate Assets and (ii) all other assets of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis determined in accordance with GAAP (but excluding intangibles and accounts receivable).

"TOTAL UNENCUMBERED ASSETS" means the sum of (i) those Undepreciated Real Estate Assets not subject to an encumbrance and (ii) all other assets of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries not subject to an encumbrance determined in accordance with GAAP (but excluding intangibles and accounts receivable).

"UNDEPRECIATED REAL ESTATE ASSETS" as of any date means the cost (original cost plus capital improvements) of real estate assets of the Operating Partnership and its Subsidiaries on such date, before depreciation and amortization, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

"UNSECURED DEBT" means Debt of the Operating Partnership or any Subsidiary which is not secured by any mortgage, lien, charge, pledge or security interest of any kind upon any of the properties owned by the Operating Partnership or any of its Subsidiaries.

"VOTING STOCK" means stock having general voting power under ordinary circumstances to elect at least a majority of the board of directors, managers or trustees, provided that stock that carries only the right to vote conditionally on the happening of an event shall not be considered Voting Stock.

ADDITIONAL COVENANTS. Any additional or different covenants of the Operating Partnership or the Company with respect to any series of Debt Securities will be set forth in the Prospectus Supplement relating thereto.

## **EVENTS OF DEFAULT, NOTICE AND WAIVER**

The Indenture provides that the following events are "Events of Default" with respect to any series of Debt Securities issued thereunder: (a) default for 30 days in the payment of any installment of interest on any Debt Security of such series; (b) default in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any on) any Debt Security of such series at its maturity; (c) default in making any sinking fund payment as required for any Debt Security of such series; (d) default in the performance of any other covenant of the Operating Partnership or the Company contained in the Indenture (other than a covenant added to the Indenture solely for the benefit of a series of Debt Securities issued thereunder other than such series), such default having continued for 60 days after written notice as provided in the Indenture; (e) default in the payment of an aggregate principal amount exceeding \$5,000,000 of any evidence of recourse indebtedness of the Operating Partnership or the Company or any mortgage, indenture or other instrument under which such indebtedness is issued or by which such indebtedness is secured, such default having occurred after the expiration of any applicable grace period and having resulted in the acceleration of the maturity of such indebtedness, but only if such indebtedness is not discharged or such acceleration is not rescinded or annulled; (f) certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, or court appointment of a receiver, liquidator or trustee of the Operating Partnership, the Company or any Significant Subsidiary or any of their respective property; and (g) any other Event of Default provided with respect to a particular series of Debt Securities. The term "Significant Subsidiary" means each significant subsidiary (as defined in Regulation S-X promulgated under the Securities Act) of the Operating Partnership or the Company (Section 501).

If an Event of Default under the Indenture with respect to Debt Securities of any series at the time Outstanding occurs and is continuing, then in every such case the Trustee or the Holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of that series may declare the principal amount (or, if the Debt Securities of that series are Original Issue Discount Securities or Indexed Securities, such portion of the principal amount as may be specified in the terms thereof) of all of the Debt Securities of that series to be due and payable immediately by written notice thereof to the Operating Partnership and the Company (and to the Trustee if given by the Holders). However, at any time after such a declaration of acceleration with respect to Debt Securities of such series (or of all Debt Securities then Outstanding under the Indenture, as the case may be) has been made, but before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained by the Trustee, the Holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of Outstanding Debt Securities of such series (or of all Debt Securities then Outstanding under the Indenture, as the case may be) may rescind and annul such declaration and its consequences if (a) the Operating Partnership or the Company shall have deposited with the Trustee all required payments of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on the Debt Securities of such series (or of all Debt Securities then Outstanding under the Indenture, as the case may be), plus certain fees, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Trustee and (b) all Events of Default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal of (or specified portion thereof), or premium (if any) or interest on the Debt Securities of such series (or of all

Debt Securities then Outstanding under the Indenture, as the case may be) have been cured or waived as provided in the Indenture (Section 502). The Indenture also provides that the Holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of any series (or of all Debt Securities then Outstanding under the Indenture, as the case may be) may waive any past default with respect to such series and its consequences, except a default (x) in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any) or interest on any Debt Security of such series or (y) in respect of a covenant or provision contained in the Indenture that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the Holder of each Outstanding Debt Security affected thereby (Section 513).

The Trustee will be required to give notice to the Holders of Debt Securities within 90 days of a default under the Indenture unless such default has been cured or waived; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the Trustee may withhold notice to the Holders of any series of Debt Securities of any default with respect to such series (except a default in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any) or interest on any Debt Security of such series or in the payment of any sinking fund installment in respect of any Debt Security of such series) if specified Responsible Officers of the Trustee consider such withholding to be in the interest of such Holders (Section 602).

The Indenture provides that no Holders of Debt Securities of any series may institute any proceedings, judicial or otherwise, with respect to the Indenture or for any remedy thereunder, except in the case of failure of the Trustee, for 60 days, to act after it has received a written request to institute proceedings in respect of an Event of Default from the Holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of such series, as well as an offer of indemnity reasonably satisfactory to it (Section 507). This provision will not prevent, however, any holder of Debt Securities from instituting suit for the enforcement of payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on such Debt Securities at the respective due dates thereof (Section 508).

Subject to provisions in the Indenture relating to its duties in case of default, the Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Indenture at the request or direction of any Holders of any series of Debt Securities then Outstanding under the Indenture, unless such Holders shall have offered to the Trustee thereunder reasonable security or indemnity (Section 601). The Holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of any series (or of all Debt Securities then Outstanding under the Indenture, as the case may be) shall have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee, or of exercising any trust or power conferred upon the Trustee. However, the Trustee may refuse to follow any direction which is in conflict with any law or the Indenture, or which may be unduly prejudicial to the holders of Debt Securities of such series not joining therein (Section 512).

Within 120 days after the close of each fiscal year, the Operating Partnership and the Company (if the Debt Securities are Guaranteed Securities) must deliver to the Trustee a certificate, signed by one of several specified officers of the Company, stating whether or not such officer has knowledge of any default under the Indenture and, if so, specifying each such default and the nature and status thereof (Sections 1009 and 1010).

## **MODIFICATION OF THE INDENTURE**

Modifications and amendments of the Indenture will be permitted to be made only with the consent of the Holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of all Outstanding Debt Securities or series of Outstanding Debt Securities which are affected by such modification or amendment; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that no such modification or amendment may, without the consent of the Holder of each such Debt Security affected thereby, (a) change the Stated Maturity of the principal of, or premium (if any) or any installment of interest on, any such Debt Security, reduce the principal amount of, or the rate or amount of interest on, or any premium payable on redemption of, any such Debt Security, or reduce the amount of principal of an Original Issue Discount Security that would be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof or would be provable in bankruptcy, or adversely affect any right or repayment of the holder of any such Debt Security, change the place of payment, or the coin or currency, for payment of principal of, premium, if any, or interest on any such Debt Security or impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to any such Debt Security; (b) reduce the above-stated

percentage of outstanding Debt Securities of any series necessary to modify or amend the Indenture, to waive compliance with certain provisions thereof or certain defaults and consequences thereunder or to reduce the quorum or voting requirements set forth in the Indenture; (c) modify or affect in any manner adverse to the Holders the terms and conditions of the obligations of the Company in respect of the payment of principal (and premium, if any) and interest on any Guaranteed Securities; or (d) modify any of the foregoing provisions or any of the provisions relating to the waiver of certain past defaults or certain covenants, except to increase the required percentage to effect such action or to provide that certain other provisions may not be modified or waived without the consent of the Holder of such Debt Security (Section 902).

The Indenture provides that the Holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of a series of Outstanding Debt Securities have the right to waive compliance by the Operating Partnership and/or the Company with certain covenants relating to such series of Debt Securities in the Indenture (Section 1008).

Modifications and amendments of the Indenture will be permitted to be made by the Operating Partnership, the Company and the Trustee without the consent of any Holder of Debt Securities for any of the following purposes: (i) to evidence the succession of another Person to the Operating Partnership as obligor or the Company as guarantor under the Indenture; (ii) to add to the covenants of the Operating Partnership or the Company for the benefit of the Holders of all or any series of Debt Securities or to surrender any right or power conferred upon the Operating Partnership or the Company in the Indenture; (iii) to add Events of Default for the benefit of the Holders of all or any series of Debt Securities; (iv) to add or change any provisions of the Indenture to facilitate the issuance of, or to liberalize certain terms of, Debt Securities in bearer form, or to permit or facilitate the issuance of Debt Securities in uncertificated form, provided that such action shall not adversely affect the interests of the Holders of the Debt Securities of any series in any material respect; (v) to amend or supplement any provisions of the Indenture, provided that no such amendment or supplement shall materially adversely affect the interests of the Holders of any Debt Securities then Outstanding; (vi) to secure the Debt Securities; (vii) to establish the form or terms of Debt Securities of any series; (viii) to provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor Trustee to facilitate the administration of the trusts under the Indenture by more than one Trustee; (ix) to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the Indenture, provided that such action shall not adversely affect the interests of Holders of Debt Securities of any series in any material respect; or (x) to supplement any of the provisions of the Indenture to the extent necessary to permit or facilitate defeasance and discharge of any series of such Debt Securities, provided that such action shall not adversely affect the interests of the Holders of the Debt Securities of any series in any material respect (Section 901). In addition, with respect to Guaranteed Securities, without the consent of any Holder of Debt Securities the Company, or a subsidiary thereof, may directly assume the due and punctual payment of the principal of, any premium and interest on all the Guaranteed Securities and the performance of every covenant of the Indenture on the part of the Operating Partnership to be performed or observed. Upon any such assumption, the Company or such subsidiary shall succeed to, and be substituted for and may exercise every right and power of, the Operating Partnership under the Indenture with the same effect as if the Company or such subsidiary had been the issuer of the Guaranteed Securities and the Operating Partnership shall be released from all obligations and covenants with respect to the Guaranteed Securities. No such assumption shall be permitted unless the Company has delivered to the Trustee

(i) an officer's certificate and an opinion of counsel, stating, among other things, that the Guarantee and all other covenants of the Company in the Indenture remain in full force and effect and (ii) an opinion of independent counsel that the Holders of Guaranteed Securities shall have no United States Federal tax consequences as a result of such assumption, and that, if any Debt Securities are then listed on the New York Stock Exchange, that such Debt Securities shall not be delisted as a result of such assumption (Section 805).

The Indenture provides that in determining whether the Holders of the requisite principal amount of Outstanding Debt Securities of a series have given any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent or waiver thereunder or whether a quorum is present at a meeting of Holders of Debt Securities, (i) the principal amount of an Original Issue Discount Security that shall be deemed to be Outstanding shall be the amount of the principal thereof that would be due and payable as of the date of such determination upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof, (ii) the principal amount of a Debt Security denominated in a foreign currency that shall be deemed Outstanding shall be the U.S. dollar equivalent, determined on the issue date for such Debt Security, of the principal amount (or, in the case of an Original Issue



Discount Security, the U.S. dollar equivalent on the issue date of such Debt Security of the amount determined as provided in (i) above), (iii) the principal amount of an Indexed Security that shall be deemed Outstanding shall be the principal face amount of such Indexed Security at original issuance, unless otherwise provided with respect to such Indexed Security pursuant to the Indenture, and (iv) Debt Securities owned by the Operating Partnership, the Company or any other obligor upon the Debt Securities or any affiliate of the Operating Partnership, the Company or of such other obligor shall be disregarded.

The Indenture contains provisions for convening meetings of the Holders of Debt Securities of a series (Section 1501). A meeting will be permitted to be called at any time by the Trustee, and also, upon request, by the Operating Partnership, the Company (in respect of a series of Guaranteed Securities) or the holders of at least 10% in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of such series, in any such case upon notice given as provided in the Indenture (Section 1502). Except for any consent that must be given by the Holder of each Debt Security affected by certain modifications and amendments of the Indenture, any resolution presented at a meeting or adjourned meeting duly reconvened at which a quorum is present will be permitted to be adopted by the affirmative vote of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of that series; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that, except as referred to above, any resolution with respect to any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action that may be made, given or taken by the Holders of a specified percentage, which is less than a majority, in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of a series may be adopted at a meeting or adjourned meeting duly reconvened at which a quorum is present by the affirmative vote of the Holders of such specified percentage in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of that series. Any resolution passed or decision taken at any meeting of Holders of Debt Securities of any series duly held in accordance with the Indenture will be binding on all Holders of Debt Securities of that series. The quorum at any meeting called to adopt a resolution, and at any reconvened meeting, will be Persons holding or representing a majority in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of a series; provided, however, that if any action is to be taken at such meeting with respect to a consent or waiver which may be given by the Holders of not less than a specified percentage in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of a series, the Persons holding or representing such specified percentage in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of such series will constitute a quorum (Section 1504).

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, any action to be taken at a meeting of Holders of Debt Securities of any series with respect to any action that the Indenture expressly provides may be taken by the Holders of a specified percentage which is less than a majority in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of a series may be taken at a meeting at which a quorum is present by the affirmative vote of Holders of such specified percentage in principal amount of the Outstanding Debt Securities of such series (Section 1504).

#### **DISCHARGE, DEFEASANCE AND COVENANT DEFEASANCE**

The Operating Partnership may discharge certain obligations to Holders of any series of Debt Securities that have not already been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation and that either have become due and payable or will become due and payable within one year (or scheduled for redemption within one year) by irrevocably depositing with the Trustee, in trust, funds in such currency or currencies, currency unit or units or composite currency or currencies in which such Debt Securities are payable in an amount sufficient to pay the entire indebtedness on such Debt Securities in respect of principal (and premium, if any) and interest to the date of such deposit (if such Debt Securities have become due and payable) or to the Stated Maturity or Redemption Date, as the case may be (Section 401).

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Operating Partnership may elect either (a) to defease and discharge itself and the Company (if such Debt Securities are Guaranteed Securities) from any and all obligations with respect to such Debt Securities (except for the obligation to pay additional amounts, if any, upon the occurrence of certain events of tax, assessment or governmental charge with respect to payments on such Debt Securities and the obligations to register the transfer or exchange of such Debt Securities, to replace temporary or mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen Debt Securities, to maintain an office or agency in respect of such Debt Securities and to hold moneys for payment in trust) ("defeasance") or (b) to release itself and the Company (if such Debt Securities are Guaranteed Securities) from their obligations with respect to such Debt Securities under certain sections of the Indenture

(including the restrictions described under "Certain Covenants") and if provided pursuant to Section 301 of the Indenture, their obligations with respect to any other covenant, and any omission to comply with such obligations shall not constitute a default or an Event of Default with respect to such Debt Securities ("covenant defeasance"), in either case upon the irrevocable deposit by the Operating Partnership or the Company (if the Debt Securities are Guaranteed Securities) with the Trustee, in trust, of an amount, in such currency or currencies, currency unit or units or composite currency or currencies in which such Debt Securities are payable at Stated Maturity, or Government Obligations (as defined below), or both, applicable to such Debt Securities which through the scheduled payment of principal and interest in accordance with their terms will provide money in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on such Debt Securities, and any mandatory sinking fund or analogous payments thereon, on the scheduled due dates therefor (Section 402).

Such a trust will only be permitted to be established if, among other things, the Operating Partnership or the Company (if the Debt Securities are Guaranteed Securities) has delivered to the Trustee an Opinion of Counsel (as specified in the Indenture) to the effect that the Holders of such Debt Securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. Federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance or covenant defeasance and will be subject to U.S. Federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such defeasance or covenant defeasance had not occurred, and such Opinion of Counsel, in the case of defeasance, must refer to and be based upon a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service or a change in applicable United States Federal income tax law occurring after the date of the Indenture (Section 402).

"Government Obligations" means securities that are (i) direct obligations of the United States of America or the government that issued the foreign currency in which the Debt Securities of a particular series are payable, for the payment of which its full faith and credit is pledged or (ii) obligations of a person controlled or supervised by and acting as an agency or instrumentality of the United States of America or such government that issued the foreign currency in which the Debt Securities of such series are payable, the payment of which is unconditionally guaranteed as a full faith and credit obligation by the United States of America or such other government, and that, in either case, are not callable or redeemable at the option of the issuer thereof, and shall also include a depository receipt issued by a bank or trust company as custodian with respect to any such Government Obligation or a specific payment of interest on or principal of any such Government Obligation held by such custodian for the account of the holder of a depository receipt, PROVIDED that (except as required by law) such custodian is not authorized to make any deduction from the amount payable to the holder of such depository receipt from any amount received by the custodian in respect of the Government Obligation or the specific payment of interest on or principal of the Government Obligation evidenced by such depository receipt.

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, if after the Operating Partnership or the Company (if the Debt Securities are Guaranteed Securities) has deposited funds and/or Government Obligations to effect defeasance or covenant defeasance with respect to Debt Securities of any series,

(a) the Holder of a Debt Security of such series is entitled to, and does, elect pursuant to the Indenture or the terms of such Debt Security to receive payment in a currency, currency unit or composite currency other than that in which such deposit has been made in respect of such Debt Security, or (b) a Conversion Event (as defined below) occurs in respect of the currency, currency unit or composite currency in which such deposit has been made, the indebtedness represented by such Debt Security shall be deemed to have been, and will be, fully discharged and satisfied through the payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on such Debt Security as they become due out of the proceeds yielded by converting the amount so deposited in respect of such Debt Security into the currency, currency unit or composite currency in which such Debt Security becomes payable as a result of such election or such Conversion Event based on the applicable market exchange rate (Section 402). "Conversion Event" means the cessation of use of (i) a currency, currency unit or composite currency both by the government of the country that issued such currency and for the settlement of transactions by a central bank or other public institutions of or within the international banking community, (ii) the ECU both within the European Monetary System and for the settlement of transactions by public institutions of or within the European Union or (iii) any currency unit or composite currency other than the ECU for the purposes for which it was established. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, all payments of principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on any

Debt Security that is payable in a foreign currency that ceases to be used by its government of issuance shall be made in U.S. dollars.

If the Operating Partnership effects covenant defeasance with respect to any Debt Securities and such Debt Securities are declared due and payable because of the occurrence of any Event of Default other than the Event of Default described in clause (d) under "Events of Default, Notice and Waiver" with respect to Sections no longer applicable to such Debt Securities or described in clause (g) under "Events of Default, Notice and Waiver" with respect to any other covenant as to which there has been covenant defeasance, the amount in such currency, currency unit or composite currency in which such Debt Securities are payable, and Government Obligations on deposit with the Trustee, will be sufficient to pay amounts due on such Debt Securities at the time of their Stated Maturity but may not be sufficient to pay amounts due on such Debt Securities at the time of the acceleration resulting from such Event of Default. However, the Operating Partnership and the Company (if such Debt Securities are Guaranteed Securities) would remain liable to make payment of such amounts due at the time of acceleration.

The applicable Prospectus Supplement may further describe the provisions, if any, permitting such defeasance or covenant defeasance, including any modifications to the provisions described above, with respect to the Debt Securities of or within a particular series.

## **NO CONVERSION RIGHTS**

The Debt Securities will not be convertible into or exchangeable for any capital stock of the Company or equity interest in the Operating Partnership.

## **GLOBAL SECURITIES**

The Debt Securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities (the "Global Securities") that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depositary (the "Depositary") identified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement relating to such series. Global Securities may be issued in either registered or bearer form and in either temporary or permanent form. The specific terms of the depositary arrangement with respect to a series of Debt Securities will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement relating to such series.

## DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK

### GENERAL

The Company is authorized to issue 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$.01 par value per share, of which no Preferred Stock was outstanding at the date hereof.

The following description of the Preferred Stock sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the Preferred Stock to which any Prospectus Supplement may relate. The statements below describing the Preferred Stock are in all respects subject to and qualified in their entirety by reference to the applicable provisions of the Company's Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation (the "Articles of Incorporation") and Bylaws and any applicable amendment to the Articles of Incorporation designating terms of a series of Preferred Stock (a "Designating Amendment").

### TERMS

Subject to the limitations prescribed by the Articles of Incorporation, the board of directors is authorized to fix the number of shares constituting each series of Preferred Stock and the designations and powers, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights and qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, including such provisions as may be desired concerning voting, redemption, dividends, dissolution or the distribution of assets, conversion or exchange, and such other subjects or matters as may be fixed by resolution of the board of directors. The Preferred Stock will, when issued, be fully paid and nonassessable by the Company and will have no preemptive rights.

Reference is made to the Prospectus Supplement relating to the Preferred Stock offered thereby for specific terms, including:

- (1) The title and stated value of such Preferred Stock;
- (2) The number of shares of such Preferred Stock offered, the liquidation preference per share and the offering price of such Preferred Stock;
- (3) The dividend rate(s), period(s) and/or payment date(s) or method(s) of calculation thereof applicable to such Preferred Stock;
- (4) The date from which dividends on such Preferred Stock shall accumulate, if applicable;
- (5) The procedures for any auction and remarketing, if any, for such Preferred Stock;
- (6) The provision for a sinking fund, if any, for such Preferred Stock;
- (7) The provision for redemption, if applicable, of such Preferred Stock;
- (8) Any listing of such Preferred Stock on any securities exchange;
- (9) The terms and conditions, if applicable, upon which such Preferred Stock will be convertible into Common Stock of the Company, including the conversion price (or manner of calculation thereof);
- (10) Whether interests in such Preferred Stock will be represented by Depositary Shares;
- (11) Any other specific terms, preferences, rights, limitations or restrictions of such Preferred Stock;
- (12) A discussion of Federal income tax considerations applicable to such Preferred Stock;
- (13) The relative ranking and preferences of such Preferred Stock as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Company;
- (14) Any limitations on issuance of any series of Preferred Stock ranking senior to or on a parity with such series of Preferred Stock as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Company; and
- (15) Any limitations on direct or beneficial ownership and restrictions on transfer, in each case as may be appropriate to preserve the status of the Company as a REIT.

## **RANK**

Unless otherwise specified in the Prospectus Supplement, the Preferred Stock will, with respect to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, rank (i) senior to all classes or series of Common Stock of the Company, and to all equity securities ranking junior to such Preferred Stock; (ii) on a parity with all equity securities issued by the Company the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank on a parity with the Preferred Stock; and (iii) junior to all equity securities issued by the Company the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank senior to the Preferred Stock. The term "equity securities" does not include convertible debt securities.

## **DIVIDENDS**

Holders of the Preferred Stock of each series will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by the board of directors of the Company, out of assets of the Company legally available for payment, cash dividends at such rates and on such dates as will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Each such dividend shall be payable to holders of record as they appear on the share transfer books of the Company on such record dates as shall be fixed by the board of directors of the Company.

Dividends on any series of the Preferred Stock may be cumulative or non-cumulative, as provided in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Dividends, if cumulative, will be cumulative from and after the date set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. If the board of directors of the Company fails to declare a dividend payable on a dividend payment date on any series of the Preferred Stock for which dividends are non-cumulative, then the holders of such series of the Preferred Stock will have no right to receive a dividend in respect of the dividend period ending on such dividend payment date, and the Company will have no obligation to pay the dividend accrued for such period, whether or not dividends on such series are declared payable on any future dividend payment date.

If Preferred Stock of any series is outstanding, no dividends will be declared or paid or set apart for payment on any capital stock of the Company of any other series ranking, as to dividends, on a parity with or junior to the Preferred Stock of such series for any period unless (i) if such series of Preferred Stock has a cumulative dividend, full cumulative dividends have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for such payment on the Preferred Stock of such series for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period or (ii) if such series of Preferred Stock does not have a cumulative dividend, full dividends for the then current dividend period have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for such payment on the Preferred Stock of such series. When dividends are not paid in full (or a sum sufficient for such full payment is not so set apart) upon Preferred Stock of any series and the shares of any other series of Preferred Stock ranking on a parity as to dividends with the Preferred Stock of such series, all dividends declared upon Preferred Stock of such series and any other series of Preferred Stock ranking on a parity as to dividends with such Preferred Stock shall be declared pro rata so that the amount of dividends declared per share of Preferred Stock of such series and such other series of Preferred Stock shall in all cases bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends per share on the Preferred Stock of such series (which shall not include any accumulation in respect of unpaid dividends for prior dividend periods if such Preferred Stock does not have a cumulative dividend) and such other series of Preferred Stock bear to each other. No interest, or sum of money in lieu of interest, shall be payable in respect of any dividend payment or payments on Preferred Stock of such series which may be in arrears.

Except as provided in the immediately preceding paragraph, unless (i) if such series of Preferred Stock has a cumulative dividend, full cumulative dividends on the Preferred Stock of such series have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period, and (ii) if such series of Preferred Stock does not have a cumulative dividend, full dividends on the Preferred Stock of such series have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for the then current dividend period, no dividends (other than in shares of Common Stock or other capital shares ranking junior to the Preferred Stock of such series as to dividends and upon liquidation) shall be declared or paid or set aside for payment or other distribution shall be declared or made upon the Common Stock, or any other capital shares of the Company ranking junior to or

on a parity with the Preferred Stock of such series as to dividends or upon liquidation, nor shall any shares of Common Stock, or any other capital shares of the Company ranking junior to or on a parity with the Preferred Stock of such series as to dividends or upon liquidation be redeemed, purchased or otherwise acquired for any consideration (or any moneys be paid to or made available for a sinking fund for the redemption of any such shares) by the Company (except by conversion into or exchange for other capital shares of the Company ranking junior to the Preferred Stock of such series as to dividends and upon liquidation).

## **REDEMPTION**

If so provided in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Preferred Stock will be subject to mandatory redemption or redemption at the option of the Company, as a whole or in part, in each case upon the terms, at the times and at the redemption prices set forth in such Prospectus Supplement.

The Prospectus Supplement relating to a series of Preferred Stock that is subject to mandatory redemption will specify the number of shares of such Preferred Stock that shall be redeemed by the Company in each year commencing after a date to be specified, at a redemption price per share to be specified, together with an amount equal to all accrued and unpaid dividends thereon (which shall not, if Preferred Stock does not have a cumulative dividend, include any accumulation in respect of unpaid dividends for prior dividend periods) to the date of redemption. The redemption price may be payable in cash or other property, as specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. If the redemption price for Preferred Stock of any series is payable only from the net proceeds of the issuance of capital shares of the Company, the terms of such Preferred Stock may provide that, if no such capital shares shall have been issued or to the extent the net proceeds from any issuance are insufficient to pay in full the aggregate redemption price then due, such Preferred Stock shall automatically and mandatorily be converted into the applicable capital shares of the Company pursuant to conversion provisions specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, unless (i) if such series of Preferred Stock has a cumulative dividend, full cumulative dividends on all shares of any series of Preferred Stock have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period, and (ii) if such series of Preferred Stock does not have a cumulative dividend, full dividends of the Preferred Stock of any series have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for the then current dividend period, no shares of any series of Preferred Stock shall be redeemed unless all outstanding Preferred Stock of such series is simultaneously redeemed; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the foregoing shall not prevent the purchase or acquisition of Preferred Stock of such series to preserve the REIT status of the Company or pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all outstanding Preferred Stock of such series. In addition, unless (i) if such series of Preferred Stock has a cumulative dividend, full cumulative dividends on all outstanding shares of any series of Preferred Stock have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for all past dividends periods and the then current dividend period, and (ii) if such series of Preferred Stock does not have a cumulative dividend, full dividends on the Preferred Stock of any series have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set apart for payment for the then current dividend period, the Company shall not purchase or otherwise acquire directly or indirectly any shares of Preferred Stock of such series (except by conversion into or exchange for capital shares of the Company ranking junior to the Preferred Stock of such series as to dividends and upon liquidation); PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the foregoing shall not prevent the purchase or acquisition of Preferred Stock of such series to preserve the REIT status of the Company or pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all outstanding Preferred Stock of such series.

If fewer than all of the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock of any series are to be redeemed, the number of shares to be redeemed will be determined by the Company and such shares may be redeemed pro rata from the holders of record of such shares in proportion to the number of such shares held or for which redemption is requested by such holder (with adjustments to avoid redemption of fractional shares) or by lot in a manner determined by the Company.

Notice of redemption will be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of record of Preferred Stock of any series to be redeemed at the address shown on the share transfer books of the Company. Each notice shall state: (i) the redemption date; (ii) the number of shares and series of the Preferred Stock to be redeemed; (iii) the redemption price; (iv) the place or places where certificates for such Preferred Stock are to be surrendered for payment of the redemption price; (v) that dividends on the shares to be redeemed will cease to accrue on such redemption date; and (vi) the date upon which the holder's conversion rights, if any, as to such shares shall terminate. If fewer than all the shares of Preferred Stock of any series are to be redeemed, the notice mailed to each such holder thereof shall also specify the number of shares of Preferred Stock to be redeemed from each such holder. If notice of redemption of any Preferred Stock has been given and if the funds necessary for such redemption have been set aside by the Company in trust for the benefit of the holders of any Preferred Stock so called for redemption, then from and after the redemption date dividends will cease to accrue on such Preferred Stock, and all rights of the holders of such shares will terminate, except the right to receive the redemption price.

## **LIQUIDATION PREFERENCE**

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Company, then, before any distribution or payment shall be made to the holders of any Common Stock or any other class or series of capital shares of the Company ranking junior to the Preferred Stock in the distribution of assets upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, the holders of each series of Preferred Stock shall be entitled to receive out of assets of the Company legally available for distribution to shareholders liquidating distributions in the amount of the liquidation preference per share (set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement), plus an amount equal to all dividends accrued and unpaid thereon (which shall not include any accumulation in respect of unpaid dividends for prior dividend periods if such Preferred Stock does not have a cumulative dividend). After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distributions to which they are entitled, the holders of Preferred Stock will have no right or claim to any of the remaining assets of the Company. If, upon any such voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up, the available assets of the Company are insufficient to pay the amount of the liquidating distributions on all outstanding Preferred Stock and the corresponding amounts payable on all shares of other classes or series of capital shares of the Company ranking on a parity with the Preferred Stock in the distribution of assets, then the holders of the Preferred Stock and all other such classes or series of capital shares shall share ratably in any such distribution of assets in proportion to the full liquidating distributions to which they would otherwise be respectively entitled.

If liquidating distributions shall have been made in full to all holders of Preferred Stock, the remaining assets of the Company shall be distributed among the holders of any other classes or series of capital shares ranking junior to the Preferred Stock upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, according to their respective rights and preferences and in each case according to their respective number of shares. For such purposes, the consolidation or merger of the Company with or into any other corporation, trust or entity, or the sale, lease or conveyance of all or substantially all of the property or business of the Company, shall not be deemed to constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company.

## **VOTING RIGHTS**

Holders of the Preferred Stock will not have any voting rights, except as set forth below or as otherwise from time to time required by law or as indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Whenever dividends on any shares of Preferred Stock shall be in arrears for six or more consecutive quarterly periods, the holders of such shares of Preferred Stock (voting separately as a class with all other series of preferred stock upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable) will be entitled to vote for the election of two additional directors of the Company at a special meeting called by the holders of record of at least 10% of any series of Preferred Stock so in arrears (unless such request is received less than 90 days before the date fixed for the next annual or special meeting of the stockholders) or at the next annual meeting of stockholders, and at each subsequent annual meeting until (i) if such series of Preferred Stock has a cumulative dividend, all dividends accumulated on such shares of Preferred Stock for the past dividend periods and the then current dividend period shall have been fully paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set aside for payment or (ii) if such series of Preferred Stock does

not have a cumulative dividend, four consecutive quarterly dividends shall have been fully paid or declared and a sum sufficient for the payment thereof set aside for payment. In such case, the entire board of directors of the Company will be increased by two directors.

Unless provided otherwise for any series of Preferred Stock, so long as any shares of Preferred Stock remain outstanding, the Company will not, without the affirmative vote or consent of the holders of at least two-thirds of the shares of each series of Preferred Stock outstanding at the time, given in person or by proxy, either in writing or at a meeting (such series voting separately as a class), (i) authorize or create, or increase the authorized or issued amount of, any class or series of capital stock ranking prior to such series of Preferred Stock with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up or reclassify any authorized capital stock of the Company into such shares, or create, authorize or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any such shares; or (ii) amend, alter or repeal the provisions of the Company's Articles of Incorporation or the Designating Amendment for such series of Preferred Stock, whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise (an "Event"), so as to materially and adversely affect any right, preference, privilege or voting power of such series of Preferred Stock or the holders thereof; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, with respect to the occurrence of any of the Events set forth in (ii) above, so long as the Preferred Stock remains outstanding with the terms thereof materially unchanged, taking into account that upon the occurrence of an Event, the Company may not be the surviving entity, the occurrence of any such Event shall not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting power of holders of Preferred Stock and provided further that (x) any increase in the amount of the authorized Preferred Stock or the creation or issuance of any other series of Preferred Stock, or (y) any increase in the amount of authorized shares of such series or any other series of Preferred Stock, in each case ranking on a parity with or junior to the Preferred Stock of such series with respect to payment of dividends or the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, shall not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers.

The foregoing voting provisions will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of such series of Preferred Stock shall have been redeemed or called for redemption and sufficient funds shall have been deposited in trust to effect such redemption.

## **CONVERSION RIGHTS**

The terms and conditions, if any, upon which any series of Preferred Stock is convertible into shares of Common Stock will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement relating thereto. Such terms will include the number of shares of Common Stock into which the shares of Preferred Stock are convertible, the conversion price (or manner of calculation thereof), the conversion period, provisions as to whether conversion will be at the option of the holders of the Preferred Stock or the Company, the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price and provisions affecting conversion in the event of the redemption of such series of Preferred Stock.

## **SHAREHOLDER LIABILITY**

As discussed below under "Description of Common Stock -- General," applicable Maryland law provides that no shareholder, including holders of Preferred Stock, shall be personally liable for the acts and obligations of the Company and that the funds and property of the Company shall be the only recourse for such acts or obligations.

## **RESTRICTIONS ON OWNERSHIP**

As discussed below under "Description of Common Stock -- Certain Provisions Affecting Change of Control -- OWNERSHIP LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFERS," for the Company to qualify as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), not more than 50% in value of its outstanding capital shares may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals (as defined in the Code to include certain entities) during the last half of a taxable year. To ensure that the Company remains a qualified REIT, the Articles of Incorporation provide that no holder (other than persons approved by the directors at their option and in their discretion) may own, or be deemed to own by virtue of the



attribution provisions of the Code, more than 9.8% of the issued and outstanding capital stock of the Company. To assist the Company in meeting this requirement, the Company may take certain actions to limit the beneficial ownership, directly or indirectly, by a single person of the Company's outstanding equity securities, including any Preferred Stock of the Company. Therefore, the Designating Amendment for each series of Preferred Stock may contain provisions restricting the ownership and transfer of the Preferred Stock. The applicable Prospectus Supplement will specify any additional ownership limitation relating to a series of Preferred Stock.

## **REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER AGENT**

The Registrar and Transfer Agent for the Preferred Stock will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

## **DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES**

### **GENERAL**

The Company may issue receipts ("Depositary Receipts") for Depositary Shares, each of which will represent a fractional interest of a share of a particular series of Preferred Stock, as specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Shares of Preferred Stock of each series represented by Depositary Shares will be deposited under a separate deposit agreement (each, a "Deposit Agreement") among the Company, the depositary named therein (a "Preferred Stock Depositary") and the holders from time to time of the Depositary Receipts. Subject to the terms of the applicable Deposit Agreement, each owner of a Depositary Receipt will be entitled, in proportion to the fractional interest of a share of a particular series of Preferred Stock represented by the Depositary Shares evidenced by such Depositary Receipt, to all the rights and preferences of the Preferred Stock represented by such Depositary Shares (including dividend, voting, conversion, redemption and liquidation rights).

The Depositary Shares will be evidenced by Depositary Receipts issued pursuant to the applicable Deposit Agreement. Immediately following the issuance and delivery of the Preferred Stock by the Company to a Preferred Stock Depositary, the Company will cause such Preferred Stock Depositary to issue, on behalf of the Company, the Depositary Receipts. Copies of the applicable form of Deposit Agreement and Depositary Receipt may be obtained from the Company upon request, and the statements made hereunder relating to Deposit Agreements and the Depositary Receipts to be issued thereunder are summaries of certain anticipated provisions thereof and do not purport to be complete and are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all of the provisions of the applicable Deposit Agreement and related Depositary Receipts.

### **DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS**

A Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of the applicable Preferred Stock to the record holders of Depositary Receipts evidencing the related Depositary Shares in proportion to the number of such Depositary Receipts owned by such holders, subject to certain obligations of holders to file proofs, certificates and other information and to pay certain charges and expenses to such Preferred Stock Depositary.

In the event of a distribution other than in cash, a Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to distribute property received by it to the record holders of Depositary Receipts entitled thereto, subject to certain obligations of holders to file proofs, certificates and other information and to pay certain charges and expenses to such Preferred Stock Depositary, unless such Preferred Stock Depositary determines that it is not feasible to make such distribution, in which case such Preferred Stock Depositary may, with the approval of the Company, sell such property and distribute the net proceeds from such sale to such holders.

No distribution will be made in respect of any Depositary Share to the extent that it represents any Preferred Stock that has been converted or exchanged.

## **WITHDRAWAL OF STOCK**

Upon surrender of the Depositary Receipts at the corporate trust office of the applicable Preferred Stock Depositary (unless the related Depositary Shares have previously been called for redemption or converted), the holders thereof will be entitled to delivery at such office, to or upon each such holder's order, of the number of whole or fractional shares of the applicable Preferred Stock and any money or other property represented by the Depositary Shares evidenced by such Depositary Receipts. Holders of Depositary Receipts will be entitled to receive whole or fractional shares of the related Preferred Stock on the basis of the proportion of Preferred Stock represented by each Depositary Share as specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, but holders of such shares of Preferred Stock will not thereafter be entitled to receive Depositary Shares therefor. If the Depositary Receipts delivered by the holder evidence a number of Depositary Shares in excess of the number of Depositary Shares representing the number of shares of Preferred Stock to be withdrawn, the applicable Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to deliver to such holder at the same time a new Depositary Receipt evidencing such excess number of Depositary Shares.

## **REDEMPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES**

Whenever the Company redeems shares of Preferred Stock held by a Preferred Stock Depositary, such Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to redeem as of the same redemption date the number of Depositary Shares representing shares of the Preferred Stock so redeemed, provided the Company shall have paid in full to such Preferred Stock Depositary the redemption price of the Preferred Stock to be redeemed plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends thereon to the date fixed for redemption. The redemption price per Depositary Share will be equal to the redemption price and any other amounts per share payable with respect to the Preferred Stock. If fewer than all the Depositary Shares are to be redeemed, the Depositary Shares to be redeemed will be selected pro rata (as nearly as may be practicable without creating fractional Depositary Shares) or by any other equitable method determined by the Company.

From and after the date fixed for redemption, all dividends in respect of the shares of Preferred Stock so called for redemption will cease to accrue, the Depositary Shares so called for redemption will no longer be deemed to be outstanding and all rights of the holders of the Depositary Receipts evidencing the Depositary Shares so called for redemption will cease, except the right to receive any moneys payable upon such redemption and any money or other property to which the holders of such Depositary Receipts were entitled upon such redemption upon surrender thereof to the applicable Preferred Stock Depositary.

## **VOTING OF THE PREFERRED STOCK**

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the applicable Preferred Stock are entitled to vote, a Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to mail the information contained in such notice of meeting to the record holders of the Depositary Receipts evidencing the Depositary Shares that represent such Preferred Stock. Each record holder of Depositary Receipts evidencing Depositary Shares on the record date (which will be the same date as the record date for the Preferred Stock) will be entitled to instruct such Preferred Stock Depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights pertaining to the amount of Preferred Stock represented by such holder's Depositary Shares. Such Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to vote the amount of Preferred Stock represented by such Depositary Shares in accordance with such instructions, and the Company will agree to take all reasonable action that may be deemed necessary by such Preferred Stock Depositary in order to enable such Preferred Stock Depositary to do so. Such Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to abstain from voting the amount of Preferred Stock represented by such Depositary Shares to the extent it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of Depositary Receipts evidencing such Depositary Shares. A Preferred Stock Depositary will not be responsible for any failure to carry out any instruction to vote, or for the manner or effect of any such vote made, as long as any such action or non-action is in good faith and does not result from negligence or willful misconduct of such Preferred Stock Depositary.

## **LIQUIDATION PREFERENCE**

In the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, whether voluntary or involuntary, the holders of each Depositary Receipt will be entitled to the fraction of the liquidation preference

accorded each share of Preferred Stock represented by the Depositary Share evidenced by such Depositary Receipt, as set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

## **CONVERSION OF PREFERRED STOCK**

The Depositary Shares, as such, will not be convertible into Common Stock or any other securities or property of the Company. Nevertheless, if so specified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement relating to an offering of Depositary Shares, the Depositary Receipts may be surrendered by holders thereof to the applicable Preferred Stock Depositary with written instructions to such Preferred Stock Depositary to instruct the Company to cause conversion of the Preferred Stock represented by the Depositary Shares evidenced by such Depositary Receipts into whole shares of Common Stock, other shares of Preferred Stock of the Company or other shares of stock, and the Company will agree that upon receipt of such instructions and any amounts payable in respect thereof, it will cause the conversion thereof utilizing the same procedures as those provided for delivery of Preferred Stock to effect such conversion. If the Depositary Shares evidenced by a Depositary Receipt are to be converted in part only, a new Depositary Receipt or Receipts will be issued for any Depositary Shares not to be converted. No fractional shares of Common Stock will be issued upon conversion, and if such conversion will result in a fractional share being issued, an amount will be paid in cash by the Company equal to the value of the fractional interest based upon the closing price of the Common Stock on the last business day prior to the conversion.

## **AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION OF A DEPOSIT AGREEMENT**

Any form of Depositary Receipt evidencing Depositary Shares that will represent Preferred Stock and any provision of a Deposit Agreement will be permitted at any time to be amended by agreement between the Company and the applicable Preferred Stock Depositary. However, any amendment that materially and adversely alters the rights of the holders of Depositary Receipts or that would be materially and adversely inconsistent with the rights granted to the holders of the related Preferred Stock will not be effective unless such amendment has been approved by the existing holders of at least two-thirds of the applicable Depositary Shares evidenced by the applicable Depositary Receipts then outstanding. No amendment shall impair the right, subject to certain anticipated exceptions in the Deposit Agreements, of any holder of Depositary Receipts to surrender any Depositary Receipt with instructions to deliver to the holder the related Preferred Stock and all money and other property, if any, represented thereby, except in order to comply with law. Every holder of an outstanding Depositary Receipt at the time any such amendment becomes effective shall be deemed, by continuing to hold such Depositary Receipt, to consent and agree to such amendment and to be bound by the applicable Deposit Agreement as amended thereby.

A Deposit Agreement will be permitted to be terminated by the Company upon not less than 30 days' prior written notice to the applicable Preferred Stock Depositary if (i) such termination is necessary to preserve the Company's status as a REIT or (ii) a majority of each series of Preferred Stock affected by such termination consents to such termination, whereupon such Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to deliver or make available to each holder of Depositary Receipts, upon surrender of the Depositary Receipts held by such holder, such number of whole or fractional shares of Preferred Stock as are represented by the Depositary Shares evidenced by such Depositary Receipts together with any other property held by such Preferred Stock Depositary with respect to such Depositary Receipts. The Company will agree that if a Deposit Agreement is terminated to preserve the Company's status as a REIT, then the Company will use its best efforts to list the Preferred Stock issued upon surrender of the related Depositary Shares on a national securities exchange. In addition, a Deposit Agreement will automatically terminate if (i) all outstanding Depositary Shares thereunder shall have been redeemed, (ii) there shall have been a final distribution in respect of the related Preferred Stock in connection with any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company and such distribution shall have been distributed to the holders of Depositary Receipts evidencing the Depositary Shares representing such Preferred Stock or (iii) each share of the related Preferred Stock shall have been converted into stock of the Company not so represented by Depositary Shares.

## **CHARGES OF A PREFERRED STOCK DEPOSITARY**

The Company will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of a Deposit Agreement. In addition, the Company will pay the fees and expenses of a Preferred

Stock Depositary in connection with the performance of its duties under a Deposit Agreement. However, holders of Depositary Receipts will pay certain other transfer and other taxes and governmental charges as well as the fees and expenses of a Preferred Stock Depositary for any duties required by such holders to be performed which are outside of those expressly provided for in the applicable Deposit Agreement.

## **RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL OF DEPOSITARY**

A Preferred Stock Depositary will be permitted to resign at any time by delivering to the Company notice of its election to do so, and the Company will be permitted at any time to remove a Preferred Stock Depositary, any such resignation or removal to take effect upon the appointment of a successor Preferred Stock Depositary. A successor Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and will be required to be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States and having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

A Preferred Stock Depositary will be required to forward to holders of Depositary Receipts any reports and communications from the Company which are received by such Preferred Stock Depositary with respect to the related Preferred Stock.

Neither a Preferred Stock Depositary nor the Company will be liable if it is prevented from or delayed in, by law or any circumstances beyond its control, performing its obligations under a Depositary Agreement. The obligations of the Company and a Preferred Stock Depositary under a Deposit Agreement will be limited to performing their duties thereunder in good faith and without negligence (in the case of any action or inaction in the voting of Preferred Stock represented by the applicable Depositary Shares), gross negligence or willful misconduct, and neither the Company nor any applicable Preferred Stock Depositary will be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any Depositary Receipts, Depositary Shares or shares of Preferred Stock represented thereby unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. The Company and any Preferred Stock Depositary will be permitted to rely on written advice of counsel or accountants, or information provided by persons presenting shares of Preferred Stock represented thereby for deposit, holders of Depositary Receipts or other persons believed in good faith to be competent to give such information, and on documents believed in good faith to be genuine and signed by a proper party.

In the event a Preferred Stock Depositary shall receive conflicting claims, requests or instructions from any holders of Depositary Receipts, on the one hand, and the Company, on the other hand, such Preferred Stock Depositary shall be entitled to act on such claims, requests or instructions received from the Company.

## **DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK**

### **GENERAL**

The authorized capital stock of the Company includes 100,000,000 shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share. Each outstanding share of Common Stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters presented to shareholders for a vote. Holders of Common Stock have no preemptive rights. As of the date hereof, there were 19,898,970 shares of Common Stock outstanding and 4,269,590 shares reserved for issuance upon exchange of outstanding Units.

Shares of Common Stock currently outstanding are listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE"). The Company will apply to the NYSE to list the additional shares of Common Stock to be sold pursuant to any Prospectus Supplement, and the Company anticipates that such shares will be so listed.

All shares of Common Stock issued will be duly authorized, fully paid, and non-assessable. Distributions may be paid to the holders of Common Stock if and when declared by the board of directors of the Company out of funds legally available therefor. The Company intends to continue to pay quarterly dividends.

Under Maryland law, shareholders are generally not liable for the Company's debts or obligations. If the Company is liquidated, subject to the right of any holders of preferred stock, if any, to receive preferential distributions, each outstanding share of Common Stock will be entitled to participate pro rata in the assets remaining after payment of, or adequate provision for, all known debts and liabilities of the Company.

The Articles of Incorporation of the Company provide for the board of directors to be divided into three classes of directors, each class to consist as nearly as possible of one-third of the directors. At each annual meeting of shareholders, the class of directors to be elected at such meeting will be elected for a three-year term and the directors in the other two classes will continue in office. The overall effect of the provisions in the Articles of Incorporation with respect to the classified board may be to render more difficult a change of control of the Company or removal of incumbent management. Holders of Common Stock have no right to cumulative voting for the election of directors. Consequently, at each annual meeting of shareholders, the holders of a plurality of the shares of Common Stock are able to elect all of the successors of the class of directors whose term expires at that meeting. Directors may be removed only for cause and only with the affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds of the shares of capital stock entitled to vote in the election of directors.

## **CERTAIN PROVISIONS AFFECTING CHANGE OF CONTROL**

**GENERAL.** Pursuant to the Company's Articles of Incorporation and the Maryland general corporation law (the "MGCL"), the Company cannot merge into or consolidate with another corporation or enter into a statutory share exchange transaction in which it is not the surviving entity or sell all or substantially all of the assets of the Company unless the Board of Directors adopts a resolution declaring the proposed transaction advisable and a majority of stockholders entitled to vote thereon (voting together as a single class) approve the transaction. In addition, the agreement of limited partnership of the Operating Partnership (the "Operating Partnership Agreement") requires that any such merger or sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Operating Partnership be approved by a majority of the holders of Units (including Units owned by the Company).

**MARYLAND BUSINESS COMBINATION AND CONTROL SHARE STATUTES.** The MGCL establishes special requirements with respect to business combinations between Maryland corporations and interested stockholders unless exemptions are applicable. Among other things, the law prohibits for a period of five years a merger and other specified or similar transactions between a company and an interested stockholder and requires a supermajority vote for such transactions after the end of the five-year period. The Company's Articles of Incorporation contain a provision exempting the Company from the requirements and provisions of the Maryland business combination statute. There can be no assurance that such provision will not be amended or repealed at any point in the future.

The MGCL also 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 acquiror or by officers or directors who are employees of the Company. The control share acquisition statute does not apply to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the Company is a party to the transaction, or to acquisitions approved or exempted by the Articles of Incorporation or bylaws of the Company. The Company's bylaws contain a provision exempting from the control share acquisition statute any and all acquisitions by any person of the Company's stock. There can be no assurance that such provision will not be amended or repealed, in whole or in part, at any point in the future.

The Company's Articles of Incorporation (including the provision exempting the Company from the Maryland business combination statute) may not be amended without the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the shares of capital stock outstanding and entitled to vote thereon voting together as a single class, provided that certain provisions of the Articles of Incorporation may not be amended without the approval of the holders of two-thirds of the shares of capital stock of the Company outstanding and entitled to vote thereon voting together as a single class. The Company's bylaws may be amended by the Board of Directors or a majority of the shares cast of capital stock entitled to vote thereupon at a duly constituted meeting of stockholders.

If either of the foregoing exemptions in the Articles of Incorporation or bylaws is amended, the Maryland business combination statute or the control share acquisition statute could have the effect of discouraging offers to acquire the Company and of increasing the difficulty of consummating any such offer.

**OWNERSHIP LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFERS.** For the Company to remain qualified as a REIT under the Code, not more than 50% in value of its outstanding shares of Common Stock may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals (defined in the Code to include certain entities) during the last half of a taxable year, and such shares must be beneficially owned by 100 or more persons during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year. To ensure that the Company remains a qualified REIT, the Articles of Incorporation provide that no holder (other than persons approved by the directors at their option and in their discretion) may own, or be deemed to own by virtue of the attribution provisions of the Code, more than 9.8% (the "Ownership Limit") of the issued and outstanding capital stock of the Company. The Board of Directors may waive the Ownership Limit if evidence satisfactory to the Board of Directors and the Company's tax counsel is presented that the changes in ownership will not jeopardize the Company's status as a REIT.

If any stockholder purports to transfer shares to a person and either the transfer would result in the Company failing to qualify as a REIT, or the stockholder knows that such transfer would cause the transferee to hold more than the Ownership Limit, the purported transfer shall be null and void, and the stockholder will be deemed not to have transferred the shares. In addition, if any person holds shares of capital stock in excess of the Ownership Limit, such person will be deemed to hold the excess shares in trust for the Company, will not receive distributions with respect to such shares and will not be entitled to vote such shares. The person will be required to sell such shares to the Company for the lesser of the amount paid for the shares and the average closing price for the 10 trading days immediately preceding the redemption or to sell such shares at the direction of the Company, in which case the Company will be reimbursed for its expenses in connection with the sale and will receive any amount of such proceeds that exceeds the amount such person paid for the shares. If the Company repurchases such shares, it may pay for the shares with Units. The foregoing restrictions on transferability and ownership will not apply if the Board of Directors and the stockholders (by the affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote on the matter) determine that it is no longer in the best interests of the Company to continue to qualify as a REIT.

All certificates representing shares of Common Stock bear a legend referring to the restrictions described above.

Every beneficial owner of more than 5% (or such lower percentage as required by the Code or regulations thereunder) of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock must file a written notice with the Company no later than January 30 of each year, containing the name and address of such beneficial owner, the number of shares of Common Stock and/or Preferred Stock owned and a description of how the shares are held. In addition, each stockholder shall be required upon demand to disclose to the Company in writing such information as the Company may request in order to determine the effect of such stockholder's direct, indirect and constructive ownership of such shares on the Company's status as a REIT.

These ownership limitations could have the effect of precluding acquisition of control of the Company by a third party unless the Board of Directors and the stockholders determine that maintenance of REIT status is no longer in the best interest of the Company.

## **REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER AGENT**

The Registrar and Transfer Agent for the Common Stock is First Union National Bank, Charlotte, North Carolina.

## **FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The following summary of certain Federal income tax considerations to the Company is based on current law, is for general purposes only, and is not tax advice. The summary addresses the material Federal income tax considerations relating to the Company's REIT status, as well as material Federal income tax considerations relating to the Operating Partnership. The tax treatment of a holder of any of the Securities will vary depending upon the terms of the specific securities acquired by such holder, as well as his particular situation, and this discussion does not attempt to address any aspects of Federal income taxation relating to holders of Securities. Certain Federal income tax considerations relevant to holders of the Securities will be provided in the applicable Prospectus Supplement relating thereto.

**EACH INVESTOR IS ADVISED TO CONSULT HIS OWN TAX ADVISOR REGARDING THE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO HIM OF THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP AND SALE OF THE OFFERED SECURITIES, INCLUDING THE FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, FOREIGN AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP AND SALE AND OF POTENTIAL CHANGES IN APPLICABLE TAX LAWS.**

### **TAXATION OF THE COMPANY AS A REIT**

**GENERAL.** Commencing with its taxable year ended December 31, 1994, the Company has elected to be taxed as a real estate investment trust under sections 856 through 860 of the Code. The Company believes that, commencing with its taxable year ended December 31, 1994, it has been organized and is operating in such a manner as to qualify for taxation as a REIT under the Code, and the Company intends to continue to operate in such a manner, but no assurance can be given that it has operated or will operate in a manner so as to qualify or remain qualified.

These sections of the Code are highly technical and complex. The following sets forth the material aspects of the sections that govern the Federal income tax treatment of a REIT and its shareholders. This summary is qualified in its entirety by the applicable Code provisions, rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, and administrative and judicial interpretation thereof.

Smith Helms Mulliss & Moore, L.L.P. has acted as tax counsel to the Company in connection with the offering of the Securities and the Company's election to be taxed as a REIT and in the opinion of Smith Helms Mulliss & Moore, L.L.P., commencing with the Company's taxable year ended December 31, 1994, the Company has been organized and operated in conformity with the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code, and the Company's current organization and proposed method of operation will enable it to continue to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code. This opinion is based on the factual representations of the Company concerning its business and properties. Moreover, such qualification and taxation as a REIT depends upon the Company's ability to meet the various qualification tests imposed under the Code discussed below on a continuing basis, through actual annual operating results, distribution levels and diversity of stock ownership. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that the actual results of the Company's operations for any particular taxable year will satisfy such requirements.

### **FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION OF THE COMPANY**

If the Company qualifies for taxation as a REIT, it generally will not be subject to Federal corporate income tax on that portion of its ordinary income or capital gain that is currently distributed to stockholders. The REIT provisions of the Code generally allow a REIT to deduct distributions paid to its stockholders substantially eliminating the Federal "double taxation" on earnings (once at the corporate level when earned and once again at the stockholder level when distributed) that usually results from investments in a corporation. Nevertheless, the Company will be subject to Federal income tax as follows: First, the Company will be taxed at regular corporate rates on its undistributed REIT taxable income, including undistributed net capital gains. Second, under certain circumstances, the Company may be subject to the "alternative minimum tax" as a consequence of its items of tax preference. Third, if the Company has net income from the sale or other disposition of "foreclosure property" that is held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business or other non-qualifying income from foreclosure property, it will be subject to tax at the highest corporate rate on such income. Fourth, if the Company has net income from prohibited transactions

(which are, in general, certain sales or other dispositions of property other than foreclosure property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of business), such income will be subject to a 100% tax. Fifth, if the Company should fail to satisfy either of the 75% or 95% gross income tests (discussed below) but has nonetheless maintained its qualification as a REIT because certain other requirements have been met, it will be subject to a 100% tax on the net income attributable to the greater of the amount by which the Company fails either the 75% or 95% test, multiplied by a fraction intended to reflect the Company's profitability. Sixth, if the Company fails to distribute during each year at least the sum of (i) 85% of its ordinary income for such year, (ii) 95% of its capital gain net income for such year and (iii) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, the Company will be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the amounts actually distributed. Seventh, if the Company should acquire any asset from a C corporation (i.e., a corporation generally subject to full corporate-level tax) in a carryover-basis transaction and the Company subsequently recognizes gain on the disposition of such asset during the 10-year period (the "Recognition Period") beginning on the date on which the asset was acquired by the Company, then, to the extent of the excess of (a) the fair market value of the asset as of the beginning of the applicable Recognition Period over (b) the Company's adjusted basis in such asset as of the beginning of such Recognition Period (the "Built-In Gain"), such gain will be subject to tax at the highest regular corporate rate, pursuant to guidelines issued by the IRS (the "Built-In Gain Rules").

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFICATION**

To qualify as a REIT, the Company has elected to be so treated and must meet the requirements, discussed below, relating to the Company's organization, sources of income, nature of assets and distributions of income to stockholders.

**ORGANIZATIONAL REQUIREMENTS.** The Code defines a REIT as a corporation, trust or association: (i) that is managed by one or more trustees or directors, (ii) the beneficial ownership of which is evidenced by transferable shares or by transferable certificates of beneficial interest, (iii) that would be taxable as a domestic corporation but for the REIT requirements, (iv) that is neither a financial institution nor an insurance company subject to certain provisions of the Code, (v) the beneficial ownership of which is held by 100 or more persons, and (vi) during the last half of each taxable year not more than 50% in value of the outstanding stock of which is owned, directly or indirectly, through the application of certain attribution rules, by five or fewer individuals (as defined in the Code to include certain entities). In addition, certain other tests regarding the nature of its income and assets, described below, also must be satisfied. The Code provides that conditions (i) through (iv), inclusive, must be met during the entire taxable year and that condition (v) must be met during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months, or during a proportionate part of a taxable year of less than 12 months. For purposes of conditions (v) and (vi), pension funds and certain other tax-exempt entities are treated as individuals or persons, subject to a "look-through" exception in the case of condition (vi). In addition, the Company's Articles of Incorporation currently include certain restrictions regarding transfer of its Common Stock, which restrictions are intended (among other things) to assist the Company in continuing to satisfy conditions (v) and (vi) above.

In the case of a REIT that is a partner in a partnership, Treasury Regulations provide that the REIT will be deemed to own its proportionate share of the assets of the partnership and will be deemed to be entitled to the income of the partnership attributable to such share. In addition, the character of the assets and gross income of the partnership retain the same character in the hands of the REIT for purposes of Section 856 of the Code, including satisfying the gross income tests and asset tests. Thus, the Company's proportionate share of the assets, liabilities and items of income of the Operating Partnership (including the Operating Partnership's share of the assets and liabilities and items of income with respect to any partnership in which it holds an interest) will be treated as assets, liabilities and items of income of the Company for purposes of applying the requirements described herein.

**INCOME TESTS.** In order to maintain qualification as a REIT, the Company annually must satisfy three gross income requirements. First, at least 75% of the Company's gross income (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions) for each taxable year must be derived directly or indirectly from investments relating to real property; including investments in other REITs, or mortgages on real property (including



"rents from real property" and, in certain circumstances, interest) or from certain types of temporary investments. Second, at least 95% of the Company's gross income (excluding gross income from prohibited transactions) for each taxable year must be derived from such real property investments, dividends, interest and gain from the sale or disposition of stock or securities (or from any combination of the foregoing). Third, short-term gain from the sale or other disposition of stock or securities, gain from prohibited transactions and gain on the sale or other disposition of real property held for less than four years (apart from involuntary conversions and sales of foreclosure property) must represent less than 30% of the Company's gross income (including gross income from prohibited transactions) for each taxable year.

Rents received by the Company will qualify as "rents from real property" in satisfying the gross income requirements for a REIT described above only if several conditions are met. First, the amount of rent must not be based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. However, an amount received or accrued generally will not be excluded from the term "rents from real property" solely by reason of being based on a fixed percentage or percentages of receipts or sales. Second, the Code provides that rents received from a tenant will not qualify as "rents from real property" in satisfying the gross income tests if the REIT, or an owner of 10% or more of the REIT, directly or constructively owns 10% or more of such tenant (a "Related Party Tenant"). Third, if rent attributable to personal property, leased in connection with a lease of real property, is greater than 15% of the total rent received under the lease, then the portion of rent attributable to such personal property will not qualify as "rents from real property." Finally, for rents received to qualify as "rents from real property," the REIT generally must not operate or manage the property or furnish or render services to the tenants of such property, other than through an independent contractor from whom the REIT derives no revenue, provided, however, the Company may directly perform certain services that are "usually or customarily rendered" in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not otherwise considered "rendered to the occupant" of the property.

The Company does not currently charge and does not anticipate charging rent that is based in whole or in part on the income or profits of any person. The Company also does not anticipate either deriving rent attributable to personal property leased in connection with real property that exceeds 15% of the total rents or receiving rent from Related Party Tenants.

The Operating Partnership does provide certain services with respect to the Properties. The Company believes that the services with respect to the Properties that are and will be provided directly are usually or customarily rendered in connection with the rental of space for occupancy only and are not otherwise rendered to particular tenants and therefore that the provision of such services will not cause rents received with respect to the Properties to fail to qualify as rents from real property. Services with respect to the Properties that the Company believes may not be provided by the Company or the Operating Partnership directly without jeopardizing the qualification of rent as "rents from real property" will be performed by independent contractors.

The Operating Partnership and the Company receive fees in consideration of the performance of property management and brokerage and leasing services with respect to certain Properties not owned entirely by the Operating Partnership. Such fees will not qualify under the 75% or the 95% gross income tests. The Operating Partnership also may receive certain other types of income with respect to the properties it owns that will not qualify for either of these tests. In addition, distributions on the Operating Partnership's stock in the Service Companies and its allocable portion of the income earned by Forsyth-Carter Brokerage will not qualify under the 75% gross income test. The Company believes, however, that the aggregate amount of such fees and other non-qualifying income in any taxable year, which represents approximately 3.6% of the Company's gross income on a pro forma basis and 1.0% of the Company's income on an actual basis for the year ended December 31, 1995, will not cause the Company to exceed the limits on non-qualifying income under either the 75% or the 95% gross income test.

If the Company fails to satisfy one or both of the 75% or 95% gross income tests for any taxable year, it may nevertheless qualify as a REIT for that year if it is eligible for relief under certain provisions of the Code. These relief provisions will be generally available if (i) the Company's failure to meet these tests was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, (ii) the Company attaches a schedule of the sources of its income to its Federal income tax return and (iii) any incorrect information on the schedule is not due to fraud with intent to evade tax. It is not possible, however, to state whether in all circumstances the

Company would be entitled to the benefit of these relief provisions. For example, if the Company fails to satisfy the gross income tests because non-qualifying income that the Company intentionally incurs exceeds the limits on such income, the IRS could conclude that the Company's failure to satisfy the tests was not due to reasonable cause. As discussed above in " -- Federal Income Taxation of the Company," even if these relief provisions apply, a tax would be imposed with respect to the excess net income. No similar mitigation provision provides relief if the Company fails the 30% income test, and in such case, the Company would cease to qualify as a REIT.

**ASSET TESTS.** At the close of each quarter of its taxable year, the Company also must satisfy three tests relating to the nature and diversification of its assets. First, at least 75% of the value of the Company's total assets must be represented by real estate assets, including shares in other REITs, cash, cash items and government securities. Second, no more than 25% of the Company's total assets may be represented by securities other than those in the 75% asset class. Third, of the investments included in the 25% asset class, the value of any one issuer's securities owned by the Company may not exceed 5% of the value of the Company's total assets, and the Company may not own more than 10% of any one issuer's outstanding voting securities.

The 5% test must generally be met for any quarter in which the Company acquires securities of an issuer. Thus, this requirement must be satisfied not only on the date on which the Company acquired the securities of the Service Companies, but also each time the Company increases its ownership of their respective securities (including as a result of increasing its interest in the Operating Partnership as limited partners exercise their redemption rights). Although the Company plans to take steps to ensure that it satisfies the 5% value test for any quarter with respect to which retesting is to occur, there can be no assurance that such steps will always be successful or will not require a reduction in the Company's overall interest in either of the Service Companies.

The Operating Partnership owns 100% of the nonvoting stock and 1% of the voting stock of each of the Service Companies, and by virtue of its ownership of Units, the Company will be considered to own its pro rata share of such stock. See "The Company and the Operating Partnership". Neither the Company nor the Operating Partnership, however, will own more than 1% of the voting securities of either of the Service Companies. In addition, the Company and its senior management do not believe that the Company's pro rata share of the value of the securities of either of the Service Companies exceeds 5% of the total value of the Company's assets. The Company's belief is based in part upon its analysis of the estimated value of the securities of each of the Service Companies owned by the Operating Partnership relative to the estimated value of the other assets owned by the Operating Partnership. No independent appraisals will be obtained to support this conclusion, and Smith Helms Mulliss & Moore, L.L.P., in rendering its opinion as to the qualification of the Company as a REIT, is relying on the conclusions of the Company and its senior management as to the value of the securities of each of the Service Companies. There can be no assurance, however, that the IRS might not contend that the value of such securities held by the Company (through the Operating Partnership) exceeds the 5% value limitation.

After initially meeting the asset tests at the close of any quarter, the Company will not lose its status as a REIT for failure to satisfy the asset tests at the end of a later quarter solely by reason of changes in asset values. If the failure to satisfy the asset tests results from an acquisition of securities or other property during a quarter, the failure can be cured by disposition of sufficient non-qualifying assets within 30 days after the close of that quarter. The Company intends to maintain adequate records of the value of its assets to ensure compliance with the asset tests and to take such other actions within 30 days after the close of any quarter as may be required to cure any noncompliance.

**ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS.** In order to be taxed as a REIT, the Company is required to distribute dividends (other than capital gain dividends) to its stockholders in an amount at least equal to (a) the sum of (i) 95% of the Company's "REIT taxable income" (computed without regard to the dividends-paid deduction and the Company's capital gain) and (ii) 95% of the net income, if any, from foreclosure property in excess of the special tax on income from foreclosure property, minus (b) the sum of certain items of non-cash income. Such distributions must be paid in the taxable year to which they relate, or in the following taxable year, if declared before the Company timely files its Federal income tax return for such year and if paid on or before the first regular dividend payment after such declaration. Even if the Company satisfies

the foregoing distribution requirements, to the extent that the Company does not distribute all of its net capital gain or "REIT taxable income" as adjusted, it will be subject to tax thereon at regular capital gains or ordinary corporate tax rates. Furthermore, if the Company should fail to distribute during each calendar year at least the sum of (a) 85% of its ordinary income for that year,

(b) 95% of its capital gain net income for that year and (c) any undistributed taxable income from prior periods, the Company would be subject to a 4% excise tax on the excess of such required distribution over the amounts actually distributed. In addition, during its Recognition Period, if the Company disposes of any asset subject to the Built-In Gain Rules, the Company will be required, pursuant to guidance issued by the IRS, to distribute at least 95% of the Built-In Gain (after tax), if any, recognized on the disposition of the asset.

The Company intends to make timely distributions sufficient to satisfy the annual distribution requirements. In this regard, the Operating Partnership Agreement authorizes the Company, as general partner, to take such steps as may be necessary to cause the Operating Partnership to distribute to its partners an amount sufficient to permit the Company to meet these distribution requirements.

It is expected that the Company's REIT taxable income will be less than its cash flow due to the allowance of depreciation and other non-cash charges in computing REIT taxable income. Accordingly, the Company anticipates that it will generally have sufficient cash or liquid assets to enable it to satisfy the 95% distribution requirement. It is possible, however, that the Company, from time to time, may not have sufficient cash or other liquid assets to meet the 95% distribution requirement or to distribute such greater amount as may be necessary to avoid income and excise taxation, due to timing differences between

(i) the actual receipt of income and the actual payment of deductible expenses and (ii) the inclusion of such income and the deduction of such expenses in arriving at taxable income of the Company, or as a result of nondeductible cash expenditures such as principal amortization or capital expenditures in excess of noncash deductions. In the event that such timing differences occur, the Company may find it necessary to arrange for borrowings or, if possible, pay taxable stock dividends in order to meet the distribution requirement.

Under certain circumstances, the Company may be able to rectify a failure to meet the distribution requirement for a year by paying "deficiency dividends" to shareholders in a later year, which may be included in the Company's deduction for dividends paid for the earlier year. Thus, the Company may be able to avoid being taxed on amounts distributed as deficiency dividends. The Company will, however, be required to pay interest based upon the amount of any deduction taken for deficiency dividends.

## **FAILURE TO QUALIFY**

If the Company fails to qualify for taxation as a REIT in any taxable year and the relief provisions do not apply, the Company will be subject to tax (including any applicable alternative minimum tax) on its taxable income at regular corporate rates. Distributions to shareholders in any year in which the Company fails to qualify will not be deductible by the Company nor will they be required to be made. In such event, to the extent of current or accumulated earnings and profits, all distributions to stockholders will be dividends, taxable as ordinary income, except that, subject to certain limitations of the Code, corporate distributees may be eligible for the dividends-received deduction. Unless the Company is entitled to relief under specific statutory provisions, the Company also will be disqualified from taxation as a REIT for the four taxable years following the year during which qualification was lost. It is not possible to state whether in all circumstances the Company would be entitled to such statutory relief. For example, if the Company fails to satisfy the gross income tests because non-qualifying income that the Company intentionally incurs exceeds the limit on such income, the IRS could conclude that the Company's failure to satisfy the tests was not due to reasonable cause.

## **TAXATION OF U.S. STOCKHOLDERS**

As used herein, the term "U.S. Stockholder" means a holder of Common Stock that (for Federal income tax purposes) (a) is a citizen or resident of the United States, (b) is a corporation, partnership or other entity created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any political subdivision thereof or (c) is an estate or trust, the income of which is subject to Federal income taxation regardless of its source. For any taxable year for which the Company qualifies for taxation as a REIT, amounts distributed to taxable U.S. Stockholders will be taxed as discussed below.

**DISTRIBUTIONS GENERALLY.** Distributions to U.S. Stockholders, other than capital gain dividends discussed below, will constitute dividends up to the amount of the Company's current or accumulated earnings and profits and, to that extent, will be taxable to the stockholders as ordinary income. These distributions are not eligible for the dividends-received deduction for corporations. To the extent that the Company makes a distribution in excess of its current or accumulated earnings and profits, the distribution will be treated first as a tax-free return of capital, reducing the tax basis in the U.S. Stockholder's Common Stock, and the distribution in excess of such basis will be taxable as gain realized from the sale of its Common Stock. Dividends declared by the Company in October, November or December of any year payable to a stockholder of record on a specified date in any such month shall be treated as both paid by the Company and received by the stockholders on December 31 of the year, provided that the dividends are actually paid by the Company during January of the following calendar year. Stockholders are not allowed to include on their own Federal income tax returns any tax losses of the Company.

The Company will be treated as having sufficient earnings and profits to treat as a dividend any distribution by the Company up to the amount required to be distributed in order to avoid imposition of the 4% excise tax discussed in " -- Federal Income Taxation of the Company" above. Moreover, any "deficiency dividend" will be treated as an ordinary or capital gain dividend, as the case may be, regardless of the Company's earnings and profits. As a result, stockholders may be required to treat certain distributions that would otherwise result in a tax-free return of capital as taxable dividends.

**CAPITAL GAIN DISTRIBUTIONS.** Distributions to U.S. Stockholders that are properly designated by the Company as capital gain distributions will be treated as long-term capital gains (to the extent they do not exceed the Company's actual net capital gain) for the taxable year without regard to the period for which the stockholder has held his stock. However, corporate stockholders may be required to treat up to 20% of certain capital gain dividends as ordinary income. Capital gain dividends are not eligible for the dividends-received deduction for corporations.

**PASSIVE ACTIVITY LOSS AND INVESTMENT INTEREST LIMITATIONS.** Distributions from the Company and gain from the disposition of Common Stock will not be treated as passive activity income, and therefore stockholders will not be able to apply any "passive losses" against such income. Dividends from the Company (to the extent they do not constitute a return of capital) will generally be treated as investment income for purposes of the investment interest limitation; net capital gain from the disposition of Common Stock or capital gain dividends generally will be excluded from investment income.

**CERTAIN DISPOSITIONS OF SHARES.** Losses incurred on the sale or exchange of Common Stock held for less than six months (after applying certain holding period rules) will be deemed long-term capital loss to the extent of any capital gain dividends received by the selling stockholder from those shares.

**TREATMENT OF TAX-EXEMPT STOCKHOLDERS.** Distributions from the Company to a tax-exempt employee pension trust or other domestic tax-exempt shareholder generally will not constitute "unrelated business taxable income" ("UBTI") unless the stockholder has borrowed to acquire or carry its Common Stock. Qualified trusts that hold more than 10% (by value) of the shares of certain REITs may be required to treat a certain percentage of such a REIT's distributions as UBTI. This requirement will apply only if (i) the REIT would not qualify as such for Federal income tax purposes but for the application of a "look-through" exception to the five or fewer requirement applicable to shares held by qualified trusts and (ii) the REIT is "predominantly held" by qualified trusts. A REIT is predominantly held if either (i) a single qualified trust holds more than 25% by value of the REIT interests or (ii) one or more qualified trusts, each owning more than 10% by value of the REIT interests, hold in the aggregate more than 50% of the REIT interests. The percentage of any REIT dividend treated as UBTI is equal to the ratio of (a) the UBTI earned by the REIT (treating the REIT as if it were a qualified trust and therefore subject to tax on UBTI) to (b) the total gross income (less certain associated expenses) of the REIT. A de minimis exception applies where the ratio set forth in the preceding sentence is less than 5% for any year. For these purposes, a qualified trust is any trust described in Section 401 (a) of the Code and exempt from tax under Section 501(a) of the Code. The provisions requiring qualified trusts to treat a portion of REIT distributions as UBTI will not apply if the REIT is able to satisfy the five or fewer requirement without relying upon the "look-through" exception. The restrictions on ownership of Common Stock in the Articles of Incorporation generally will prevent

application of the provisions treating a portion of REIT distributions as UBTI to tax-exempt entities purchasing Common Stock, absent a waiver of the restrictions by the Board of Directors.

## **SPECIAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS FOR NON-U.S. STOCKHOLDERS**

The rules governing United States income taxation of non-resident alien individuals, foreign corporations, foreign partnerships and foreign trusts and estates (collectively, "Non-U.S. Stockholders") are complex, and the following discussion is intended only as a summary of these rules. Prospective Non-U.S. Stockholders should consult with their own tax advisors to determine the impact of Federal, state and local income tax laws on an investment in the Company, including any reporting requirements.

In general, Non-U.S. Stockholders will be subject to regular Federal income tax with respect to their investment in the Company if the investment is "effectively connected" with the Non-U.S. Stockholder's conduct of a trade or business in the United States. A corporate Non-U.S. Stockholder that receives income that is (or is treated as) effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business may also be subject to the branch profits tax under Section 884 of the Code, which is payable in addition to regular United States Federal corporate income tax. The following discussion will apply to Non-U.S. Stockholders whose investment in the Company is not so effectively connected.

A distribution by the Company that is not attributable to gain from the sale or exchange by the Company of a United States real property interest and that is not designated by the Company as a capital gain distribution will be treated as an ordinary income dividend to the extent that it is made out of current or accumulated earnings and profits. Generally, any ordinary income dividend will be subject to a Federal income tax equal to 30% of the gross amount of the dividend unless this tax is reduced by an applicable tax treaty. Such a distribution in excess of the Company's earnings and profits will be treated first as a return of capital that will reduce a Non-U.S. Stockholder's basis in its Common Stock (but not below zero) and then as gain from the disposition of such shares, the tax treatment of which is described under the rules discussed below with respect to dispositions of Common Stock.

Distributions by the Company that are attributable to gain from the sale or exchange of a United States real property interest will be taxed to a Non-U.S. Stockholder under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980 ("FIRPTA"). Under FIRPTA, such distributions are taxed to a Non-U.S. Stockholder as if the distributions were gains "effectively connected" with a United States trade or business. Accordingly, a Non-U.S. Stockholder will be taxed at the normal capital gain rates applicable to a U.S. Stockholder (subject to any applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of non-resident alien individuals).

Although tax treaties may reduce the Company's withholding obligations, the Company generally will be required to withhold from distributions to Non-U.S. Stockholders, and remit to the IRS, (i) 35% of designated capital gain dividends (or, if greater, 35% of the amount of any distributions that could be designated as capital gain dividends) and (ii) 30% of ordinary dividends paid out of earnings and profits. In addition, if the Company designates prior distributions as capital gain dividends, subsequent distributions, up to the amount of such prior distributions, will be treated as capital gain dividends for purposes of withholding. A distribution in excess of the Company's earnings and profits will be subject to 30% dividend withholding. If the amount of tax withheld by the Company with respect to a distribution to a Non-U.S. Stockholder exceeds the stockholder's United States tax liability with respect to such distribution, the Non-U.S. Stockholder may file for a refund of such excess from the IRS.

Unless the Common Stock constitutes a "United States real property interest" within the meaning of FIRPTA, a sale of Common Stock by a Non-U.S. Stockholder generally will not be subject to Federal income taxation. The Common Stock will not constitute a United States real property interest if the Company is a "domestically controlled REIT." A domestically controlled REIT is a REIT in which at all times during a specified testing period less than 50% in value of its shares is held directly or indirectly by Non-U.S. Stockholders. It is currently anticipated that the Company will be a domestically controlled REIT and therefore that the sale of Common Stock will not be subject to taxation under FIRPTA. However, because the Common Stock will be publicly traded, no assurance can be given that the Company will continue to be a domestically controlled REIT. Notwithstanding the foregoing, capital gains not subject to FIRPTA will be taxable to a Non-U.S. Stockholder if the Non-U.S. Stockholder is a non-resident alien individual who is

present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year and certain other conditions apply, in which case the non-resident alien individual will be subject to a 30% tax on his or her U.S. source capital gains. If the Company were not a domestically controlled REIT, whether a Non-U.S. Stockholder's sale of Common Stock would be subject to tax under FIRPTA as a sale of a United States real property interest would depend on whether the Common Stock were "regularly traded" on an established securities market (such as the New York Stock Exchange) on which the Common Stock will be listed and on the size of the selling stockholder's interest in the Company. If the gain on the sale of Common Stock were subject to taxation under FIRPTA, the Non-U.S. Stockholder would be subject to the same treatment as a U.S. Stockholder with respect to the gain (subject to applicable alternative minimum tax and a special alternative minimum tax in the case of non-resident alien individuals). In addition, distributions that are treated as gain from the disposition of Common Stock and that are subject to tax under FIRPTA also may be subject to a 30% branch profit tax when made to a foreign corporate stockholder that is not entitled to either a reduced rate or an exemption under a treaty. In any event, a purchaser of Common Stock from a Non-U.S. Stockholder will not be required to withhold under FIRPTA on the purchase price if the purchased Common Stock is "regularly traded" on an established securities market or if the Company is a domestically controlled REIT. Otherwise, under FIRPTA the purchaser of Common Stock from a Non-U.S. Stockholder may be required to withhold 10% of the purchase price and remit this amount to the IRS.

## **INFORMATION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND BACKUP WITHHOLDING TAX**

Under certain circumstances, U.S. Stockholders may be subject to backup withholding at a rate of 31% on payments made with respect to, or cash proceeds of a sale or exchange of, Common Stock. Backup withholding will apply only if the holder (i) fails to furnish his or her taxpayer identification number ("TIN") (which, for an individual, would be his or her Social Security Number), (ii) furnishes an incorrect TIN, (iii) is notified by the IRS that he or she has failed to report properly payments of interest and dividends or is otherwise subject to backup withholding or (iv) under certain circumstances, fails to certify, under penalties of perjury, that he or she has furnished a correct TIN and (a) that he or she has not been notified by the IRS that he or she is subject to backup withholding for failure to report interest and dividend payments or (b) that he or she has been notified by the IRS that he or she is no longer subject to backup withholding. Backup withholding will not apply with respect to payments made to certain exempt recipients, such as corporations and tax-exempt organizations.

U.S. Stockholders should consult their own tax advisors regarding their qualifications for exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining such an exemption. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Rather, the amount of any backup withholding with respect to a payment to a U.S. Stockholder will be allowed as a credit against the U.S. Stockholder's United States Federal income tax liability and may entitle the U.S. Stockholder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

Additional issues may arise pertaining to information reporting and backup withholding for Non-U.S. Stockholders. Non-U.S. Stockholders should consult their tax advisors with regard to U.S. information reporting and backup withholding.

## **TAX ASPECTS OF THE OPERATING PARTNERSHIP**

**GENERAL.** Substantially all of the Company's investments are held through the Operating Partnership. In general, partnerships are "pass-through" entities which are not subject to Federal income tax. Rather, partners are allocated their proportionate shares of the items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit of a partnership, and are potentially subject to tax thereon, without regard to whether the partners receive a distribution from the partnership. The Company includes in its income its proportionate share of the foregoing Operating Partnership items for purposes of the various REIT income tests and in the computation of its REIT taxable income. Moreover, for purposes of the REIT asset tests, the Company includes its proportionate share of assets held by the Operating Partnership.

**ENTITY CLASSIFICATION.** The Company's interest in the Operating Partnership involves special tax considerations, including the possibility of a challenge by the IRS of the status of the Operating Partnership as a partnership (as opposed to an association taxable as a corporation) for Federal income tax purposes. If the

Operating Partnership is treated as an association, it would be taxable as a corporation and therefore subject to an entity-level tax on its income. In such a situation, the character of the Company's assets and items of gross income would change, which would prevent the Company from qualifying as a REIT. See " -- Failure to Qualify" above for a discussion of the effect of the Company's failure to meet such tests for a taxable year. In addition, any change in the Operating Partnership's status for tax purposes might be treated as a taxable event in which case the Company might incur a tax liability without any related cash distributions.

An organization formed as a partnership will be treated as a partnership for Federal income tax purposes rather than as a corporation only if it has no more than two of the four corporate characteristics that the Treasury Regulations use to distinguish a partnership from a corporation for tax purposes. These four characteristics are (i) continuity of life, (ii) centralization of management, (iii) limited liability and (iv) free transferability of interests. The Operating Partnership has not requested, and does not intend to request, a ruling from the IRS that it will be treated as a partnership for Federal income tax purposes. Instead, in connection with the filing of the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus is a part, Smith Helms Mulliss & Moore, L.L.P. has delivered its opinion dated June 3, 1996 to the effect that based on the provisions of the Operating Partnership's partnership agreement (the "Partnership Agreement"), certain factual assumptions and certain representations described in the opinion, the Operating Partnership will be treated as a partnership for Federal income tax purposes. Smith Helms Mulliss & Moore, L.L.P. undertakes no obligation to update this opinion subsequent to such date. Unlike a private letter ruling, an opinion of counsel is not binding on the IRS, and no assurance can be given that the IRS will not challenge the status of the Operating Partnership as a partnership for Federal income tax purposes.

**TAX ALLOCATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPERTIES.** Pursuant to Section 704(c) of the Code, income, gain, loss and deduction attributable to appreciated or depreciated property (such as the Properties) that is contributed to a partnership in exchange for an interest in the partnership, must be allocated in a manner such that the contributing partner is charged with, or benefits from, respectively, the unrealized gain or unrealized loss associated with the property at the time of the contribution. The amount of such unrealized gain or unrealized loss is generally equal to the difference between the fair market value of contributed property at the time of contribution, and the adjusted tax basis of such property at the time of contribution (a "Book-Tax Difference"). Such allocations are solely for Federal income tax purposes and do not affect the book capital accounts or other economic or legal arrangements among the partners. The Operating Partnership was formed by way of contributions of appreciated property (including the Properties). Consequently, the Partnership Agreement requires such allocations to be made in a manner consistent with Section 704(c) of the Code.

In general, the partners who have contributed partnership interests in the Properties to the Operating Partnership (the "Contributing Partners") will be allocated lower amounts of depreciation deductions for tax purposes than such deductions would be if determined on a pro rata basis. In addition, in the event of the disposition of any of the contributed assets (including the Properties) which have a Book-Tax Difference, all income attributable to such Book-Tax Difference will generally be allocated to the Contributing Partners, and the Company will generally be allocated only its share of capital gains attributable to appreciation, if any, occurring after the closing of any offering of Securities. This will tend to eliminate the Book-Tax Difference over the life of the Operating Partnership. However, the special allocation rules of Section 704(c) do not always entirely eliminate the Book-Tax Difference on an annual basis or with respect to a specific taxable transaction such as a sale. Thus, the carryover basis of the contributed assets in the hands of the Operating Partnership will cause the Company to be allocated lower depreciation and other deductions, and possibly amounts of taxable income in the event of a sale of such contributed assets in excess of the economic or book income allocated to it as a result of such sale. This may cause the Company to recognize taxable income in excess of cash proceeds, which might adversely affect the Company's ability to comply with the REIT distribution requirements. See " -- Requirements for Qualification -- ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS."

Treasury Regulations under Section 704(c) of the Code provide partnerships with a choice of several methods of accounting for Book-Tax Differences, including retention of the "traditional method" under current law, or the election of certain methods which would permit any distortions caused by a Book-Tax Difference to be entirely rectified on an annual basis or with respect to a specific taxable transaction such as a sale. The Operating Partnership and the Company have determined to use the "traditional method" for

accounting for Book-Tax Differences with respect to the Properties contributed to the Partnership. As a result of such determination, distributions to shareholders will be comprised of a greater portion of taxable income rather than a return of capital. The Operating Partnership and the Company have not determined which of the alternative methods of accounting for Book-Tax Differences will be elected with respect to Properties contributed to the Partnership in the future.

With respect to any property purchased by the Operating Partnership, such property will initially have a tax basis equal to its fair market value and

Section 704(c) of the Code will not apply.

**BASIS IN OPERATING PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.** The Company's adjusted tax basis in its interest in the Operating Partnership generally (i) will be equal to the amount of cash and the basis of any other property contributed to the Operating Partnership by the Company, (ii) will be increased by (a) its allocable share of the Operating Partnership's income and (b) its allocable share of indebtedness of the Operating Partnership and (iii) will be reduced, but not below zero, by the Company's allocable share of (a) losses suffered by the Operating Partnership, (b) the amount of cash distributed to the Company and (c) by constructive distributions resulting from a reduction in the Company's share of indebtedness of the Operating Partnership.

If the allocation of the Company's distributive share of the Operating Partnership's loss exceeds the adjusted tax basis of the Company's partnership interest in the Operating Partnership, the recognition of such excess loss will be deferred until such time and to the extent that the Company has an adjusted tax basis in its partnership interest. To the extent that the Operating Partnership's distributions, or any decrease in the Company's share of the indebtedness of the Operating Partnership (such decreases being considered a cash distribution to the partners), exceed the Company's adjusted tax basis, such excess distributions (including such constructive distributions) constitute taxable income to the Company. Such taxable income will normally be characterized as a capital gain, and if the Company's interest in the Operating Partnership has been held for longer than the long-term capital gains. Under current law, capital gains and ordinary income of corporations are generally taxed at the same marginal rates.

**SALE OF THE PROPERTIES.** The Company's share of gain realized by the Operating Partnership on the sale of any property held by the Operating Partnership as inventory or other property held primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of the Operating Partnership's trade or business will be treated as income from a prohibited transaction that is subject to a 100% penalty tax. See " -- Federal Income Taxation of the Company -- INCOME TESTS." Such prohibited transaction income may also have an adverse effect upon the Company's ability to satisfy the income tests for qualification as a REIT. Under existing law, whether property is held as inventory or primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of the Operating Partnership's trade or business is a question of fact that depends on all the facts and circumstances with respect to the particular transaction. The Operating Partnership intends to hold the Properties for investment with a view to long-term appreciation, to engage in the business of acquiring, developing, owning, and operating the Properties (and other properties) and to make such occasional sales of the Properties, including peripheral land, as are consistent with the Operating Partnership's investment objectives.

## **OTHER TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

**FEDERAL TAX ASPECTS OF THE CROCKER ACQUISITION.** Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, Cedar Acquisition Corporation ("Cedar"), a newly formed subsidiary of Highwoods, will merge into Crocker with Highwoods becoming the sole stockholder of Crocker. Highwoods intends to contribute the shares of common stock of Crocker to the Operating Partnership in exchange for limited partnership interests therein. As a result, Crocker would become a subsidiary of the Operating Partnership. Except for the Federal and state income taxes that might be payable upon the distribution of certain assets which will be distributed directly or indirectly to the stockholders of Crocker prior to the Merger (the "Excluded Assets"), which taxes are to be reimbursed to Crocker by the distributee stockholders, the Merger has been structured to defer any tax recognition to Crocker. To accomplish this, the Company intends to maintain Crocker's separate status as an operating REIT. To maintain Crocker's REIT status, the Company intends to cause Crocker to sell a sufficient amount of common stock to at least 110 individuals to enable Crocker to meet the test for qualification of a REIT under Section 856(a)(5) of the Code. The aggregate amount of common stock to be issued to such minority stockholders is not expected to exceed 1.0% of the equity of Crocker.



The Merger is a taxable purchase of 100% of the outstanding stock of Crocker, which will be taxable to the selling stockholders of Crocker but, except as described below relative to the Excluded Assets, will not be taxable at the Crocker corporate or subsidiary level. The Company's tax basis in its Crocker stock will be equal to the total cash it pays in the Merger for the Crocker stock, stock options and warrants. No gain or loss will result to the Company from the Merger. Following the Merger, the Company will transfer all of the stock of Crocker to the Operating Partnership in exchange for Units and the settlement of certain intercompany indebtedness that was used to finance the Merger. This transaction will be a nontaxable transfer of property to a partnership in exchange for ownership interests in the partnership. The Company's tax basis in the Units so acquired will be equal to its tax basis in the Crocker stock transferred to the Operating Partnership and no gain or loss should be realized by Crocker, the Company or the Operating Partnership as a result of this transaction.

The Company expects Crocker at all times to maintain its status as a REIT and to continue to be organized and operated so as to maintain its qualification as a REIT. Since the ownership of Crocker stock by the Operating Partnership is considered to be the ownership of a real estate asset for purposes of the REIT qualification tests and since distributions received from a REIT are income included in both the 95% and 75% income tests of Code Sections 856(c)(2) and (3), the Company's qualification as a REIT should not be affected by the acquisition and ownership of Crocker. If, however, Crocker fails to qualify as a REIT for any reason while its shares are owned by the Company or the Operating Partnership, the Company will no longer qualify as a REIT and the Company would be taxed as if it were a domestic corporation and its stockholders would be taxed in the same manner as stockholders of ordinary corporations. In that event, the Company could be subject to potentially significant tax liabilities and, therefore, the amount of cash available for distribution to its stockholders would be substantially reduced or eliminated.

The Company believes, and Crocker has represented that, commencing with Crocker's taxable year ended December 31, 1995, Crocker has operated in such a manner so as to meet the Code requirements for qualification as a REIT. Crocker's qualification as a REIT is a condition to the Company's obligation to consummate the Merger.

**SERVICE COMPANIES.** A portion of the amounts to be used to fund distributions to stockholders is expected to come from the Operating Partnership from distributions on stock of the Service Companies held by the Operating Partnership. Neither of the Service Companies will qualify as a REIT, and the Service Companies will pay Federal, state and local income taxes on their taxable incomes at normal corporate rates. Any Federal, state or local income taxes that the Service Companies are required to pay will reduce the cash available for distribution by the Company to its stockholders.

As described above, the value of the securities of each of the Service Companies held by the Company cannot exceed 5% of the value of the Company's assets at a time when a Unit holder in the Operating Partnership exercises his or her redemption right (or the Company otherwise is considered to acquire additional securities of either of the Service Companies). See " -- Federal Income Taxation of the Company." This limitation may restrict the ability of each of the Service Companies to increase the size of its respective business unless the value of the assets of the Company is increasing at a commensurate rate.

## **STATE AND LOCAL TAX**

The Company and its stockholders may be subject to state and local tax in various states and localities, including those in which it or they transact business, own property, or reside. The tax treatment of the Company and the stockholders in such jurisdictions may differ from the Federal income tax treatment described above. Consequently, prospective stockholders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the effect of state and local tax laws on an investment in the Common Stock of the Company.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Company and the Operating Partnership may sell the Securities to one or more underwriters for public offering and sale by them or may sell the Securities to investors directly or through agents. Any such underwriter or agent involved in the offer and sale of the Securities will be named in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

Underwriters may offer and sell the Securities at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, at prices related to the prevailing market prices at the time of sale or at negotiated prices. The Company and the Operating Partnership also may, from time to time, authorize underwriters acting as their agents to offer and sell the Securities upon the terms and conditions as are set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. In connection with the sale of Securities, underwriters may be deemed to have received compensation from the Company or the Operating Partnership in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and may also receive commissions from purchasers of Securities for whom they may act as agent. Underwriters may sell Securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent.

Any underwriting compensation paid by the Company or the Operating Partnership to underwriters or agents in connection with the offering of Securities, and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers, are set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the Securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the Securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions, under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"). Underwriters, dealers and agents may be entitled, under agreements entered into with the Company and the Operating Partnership, to indemnification against and contribution toward certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

If so indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Company and the Operating Partnership will authorize dealers acting as their agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase Securities from them at the public offering price set forth in such Prospectus Supplement pursuant to Delayed Delivery Contracts ("Contracts") providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in such Prospectus Supplement. Each Contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate principal amount of Securities sold pursuant to Contracts shall be not less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. Institutions with whom Contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions, and other institutions but will in all cases be subject to the approval of the Company and the Operating Partnership. Contracts will not be subject to any conditions except (i) the purchase by an institution of the Securities covered by its Contracts shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which such institution is subject, and (ii) if the Securities are being sold to underwriters, the Company and the Operating Partnership shall have sold to such underwriters the total principal amount of the Securities less the principal amount thereof covered by Contracts.

Certain of the underwriters and their affiliates may be customers of, engage in transactions with and perform services for the Company and the Operating Partnership in the ordinary course of business.

## EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and schedule of Highwoods Properties, Inc., incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 1995, the Combined Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses of TBC Parkway Plaza, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 1994, incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated December 18, 1995, the Combined Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses of the Acquired Properties for the year ended December 31, 1994, incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated July 12, 1995 (as amended on Form 8-K/A on September 6, 1995), the Combined Statement of Revenue and Certain Expenses of Research Commons for the year ended December 31, 1994, incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated February 10, 1995, the combined financial statements and schedule of Eakin & Smith for the year ended December 31, 1995, incorporated by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K/A dated April 1, 1996 as amended on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996 and the Historical Summary of Gross Income and Direct Operating Expenses for certain properties owned by Towermarc Corporation for the year ended December 31, 1995, incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K/A, dated April 29, 1996 as amended on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, as set forth in their reports thereon included therein and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements and schedule of Highwoods/Forsyth Limited Partnership at December 31, 1995 and for the period June 14, 1994 to December 31, 1994 and the year ended December 31, 1995 and the combined financial statements of the Highwoods Group at December 31, 1993 and for the period January 1, 1994 to June 13, 1994 and the year ended December 31, 1993 appearing in this Prospectus and Registration Statement have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, as set forth in their reports thereon appearing elsewhere herein and in the Registration Statement, and are included in reliance upon such reports given upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The combined financial statements and the schedule of real estate and accumulated depreciation of the Forsyth Group, incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K, dated February 10, 1995, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, as set forth in their report thereon included therein and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such report given upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of Crocker Realty Trust, Inc. as of December 31, 1995 and for the year then ended, the financial statements of Crocker & Sons, Inc. as of December 31, 1994 and for the year then ended, and the financial statements of Crocker Realty Investors, Inc. as of December 31, 1994 and 1993, and for the two years ended December 31, 1994, have been incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K/A dated April 29, 1996 as amended on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996, in reliance upon the reports of KPMG Peat Marwick LLP, independent certified public accountants, appearing elsewhere incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The combined financial statements of Southeast Realty Corp., AP Southeast Portfolio Partners, L.P. and AP Fontaine III Partners, L.P. as of December 31, 1994 and for the year ended December 31, 1994, and the financial statements of AP Fontaine III Partners, L.P. for the period from October 28, 1993 (date of inception) through December 31, 1993 incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K/A dated April 29, 1996 as amended on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, as set forth in their reports thereon included therein and incorporated herein by reference and are included in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of AP Southeast Portfolio Partners, L.P. for the period from its date of inception (November 17, 1993) through December 31, 1993 incorporated herein by reference from the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K/A dated April 29, 1996 as amended on June 3, 1996 and June 18, 1996,

have been so included in reliance on the reports of Price Waterhouse LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the Securities offered hereby is being passed upon for the Company and the Operating Partnership by Smith Helms Mulliss & Moore, L.L.P., Raleigh, North Carolina. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for any underwriters, dealers or agents by Andrews & Kurth L.L.P., Washington, D.C.

In addition, the description of Federal income tax consequences contained in this Prospectus entitled "Federal Income Tax Considerations" is based upon the opinion of Smith Helms Mulliss & Moore, L.L.P.

Smith Helms Mulliss & Moore, L.L.P. and Andrews & Kurth L.L.P. may rely as to matters of Maryland law on the opinion of Piper & Marbury L.L.P., Baltimore, Maryland.

No individual has been authorized to give any information or make any representations not contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus in connection with the offer made by this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus. If given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Company. This Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any of the securities covered by this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus in any jurisdiction where, or to any person to whom, it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. Neither the delivery of this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create an implication that there has not been any change in the facts set forth in this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus or in the affairs of the Company since the date hereof.

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**HIGHWOODS  
PROPERTIES, INC.**

250,000 Shares of  
Common Stock

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

July 8, 1996

**End of Filing**



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