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PROSPECTUS

8,800,000 SHARES

ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.
5.90% CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK
LIOUIDATION PREFERENCE \$25.00 PER SHARE

The 5.90% Cumulative Preferred Stock, initial liquidation preference \$25.00 per share (the "Cumulative Preferred Stock") is being offered by Royce Value Trust, Inc. (the "Fund"). The Fund is a closed-end diversified management investment company. The Fund's primary investment goal is long-term capital growth. The Fund normally invests at least 75% of its assets in the equity securities of small- and micro-cap companies. The Fund's address is 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019, and its telephone number is (212) 355-7311. Royce & Associates, LLC ("Royce") is the Fund's investment adviser.

Dividends on the Cumulative Preferred Stock offered hereby, at the annual rate of 5.90% of the initial liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share, are cumulative from the Date of Original Issue thereof and are payable quarterly on March 23, June 23, September 23 and December 23, commencing on December 23, 2003.

(Continued on following page)

INVESTING IN THE CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK INVOLVES RISKS. SEE "PROSPECTUS SUMMARY -- SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 9 AND "INVESTMENT GOAL, POLICIES AND RISKS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 22.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Per Share Total ------- ----Public Offering Price (1) \$ 25.00 \$220,000,000 Underwriting Discount (2) \$.7875 \$ 6,930,000 Proceeds to the Fund (before expenses) (3) \$24.2125 \$213,070,000

- (1) Plus accumulated dividends, if any, from October 9, 2003.
- (2) The Fund and Royce have agreed to indemnify the Underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (3) Offering expenses payable by the Fund are estimated at \$281,800.

The Underwriters are offering the Cumulative Preferred Stock subject to various conditions. It is expected that delivery of the Cumulative Preferred Stock will be made in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") on or about October 9, 2003.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Citigroup UBS Investment Bank

Merrill Lynch & Co. Wachovia Securities

Legg Mason Wood Walker Incorporated

(Continued from cover page)

Application will be made to list the Cumulative Preferred Stock on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE"). If offered, trading of the Cumulative Preferred Stock on the NYSE is expected to commence within 30 days of the date of this Prospectus. Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for the Cumulative Preferred Stock. See "Underwriting".

Distributions paid on the Cumulative Preferred Stock will consist of: (i) long-term capital gains, (ii) gualified dividend income, (iii) other ordinary income and/or (iv) returns of capital. The Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 (the "2003 Tax Act") reduced the individual Federal income tax rate on long-term capital gains and gualified dividend income to a maximum of 15%. Under the 2003 Tax Act, the maximum individual Federal income tax rate on other ordinary income is 35%. These tax rates are scheduled to apply through 2008. Assuming the 2003 Tax Act had been in effect during the past one, three and five years ended December 31, 2002, approximately 100%, 86% and 88% of the distributions paid by the Fund would have consisted of less highly taxed long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income. It is currently expected that dividends paid on the Cumulative Preferred Stock will consist primarily of such long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income, which are taxed at lower rates for individuals than other ordinary income. See "Tax Attributes of Preferred Stock Dividends" and "Taxation". No assurance can be given, however, as to what percentage, if any, of the dividends paid on the Cumulative Preferred Stock will consist of long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income.

It is a condition to the issuance of the Cumulative Preferred Stock that it be rated Aaa by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"). In connection with the receipt of such rating, the Fund will be required to maintain a discounted asset coverage with respect to the Cumulative Preferred Stock reflecting guidelines established by Moody's. See "Rating Agency Guidelines".

The Cumulative Preferred Stock is subject to mandatory redemption, in whole or in part, by the Fund for cash at a price equal to \$25.00 per share plus accumulated but unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared) through the date of redemption (the "Redemption Price") if the Fund fails to maintain a quarterly asset coverage of at least 200% or fails to maintain the discounted asset coverage required by Moody's. Commencing October 9, 2008 and thereafter, the Fund at its option may redeem the Cumulative Preferred Stock, in whole or in part, for cash at a price equal to the Redemption Price. Prior to October 9, 2008, the Cumulative Preferred Stock will be redeemable, at the option of the Fund, for cash at a price equal to the Redemption Price, only to the extent necessary for the Fund to continue to qualify for tax treatment as a regulated investment company. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock --

Redemption".

If the Fund voluntarily terminates compliance with the Moody's guidelines, the Fund will no longer be required to maintain the discounted asset coverage required by Moody's. However, at the time of such termination, the Cumulative Preferred Stock must have received a rating from at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization that is at least comparable to the then current rating from Moody's. The Fund will then be required to comply with the guidelines established by such successor rating organization. See "Rating Agency Guidelines" and "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Termination of Rating Agency Guidelines".

This Prospectus concisely sets forth certain information an investor should know before investing and should be retained for future reference.

A Statement of Additional Information dated October 6, 2003 has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is incorporated by reference in this Prospectus. The table of contents of the Statement of Additional Information appears on page 47 of this Prospectus. A copy of the Statement of Additional Information may be obtained without charge by writing to the Fund at its address at 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019, or by calling the Fund toll-free at (800) 221-4268.

IN CONNECTION WITH THIS OFFERING, THE UNDERWRITERS MAY OVER-ALLOT OR EFFECT TRANSACTIONS WHICH STABILIZE, MAINTAIN OR OTHERWISE AFFECT THE MARKET PRICE OF THE CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK, INCLUDING THE ENTRY OF STABILIZING BIDS, SYNDICATE COVERING TRANSACTIONS OR THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTY BIDS. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THESE ACTIVITIES, SEE "UNDERWRITING".

YOU SHOULD RELY ON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO THIS PROSPECTUS. NEITHER THE FUND NOR THE UNDERWRITERS HAVE AUTHORIZED ANY OTHER PERSON TO PROVIDE YOU WITH DIFFERENT INFORMATION. IF ANYONE PROVIDES YOU WITH DIFFERENT OR INCONSISTENT INFORMATION, YOU SHOULD NOT RELY ON IT. NEITHER THE FUND NOR THE UNDERWRITERS ARE MAKING AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES IN ANY JURISDICTION WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED. YOU SHOULD ASSUME THAT THE INFORMATION APPEARING IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS ACCURATE AS OF THE DATE ON THE FRONT COVER OF THIS PROSPECTUS ONLY.

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This is only a summary. You should review the more detailed information included elsewhere in this Prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this Summary are defined in the Glossary that appears at the end of this Prospectus.

THE FUND...... Royce Value Trust, Inc. (the "Fund") has been engaged in business as a closed-end diversified management investment company since its initial offering in November 1986. The Fund's primary investment goal is long-term capital growth. Royce & Associates, LLC ("Royce"), the Fund's investment adviser, normally invests at least 75% of the Fund's assets in the equity securities of small- and micro-cap companies, generally with stock market capitalizations ranging from \$100 million to \$2 billion, that Royce believes are trading significantly below its estimate of their current worth. The Fund may also invest up to 25% of its assets in non-convertible fixed income securities. See "Investment Goal, Policies and Risks".

THE OFFERING...... The Fund is offering 8,800,000 shares of 5.90% Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, initial

liquidation preference \$25.00 per share (the "Cumulative Preferred Stock"), at a purchase price of \$25.00 per share.

USE OF PROCEEDS.... The Fund will use a substantial portion of the net proceeds from the offering of the Cumulative Preferred Stock to redeem the issued and outstanding shares of 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund (the "7.80% Preferred"), and the issued and outstanding shares of 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund (the "7.30% Preferred"). In order for the Fund to redeem the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred, the Fund must pay the 7.80% Preferred's aggregate initial liquidation preference of \$60,000,000 and the 7.30% Preferred's aggregate initial liquidation preference of \$100,000,000, plus an amount equal to accumulated and unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared) on the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred through the applicable redemption date. Royce expects to use any proceeds remaining after the redemption of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred to purchase additional

portfolio securities in accordance with the Fund's investment goal and policies. See "Use of Proceeds".

DIVIDENDS...... Dividends on the Cumulative Preferred Stock, at the annual rate of 5.90% of the initial liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share, are cumulative from the Date of Original Issue and are payable, when, as and if authorized by the Board of Directors and declared by the Fund, out of funds legally available therefor, quarterly on March 23, June 23, September 23, and December 23, commencing on December 23, 2003, to the holders of record on the preceding March 6, June 6, September 6 and December 6, respectively. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock-- Dividends".

LONG-TERM CAPITAL GAINS AND QUALIFIED

DIVIDEND INCOME ... The Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 (the "2003 Tax Act") reduced the individual Federal income tax rate on long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income to a maximum of 15%. Long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income included in distributions of a regulated investment company (such as the Fund) to its stockholders are generally passed through to such

stockholders, including preferred stockholders, and taxed at the related rates. See "Tax Attributes of Preferred Stock Dividends" and "Taxation".

The 15% income tax rate applicable to capital gains and qualified dividend income is scheduled to expire after December 31, 2008. After this date, absent extension or modification of the relevant legislative provisions, long-term capital gains distributions paid by the Fund generally will be taxable at the previously applicable maximum 20% rate, and distributions attributable to qualified dividend income will be taxed to the stockholder at his or her marginal Federal income tax rate (which generally will be higher than 15%).

TAX ATTRIBUTES OF PREFERRED STOCK

DIVIDENDS...... The distributions paid on the Cumulative Preferred Stock will, for Federal income tax purposes, consist of varying proportions of long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income, other ordinary income (including short-term capital gain and interest income and non-qualified dividend income), and/or returns of capital. Ordinary

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income, other than qualified dividend income but including short-term capital gains, interest income and non-qualified dividend income, is referred to in this Prospectus as "Other Ordinary Income". The Fund is required to allocate long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income and/or Other Ordinary Income proportionately among holders of shares of its Common Stock and the Cumulative Preferred Stock offered hereby. Assuming the 2003 Tax Act had been in effect during the past one, three and five years ended December 31, 2002, the distributions of taxable income by the Fund would have consisted of approximately 100%, 86% and 88% long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income and approximately 0%, 14% and 12% Other Ordinary Income. Certain investors in the Cumulative Preferred Stock may realize a tax benefit to the extent that Fund distributions are composed of long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income rather than more highly taxed Other Ordinary Income. See "Tax Attributes of Preferred Stock Dividends". No

assurance can be given, however, as to what percentage, if any, of the distributions to be paid on the Cumulative Preferred Stock will consist of long-term capital gains and/or qualified dividend income. To the extent that such distributions do not consist of long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income, they will be paid from Other Ordinary Income taxable at higher Federal income tax rates, or will represent a return of capital.

Subject to statutory limitations, investors may also be entitled to offset the long-term capital gains portion of a Cumulative Preferred Stock dividend with capital losses incurred by such investors. See "Taxation".

RATING..... It is a condition to its issuance that the Cumulative Preferred Stock be issued with a rating of Aaa from Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's"). The Articles Supplementary creating and fixing the rights and preferences of the Cumulative Preferred Stock (the "Articles Supplementary") contain certain provisions which reflect quidelines established by Moody's (the "Rating Agency Guidelines") in order to obtain such rating on the Cumulative Preferred Stock on the Date of Original Issue. Although it is the Fund's present intention to continue to comply with the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Board of Directors of the Fund may

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determine that it is not in the best interest of the Fund to continue to comply with the Rating Agency Guidelines. If the Fund voluntarily terminates compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Fund will no longer be required to maintain the discounted asset coverage required by Moody's. However, at the time of such termination, the Cumulative Preferred Stock must have received a rating from at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO") that is at least comparable to the then current rating from Moody's. The Fund will then be required to comply with the guidelines established by such successor NRSRO. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock --Termination of Rating Agency Guidelines".

ASSET MAINTENANCE.. The Fund will be required to maintain, as of the last Business Day of March, June, September and December of each year, Asset Coverage of at least 200% with respect to the

Cumulative Preferred Stock. Assuming the Fund had issued and sold the Cumulative Preferred Stock and redeemed the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred as of June 30, 2003, the Asset Coverage would have been 415%. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Asset Maintenance -- Asset Coverage".

Also, pursuant to the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Fund will be required to maintain, as of each Valuation Date, a Portfolio Calculation for Moody's at least equal to the Basic Maintenance Amount. The discount factors and quidelines for determining the Portfolio Calculation have been established by Moody's in connection with the Fund's receipt from Moody's of a rating on the Cumulative Preferred Stock on the Date of Original Issue of Aaa. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Asset Maintenance -- Basic Maintenance Amount" and "Rating Agency Guidelines".

VOTING RIGHTS..... At all times, holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock will elect two members of the Fund's Board of Directors, and holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock, any other Preferred Stock and Common Stock, voting as a single class, will elect the remaining directors. However, upon a failure by the Fund to pay dividends on the Cumulative Preferred Stock and/or any other Preferred Stock in an

amount equal to two full years' dividends, holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock, voting as a separate class together with the holders of any other Preferred Stock, will have the right to elect the smallest number of directors that would constitute a majority of the directors until cumulative dividends have been paid or provided for. Holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock will vote separately as a class on certain other matters, as required under the Articles Supplementary and the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act").

Except as otherwise indicated in this Prospectus and as otherwise required by applicable law, holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be entitled to one vote per share on each matter submitted to a vote of stockholders and will vote together with holders of shares of Common Stock and any other Preferred Stock as a single class. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Voting Rights".

MANDATORY

REDEMPTION..... The Cumulative Preferred Stock is subject to mandatory redemption, in whole or in part, by the Fund in the event that the Fund fails to: (i) maintain the quarterly Asset Coverage, or (ii) maintain a Portfolio Calculation at least equal to the Basic Maintenance Amount required by Moody's and does not cure such failure by the applicable cure date. Any such redemption will be made for cash at a price equal to \$25.00 per share plus accumulated and unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared) through the redemption date (the "Redemption Price"). In the event that shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are redeemed due to a failure to maintain the quarterly Asset Coverage, the Fund may redeem a sufficient number of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock so that the asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, of the remaining outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock after such redemption is up to 275%. In the event that shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are redeemed due to a failure to maintain a Portfolio Calculation at least equal to the Basic Maintenance Amount, the Fund may redeem a sufficient number of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock so that the Portfolio Calculation exceeds the Basic Maintenance Amount of the remaining outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred

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Stock and any other Preferred Stock by up to 10%. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock-- Redemption---Mandatory Redemption".

OPTIONAL

REDEMPTION...... Commencing October 9, 2008 and thereafter, the Fund at its option may redeem the Cumulative Preferred Stock, in whole or in part, for cash at a price equal to the Redemption Price. Prior to October 9, 2008, the Cumulative Preferred Stock will be redeemable at the option of the Fund at the Redemption Price, only to the extent necessary for the Fund to continue to qualify for tax treatment as a regulated investment company. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Redemption -- Optional Redemption".

LIQUIDATION

PREFERENCE..... The liquidation preference of each share of Cumulative

Preferred Stock is \$25.00 plus an amount equal to all unpaid dividends accumulated to and including the date fixed for such distribution or payment (whether or not earned or declared but excluding interest thereon). The initial liquidation preference is \$25.00 per share. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Liquidation Rights".

LISTING...... Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for the Cumulative Preferred Stock. Application will be made to list the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE"). However, during an initial period, which is not expected to exceed 30 days from the date of this Prospectus, the Cumulative Preferred Stock will not be listed on any securities exchange. During such period, the Underwriters intend to make a market in the Cumulative Preferred Stock; however, they have no obligation to do so. Consequently, an investment in the Cumulative Preferred Stock may be illiquid during such period.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

AND RISK FACTORS... General. The market price for the Cumulative Preferred Stock will be influenced by changes in interest rates, the perceived credit quality of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and other factors.

> Liquidity. During an initial period which is not expected to exceed 30 days after the date of issuance, the Cumulative Preferred Stock will not be listed on any

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securities exchange. During such period, the Underwriters intend to make a market in the Cumulative Preferred Stock; however, they have no obligation to do so. Consequently, the Cumulative Preferred Stock may be illiquid during such period. No assurance can be provided that listing on any securities exchange or market making by the Underwriters will result in the market for Cumulative Preferred Stock being liquid at any time.

Credit Rating. The credit rating on the Cumulative Preferred Stock could be reduced or withdrawn by Moody's or a successor NRSRO, if any, while an investor holds shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock, either as a result of the Fund's

termination of compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines or otherwise. The credit rating does not eliminate or mitigate the risks of investing in the Cumulative Preferred Stock. A reduction or withdrawal of the credit rating by Moody's or a successor NRSRO, if any, may have an adverse effect on the liquidity and market value of the Cumulative Preferred Stock. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Termination of Rating Agency Guidelines".

Market, Selection and Style Risk. As with any investment company that invests in common stocks, the value of the Fund's portfolio may decline. For example, if an issuer of a common stock in which the Fund invests experiences financial difficulties, defaults on its senior securities, has the credit rating on its senior securities reduced or withdrawn, or otherwise is affected by adverse market factors, the Fund's portfolio will be negatively impacted. In particular, the prices of small- and micro-cap companies are generally more volatile and their markets are generally less liquid relative to larger-cap companies. Therefore, an investment in the Fund may involve more risk of loss than funds investing in larger-cap companies or other asset classes. See "Investment Goal, Policies and Risks -- Risk Factors --Investing in Small- and Micro-Cap Companies". In addition, different types of investment styles tend to shift into and out of favor with stock market investors, depending on market and economic conditions. The performance of funds that invest in value-style stocks may at times be better or worse than the performance of stock funds that focus on other types of stocks or have a broader investment style.

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Declines in the value of the Fund's portfolio may reduce the asset coverage for the Cumulative Preferred Stock or the Fund's income. As indicated above, the Cumulative Preferred Stock is subject to redemption under specified circumstances. To the extent that the Fund experiences a substantial decline in the value of its net assets, it may be required to redeem Cumulative Preferred Stock to restore compliance with the applicable asset maintenance requirements. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Redemption -- Mandatory Redemption". Sufficiently sharp declines in the value of the Fund's assets could leave the Fund with insufficient assets to redeem all of the Cumulative Preferred Stock for the full redemption price.

Indebtedness and Other Preferred Stock. Payments to the holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock of dividends or upon redemption or in liquidation will be subject to the prior payments of interest and repayment of principal then due on any outstanding indebtedness of the Fund and the contemporaneous payment to holders of any other outstanding Preferred Stock of dividends, upon redemption or in liquidation. Assuming the Fund had issued and sold the Cumulative Preferred Stock and redeemed the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred as of June 30, 2003, the Fund would have had no outstanding indebtedness and no Preferred Stock ranking on parity with the Cumulative Preferred Stock offered hereby as to dividends and payment upon liquidation. See "Investment Goal, Policies and Risks -- Borrowing Money and Issuing Senior Securities". The Fund may issue additional Preferred Stock under the circumstances set forth under "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock --Limitations on Issuance of Additional Preferred Stock".

Leverage and Borrowing. The Fund is authorized to borrow money. So long as the Cumulative Preferred Stock is rated by Moody's, however, the Fund cannot borrow for investment leverage purposes. Borrowings create an opportunity for greater capital appreciation with respect to the Fund's investment portfolio, but at the same time such borrowing is speculative in that it will increase the Fund's exposure to capital risk. In addition, borrowed funds are subject to interest costs that may offset or exceed the return earned on the borrowed funds.

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Restrictions on Dividends and Other Distributions. The Fund has qualified, and intends to remain qualified for Federal income tax purposes, as a regulated investment company. Qualification requires, among other things, compliance by the Fund with certain distribution requirements. If the Fund does not meet the asset coverage requirements set forth in the 1940 Act or the Articles Supplementary, the Fund will be required to suspend distributions to holders of its Common Stock until such asset coverage is restored. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Dividends". Such a limitation on distributions could jeopardize the Fund's ability to meet the above-referenced distribution

requirements. Although the Fund presently intends, to the extent possible, to purchase or redeem Cumulative Preferred Stock and/or any other Preferred Stock to maintain its qualification as a regulated investment company, no assurance can be given that such actions can be effected in time to meet the above-referenced distribution requirements.

Redemption. As set forth above, the Cumulative Preferred Stock is subject to both mandatory and optional redemption under specified circumstances at a redemption price equal to \$25.00 per share plus accumulated and unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared) through the redemption date. Upon redemption, stockholders may not be able to reinvest the proceeds received from the redemption in an investment providing the same or a better rate than that of the Cumulative Preferred Stock.

Certain Corporate Governance Provisions. Certain provisions of the Fund's Charter and Bylaws may have the effect of maintaining the continuity of management and may make it more difficult for the Fund's stockholders to change the majority of the Board of Directors. See "Description of Capital Stock -- Certain Corporate Governance Provisions".

FEDERAL INCOME TAX

CONSIDERATIONS.... As set forth above, the Fund has qualified, and intends to remain qualified for Federal income tax purposes, as a regulated investment company. Qualification requires, among other things, compliance by the Fund with certain distribution requirements. Limitations on distributions if the Fund failed to satisfy the Asset Coverage or Portfolio Calculation requirements could jeopardize the Fund's

ability to meet tax-related distribution requirements. The Fund presently intends, however, to the extent possible, to purchase or redeem Cumulative Preferred Stock and/or any other Preferred Stock if necessary in order to maintain compliance with such distribution requirements. See "Taxation" for a more complete discussion of these and other Federal income tax considerations.

ADVISER...... Royce has served as the investment adviser to the Fund since its inception. Royce also serves as investment adviser to other registered management investment companies, privately offered funds and institutional accounts. As of September 30, 2003, Royce managed approximately \$12.6 billion in assets for the Fund and other client accounts.

Charles M. Royce, Royce's President and Chief Investment Officer, is primarily responsible for managing the Fund's portfolio. He is assisted by Royce's investment staff, including W. Whitney George, Senior Portfolio Manager, Managing Director and Vice President, Boniface A. Zaino, Senior Portfolio Manager and Managing Director, and Charles R. Dreifus, Senior Portfolio Manager and Principal, and by Jack E. Fockler, Jr., Managing Director and Vice President. See "Investment Advisory and Other Services-- Portfolio Management" herein and "Directors and Officers" in the Statement of Additional Information.

As compensation for its services under the Investment Advisory Agreement, Royce receives a fee at a rate ranging from 0.5% up to 1.5% per annum of the Fund's average net assets (including assets obtained from the sale of Preferred Stock) for the applicable performance period, depending upon the investment performance of the Fund relative to the investment record of the Standard & Poor's SmallCap 600 Index (the "S&P 600"), determined by comparisons made over rolling periods of 60 months. However, Royce will not receive any fee for any month when the Fund's investment performance, rounded to the nearest whole point, is negative on an absolute basis for the 36-month period then ended. For a more detailed description of the methods by which the advisory fee is determined, see "Investment Advisory and Other Services -- Advisory Fee".

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Royce has volunteered to waive the portion of its investment advisory fee attributable to the liquidation preference of the 7.80% Preferred, the 7.30% Preferred and the Cumulative Preferred Stock (net of the liquidation preference of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred) for any month when the Fund's net asset value average annual total return since the initial issuance of the 7.80% Preferred, the 7.30% Preferred or the Cumulative Preferred Stock fails to exceed

the blended dividend rate on those assets.

CUSTODIAN,
DIVIDEND-PAYING
AGENT, TRANSFER
AGENT AND
REGISTRAR....

State Street Bank and Trust Company, acts as custodian of the cash and other assets of the Fund. Equiserve Trust Company, N.A. acts as transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and registrar for the Fund's shares and as agent to provide notice of redemption and certain voting rights for the Cumulative Preferred Stock. See "Custodian, Dividend-Paying Agent, Transfer Agent and Registrar".

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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods presented and reflects financial results for a single share of the Fund's Common Stock. The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned on an investment in the Fund's Common Stock (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). The information for the six months ended June 30, 2003 has not been audited and is included in the Statement of Additional Information, which is available upon request. The information for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2002 has been audited by Tait, Weller & Baker, whose report, along with the Fund's financial statements, is included in the Statement of Additional Information, which is available upon request.

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(0.03) (0.04) (0.03) (0.03) (0.01) - Net realized gain on investments..... - (0.28)
(0.30) (0.30) (0.32) (0.26) (0.15) (0.06) - Ouarterly distributions* (0.13) - - - - - -
-- Total distributions to Preferred Stockholders...... (0.13) (0.29) (0.31) (0.33)
(0.36) (0.29) (0.18) (0.07) - ------
----- NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON
STOCKHOLDERS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS................. 1.82 (2.56) 2.32 2.43
1.55 0.55 3.88 2.11 2.74 DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income... -
     (0.07) (0.05) (0.13) (0.15) (0.16) (0.19) (0.15) (0.03) Net realized gain on
   investments............ - (1.44) (1.44) (1.35) (1.22) (1.38) (1.02) (1.00) (1.26)
----- Total distributions to Common
Stockholders.... (0.65) (1.51) (1.49) (1.48) (1.37) (1.54) (1.21) (1.15) (1.29) ------
------ CAPITAL
 STOCK TRANSACTIONS: Effect of reinvestment of distributions by Common Stockholders....
  (0.00) (0.02) (0.08) (0.16) (0.13) (0.09) (0.08) (0.11) (0.11) Effect of Common Stock
Rights offering or Preferred Stock offering (0.07) - - - - (0.11) - (0.09) (0.12) -----
------ Total
 capital stock transactions...... (0.07) (0.02) (0.08) (0.16) (0.13) (0.20) (0.08)
                            (0.20) (0.23)
______
NET ASSET VALUE, END OF PERIOD(a) $14.32 $13.22 $17.31 $16.56 $15.77 $15.72 $16.91 $14.32
                              $13.56
______
 MARKET VALUE, END OF PERIOD $14.94 $13.25 $15.72 $14.438 $13.063 $13.75 $15.063 $12.625
                               $11.875
______
16.3% 19.5% Net Asset Value(a)........ 13.8%*** (15.6)% 15.2% 16.6% 11.7% 3.3% 27.5%
 15.5% 21.1% RATIOS BASED ON AVERAGE NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Total
expenses (c, d)..... 1.47%** 1.72% 1.61% 1.43% 1.39% 1.31% 1.12% 1.28% 2.01% Management
    fee expense.. 1.30%** 1.56% 1.45% 1.25% 1.18% 1.10% 0.39% 0.39% 0.97% Interest
expense..... - - - - - 0.45% 0.64% 0.75% Other operating expenses 0.17%** 0.16% 0.16%
0.18% 0.21% 0.21% 0.28% 0.25% 0.29% Net investment income (loss) (0.30)%** (0.09)% 0.35%
 1.18% 1.47% 1.11% 1.53% 1.27% 0.34% SUPPLEMENTAL DATA: Net Assets Applicable to Common
  Stockholders; End of Period (in thousands)..... $699,221 $560,776 $689,141 $623,262
$552,928 $516,963 $494,231 $381,837 $338,970 Liquidation Value of Preferred Stock; End of
  Period (in thousands)......$160,000 $160,000 $160,000 $160,000 $160,000
$160,000 $60,000 $60,000 - Portfolio Turnover Rate.... 12% 35% 30% 36% 41% 43% 29% 34% 32%
 .0605 .0574 PREFERRED STOCK: Total shares outstanding... 6,400,000 6,400,000 6,400,000
 6,400,000 6,400,000 6,400,000 2,400,000 2,400,000 - Asset coverage per share... $134.25
  $112.62 $132.68 $122.38 $111.40 $105.78 $165.51 $120.15 - Liquidation preference per
 share......$25.00 $25.00 $25.00 $25.00 $25.00 $25.00 $25.00 $25.00 $25.00 $25.00
 Average market value per share: 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock (f)..... $26.09 $26.37
 $25.70 $23.44 $24.98 $25.91 $25.70 $25.20 - 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred
 Stock(f)......$25.60 $25.82 $25.37 $22.35 $24.24 $25.43 - - - NOTES: Total
amount outstanding (in thousands)...... - - - - - $27,801 $40,000 $40,000 Asset
 coverage per note.... - - - - - $2,090.89 $1,201.51 $943.93 Average market value per
note (f)...... - - - - - $107.69 $100.68 $96.92 Years ended December 31, --
```

----- NET ASSET VALUE, BEGINNING OF PERIOD...... \$13.47 \$12.50 INVESTMENT OPERATIONS(a): Net investment income investments...... 0.09 2.12 ------ Total investment operations..... 0.13 2.21 ------ DISTRIBUTIONS TO PREFERRED STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income... - - Net realized gain (loss) on investments..... - - Ouarterly distributions* - - ----- Total distributions to Preferred Stockholders..... - - ----- NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS...... 0.13 2.21 DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income... (0.01) (0.09) Net realized gain on investments............ (1.04) (1.06)Quarterly distributions* - - ----- Total distributions to Common Stockholders.... (1.05) (1.15) ------ CAPITAL STOCK TRANSACTIONS: Effect of reinvestment of distributions by Common Stockholders.... (0.07) + (0.01) Effect of Common Stock Rights offering or Preferred Stock offering (0.14) (0.08) ----- Total capital stock transactions...... (0.21) (0.09) ======== NET ASSET VALUE, END OF PERIOD(a) \$12.34 \$13.47 ========== MARKET VALUE, END OF PERIOD \$11.00 \$12.875 ========= TOTAL RETURN(b): Market Value...... (6.7)% 14.9% Net Asset Value(a)...... 0.1% 17.3% RATIOS BASED ON AVERAGE NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Total expenses (c, d)..... 2.01% 1.33% Management fee expense. 1.21% 1.09% Interest expense...... 0.46% - Other operating expenses 0.34% 0.24% Net investment income (loss) 0.31% 0.74% SUPPLEMENTAL DATA: Net Assets Applicable to Common Stockholders; End of Period (in thousands)..... \$269,032 \$246,558 Liquidation Value of Preferred Stock; End of Period (in thousands)..... - - Portfolio Turnover Rate... 35% 33% Average Commission Rate Paid (e)..... PREFERRED STOCK: Total shares outstanding... - - Asset coverage per share... - - Liquidation preference per share..... - - Average market value per share 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock (f).... - - 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock(f)..... - -NOTES: Total amount outstanding (in thousands)......\$40,000 - Asset coverage per

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⁽a)

Commencing June 21, 1995 through December 31, 1997, Net Asset Value per share, Net Asset Value Total Returns and Income from Investment Operations were calculated assuming that the then outstanding convertible notes had been fully converted, except when the effect of doing so resulted in a higher Net Asset Value per share than would have been calculated without such assumption. If it were not assumed the Notes had been converted, the Net Asset Value per share would have been increased by \$0.31 at December 31, 1997, \$0.17 at December 31, 1996 and \$0.09 at December 31, 1995.

The Market Value Total Return is calculated assuming a purchase of Common (b) Stock on the opening of the first business day and a sale on the closing of the last business day of each period reported. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed for the purposes of this calculation

to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund's Distribution Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan. Net Asset Value Total Return is calculated on the same basis, except that the Fund's net asset value is used on the purchase and sale dates instead of market value. Net Asset Value and Market Value Total Return, assuming a continuous stockholder who fully participated in the primary rights offerings, were 14.22% and 18.90%, 22.42% and 19.55%, 0.94% and -6.53%, and 17.82% and 14.60%, for the six months ended June 30, 2003 and the years ended December 31, 1995, 1994, and 1993, respectively. These returns include the positive impact to a stockholder from participation in the primary subscription of these rights offerings resulting from the purchase of shares in each such offering at a discount to the market price and net asset value of the Fund.

- (c) Expense ratios based on total average net assets including liquidation value of Preferred Stock were 1.16%, 1.38%, 1.30%, 1.12%, 1.06%, 1.06%, 0.99%, 1.20%, 2.01%, 2.01% and 1.33% for the six months ended June 30, 2003 and the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994, and 1993, respectively.
- (d) Expense ratios based on average net assets applicable to Common Stockholders before waiver of fees by Royce would have been 1.67%, 1.82%, 1.65%, 1.51%, 1.48%, 1.34%, 1.14%, 1.31%, 2.04% and 2.02% for the six months ended June 30, 2003 and the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995 and 1994, respectively.
- (e) For fiscal years beginning after October 1, 1995, the Fund is required to disclose its average commission rate paid per share for purchases and sales of investments.
- (f) The average of month-end market values during the period.
- * To be allocated to net investment income and capital gains at year-end.
- ** Annualized.
- *** Not annualized.
- + Includes distributions paid January 31, 1994 and December 30, 1994.

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TAX ATTRIBUTES OF PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

The Fund intends to distribute to its stockholders substantially all of its long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income, and Other Ordinary Income. The Fund is a regulated investment company ("RIC"), and a RIC's distributions generally retain their character as long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income, or Other Ordinary Income when received by its preferred and common stockholders. Thus, distributions paid by the Fund to holders of the Cumulative Preferred Stock will, for Federal income tax purposes,

consist of varying proportions of long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income, described below, Other Ordinary Income, and/or returns of capital.

The 2003 Tax Act reduced the individual Federal income tax rate on long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income to a maximum of 15%. Qualified dividend income consists of dividends paid by domestic corporations and certain foreign corporations. Under the 2003 Tax Act, the maximum individual Federal income tax rate on Other Ordinary Income is 35%. These tax rates are scheduled to apply through 2008. Assuming the 2003 Tax Act had been in effect during the past one, three and five years ended December 31, 2002, the distributions of taxable income by the Fund would have consisted of approximately 100%, 86% and 88% long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income and approximately 0%, 14% and 12% Other Ordinary Income. No assurance can be given, however, as to what percentage, if any, of the dividends paid on the Cumulative Preferred Stock will consist of long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income, which are taxed at lower rates for individuals than Other Ordinary Income.

Although the Fund is not managed utilizing a tax-focused investment strategy and does not seek to achieve any particular distribution composition, its primary investment goal is long-term capital growth. Accordingly, certain individual investors in the Cumulative Preferred Stock would, under current Federal income tax law, also realize a tax advantage on their investment to the extent that Fund distributions continue to consist primarily of long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income rather than more highly taxed Other Ordinary Income. The Federal income tax characteristics of the Fund and the taxation of its stockholders are described more fully under "Taxation".

ASSUMPTIONS

The following table shows examples of the pure Other Ordinary Income equivalent yield that would be generated by the dividend rate on the Cumulative Preferred Stock, assuming distributions consisting of three different proportions of long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income and Other Ordinary Income for an individual investor in the 35% Federal marginal income tax bracket. In reading these tables, prospective investors should understand that a number of factors could affect the actual composition for Federal income tax purposes of the Fund's distributions each year. Such factors include (i) the Fund's investment performance for any particular year, which may result in varying proportions of long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income, Other Ordinary Income and/or return of capital in the year's distribution and (ii) the timing of the realization of gains and losses during the Fund's taxable year.

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THESE TABLES ARE FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY AND CANNOT BE TAKEN AS AN INDICATION OF THE ACTUAL COMPOSITION FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES OF THE FUND'S FUTURE DISTRIBUTIONS.

PERCENTAGE OF CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK A CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK ANNUAL DIVIDEND COMPOSED OF ANNUAL DIVIDEND RATE OF --_____ _____ _____ _____ 5.90% LONG-TERM CAPITAL GAINS AND QUALIFIED DIVIDEND INCOME * * OTHER ORDINARY INCOME IS EQUIVALENT TO AN OTHER ORDINARY INCOME YIELD OF - 90% 10% 7.53% 75% 25% 7.26% 50% 50%

6.81%

Assuming that long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income comprise 90% of the Cumulative Preferred Stock dividend and that Other Ordinary Income comprises the remaining 10% of that Cumulative Preferred Stock dividend, the following table shows the pure Other Ordinary Income equivalent yields that would be generated at the dividend rate for taxpayers in the indicated tax brackets.

A CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK ANNUAL DIVIDEND RATE OF
5.90% 2003 FEDERAL MARGINAL INCOME TAX BRACKET* IS EQUIVALENT TO AN OTHER ORDINARY INCOME YIELD OF
35.0%
7.33%
6.86% 25.0%**
6.61%

* Annual taxable income levels corresponding to the 2003 Federal marginal tax brackets are as follows: 35.0% -- over \$311,950 for both single and joint returns; 33.0% -- \$143,501 - \$311,950 for single returns, \$174,701 - \$311,950 for joint returns; 28.0% -- \$68,801 - \$143,500 for single returns, \$114,651 - \$174,700 for joint returns; and 25.0% -- \$28,401 - \$68,800 for single returns, \$56,801 - \$114,650 for joint returns. An investor's Federal marginal income tax rates may exceed the rates shown in the above table due to the reduction, or possible elimination, of the personal exemption deduction for high-income taxpayers and an overall limit on itemized deductions. Income also may be subject to certain state, local and foreign taxes. For investors who pay alternative minimum tax, equivalent yields may be lower than those shown above. The tax rates shown above do not apply to corporate taxpayers.

** Assumes that such individuals are taxed at a 15% rate on long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income received from the Fund.

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THE FUND

The Fund is a closed-end diversified management investment company, incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland on July 1, 1986 and registered under the 1940 Act. The Fund commenced operations in November 1986. Assuming the Fund had issued and sold the Cumulative Preferred Stock and redeemed the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred as of June 30, 2003, the Fund would have had 48,820,755 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding, with an aggregate net asset value of \$692,009,396, and 8,800,000 shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock issued and outstanding, with an aggregate initial liquidation preference of \$220,000,000. The Fund's principal office is located at 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019, and its telephone number is (800) 221-4268.

The Fund's primary investment goal is long-term capital growth. Royce normally invests at least 75% of the Fund's assets in the equity securities of small- and micro-cap companies, generally with stock market capitalizations ranging from \$100 million to \$2 billion, that Royce believes are trading significantly below its estimate of their current worth. The Fund may also invest up to 25% of its assets in non-convertible fixed income securities. An investment in the Fund is not appropriate for all investors. No assurance can be given that the Fund's investment goal will be realized. See "Investment Goal, Policies and Risks".

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds from the offering of the Cumulative Preferred Stock are estimated at \$212,788,200, after deduction of the underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by the Fund. The Fund will use a substantial portion of the net proceeds from the offering of the Cumulative Preferred Stock to redeem the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred. In order for the Fund to redeem the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred, the Fund must pay the 7.80% Preferred's aggregate initial liquidation preference of \$60,000,000 and the 7.30% Preferred's aggregate initial liquidation preference of \$100,000,000, plus an amount equal to accumulated and unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared) on the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred through the applicable redemption date. Royce expects to invest any proceeds remaining after the redemption of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred in accordance with the Fund's investment goal and policies within approximately six months from the completion of the offering, depending on market conditions for the types of securities in which the Fund principally invests. Pending any such investment,

the proceeds will be held in high quality short-term debt securities and instruments and money market mutual funds. Any delay by Royce in investing such remaining proceeds may hinder the Fund's ability to achieve its investment goal.

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CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth the capitalization of the Fund as of June 30, 2003, and as adjusted to give effect to the issuance of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and the redemption of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred.

Preferred stock, \$.001 par value per share, authorized 50,000,000 shares of which the following series have been classified and designated: 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock, authorized 10,000,000 shares, issued and outstanding 2,400,000 shares.....\$ 60,000,000 \$ - 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock, authorized 10,000,000 shares, issued and outstanding 4,000,000 shares..... 100,000,000 - 5.90% Cumulative Preferred Stock, as adjusted, authorized 8,800,000 shares, issued and outstanding 8,800,000 shares..... -220,000,000 -----\$160,000,000 \$220,000,000 ======= ====== Common stock, \$.001 par value per share: Authorized 150,000,000 shares, issued and outstanding 48,820,755 shares.... \$ 48,821 \$ 48,821 Additional paid-in capital..... 566,557,501 559,345,701(1) Accumulated net investment loss..... (895,291) (895,291) Accumulated net realized gain on investments..... 15,009,715 15,009,715 Net unrealized appreciation on investments...... 154,131,809 154,131,809 Quarterly and accrued

OUTSTANDING AS ADJUSTED -----

distributions				
(35,631,359) (35,631,359)				
Net assets applicable to outstanding				
common stock \$699,221,196				
\$692,009,396 ====================================				
(1) After deducting underwriting				
discounts and estimated costs of this offering				
of \$7,211,800.				

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PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION

The following tables set forth certain information with respect to the Fund's investment portfolio as of June 30, 2003.

	VALUE	PERCENTAGE
Common stocks	\$ 783,631,546	91.1%
Preferred stocks	533,868	0.1%
Corporate bonds	1,403,780	0.2%
U.S. Treasury obligations	27,649,425	3.2%
Repurchase agreement	46,399,000	5.4%
Total investments	\$ 859,617,619	100.0%
	=========	========
SECTOR WEIGHTINGS IN COMMON STOCK PORTFOLIO		
Technology	\$173,613,750	20.2%
Industrial Products	115,236,150	13.4%
Industrial Services	115,056,767	13.4%
Financial Intermediaries	80,390,768	9.3%
Health	70,104,985	8.1%
Consumer Products	60,162,248	7.0%
Natural Resources	56,991,877	6.6%
Financial Services	53,549,518	6.2%
Consumer Services	44,174,133	5.1%
Miscellaneous	14,181,950	1.7%
Utilities	169,400	0.1%
Total common stocks	\$783,631,546	91.1%
	=========	=========

INVESTMENT GOAL, POLICIES AND RISKS

INVESTMENT GOAL

The Fund's primary investment goal and one of its fundamental policies is long-term capital growth. Royce normally invests at least 75% of the Fund's assets in the equity securities of small- and micro-cap companies, with stock market capitalizations ranging from \$100 million to \$2 billion. Stock market capitalization is calculated by multiplying the total number of common shares issued and outstanding by the per share market price of the common stock. See "--Changes in Investment Goal and Policies" below. There are market risks inherent in any investment, and no assurance can be given that the Fund's primary investment goal will be achieved. Although the Fund may seek current income by investing in dividend-paying equity securities of small- and micro-cap companies, this is not the Fund's primary investment goal.

INVESTMENT POLICIES

Royce uses a value method in managing the Fund's assets. In selecting securities for the Fund, Royce evaluates the quality of a company's balance sheet, the level of its cash flows and various measures of a company's profitability. Royce then uses these factors to assess the

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company's current worth, basing this assessment on either what it believes a knowledgeable buyer might pay to acquire the entire company or what it thinks the value of the company should be in the stock market. This analysis takes a number of factors into consideration, including the company's future growth prospects and current financial condition.

Royce invests in securities of companies that are trading significantly below its estimate of the company's "current worth" in an attempt to reduce the risk of overpaying for such companies. Royce's value approach strives to reduce some of the other risks of investing in small- and micro-cap companies (for the Fund's portfolio taken as a whole) by evaluating various other risk factors. Royce attempts to lessen financial risk by buying companies that combine strong balance sheets with low leverage. While no assurance can be given that this risk-averse value approach will be successful, Royce believes that it can reduce some of the risks of investing in the securities of small- and micro-cap

companies, which are inherently fragile in nature and whose securities have substantially greater market price volatility. Although Royce's approach to security selection seeks to reduce downside risk to the Fund's portfolio, especially during periods of broad small-cap market declines, it may also potentially have the effect of limiting gains in strong small-cap up markets.

Foreign Investments. The Fund may invest up to 10% of its assets in securities of foreign issuers. Foreign investments involve certain additional risks, such as political or economic instability of the issuer or of the country of issue, fluctuating exchange rates, less government regulation of foreign securities markets and the possibility of imposition of exchange controls, nationalization or expropriation of assets and more difficulty obtaining information on the foreign companies.

Fixed Income Securities. The Fund may invest up to 25% of its assets in direct obligations of the Government of the United States or its agencies and/or in non-convertible preferred stocks and non-convertible debt securities of various issuers, including up to 5% of its net assets in below investment-grade debt securities, also known as high-yield fixed income securities. There are no limits on the maturity or duration of the fixed income securities in which the Fund may invest.

Two of the main risks of investing in fixed income securities are credit risk and interest rate risk. Below investment-grade debt securities may be in the lowest-grade categories of recognized ratings agencies (C in the case of Moody's or D in the case of Standard & Poor's) or may be unrated. High-yield/high-risk investments are primarily speculative and may entail substantial risk of loss of principal and non-payment of interest, but may also produce above-average returns for the Fund. Debt securities rated C or D may be in default as to the payment of interest or repayment of principal. As of the date of this Prospectus, interest rates are near historical lows which makes it more likely that they will increase in the future which could, in turn, result in a decline in the market value of the fixed income securities held by the Fund.

Warrants, Rights or Options. The Fund may invest up to 5% of its assets in warrants, rights or options. A warrant, right or call option entitles the holder to purchase a given security within a specified period for a specified price and does not represent an ownership interest in the underlying security. A put option gives the holder the right to sell a particular security at a specified price during the term of the option. These securities have no voting rights, pay no dividends and have no liquidation rights. In addition, market prices of warrants, rights or call

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options do not necessarily move parallel to the market prices of the underlying securities; market prices of put options tend to move inversely to the market

prices of the underlying securities.

Securities Lending. The Fund may lend up to 25% of its assets to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions. However, under the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Fund may not lend portfolio securities in excess of 15% of its total assets. The Rating Agency Guidelines may in the future be amended to permit the Fund to lend a greater percentage of its total assets. Securities lending allows the Fund to retain ownership of the securities loaned and, at the same time, to earn additional income. Since there may be delays in the recovery of loaned securities or even a loss of rights in collateral supplied should the borrower fail financially, loans will be made only to parties that participate in a global securities lending program organized and monitored by the Fund's custodian and who are deemed by it to be of good standing. Furthermore, such loans will be made only if, in Royce's judgment, the consideration to be earned from such loans would justify the risk.

The current view of the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") is that a fund may engage in such loan transactions only under the following conditions: (i) the fund must receive 100% collateral in the form of cash or cash equivalents (e.g., U.S. Treasury bills or notes) from the borrower; (ii) the borrower must increase the collateral whenever the market value of the securities loaned (determined on a daily basis at the close of regular trading) rises above the value of the collateral; (iii) after giving notice, the fund must be able to terminate the loan at any time; (iv) the fund must receive reasonable interest on the loan or a flat fee from the borrower, as well as amounts equivalent to any dividends, interest or other distributions on the securities loaned; (v) the fund may pay only reasonable custodian fees in connection with the loan; and (vi) the fund must be able to vote proxies on the securities loaned, either by terminating the loan or by entering into an alternative arrangement with the borrower.

Temporary Investments. The assets of the Fund are normally invested in the equity securities of small- and micro-cap companies. However, for temporary defensive purposes (i.e., when Royce determines that market conditions warrant) or when it has uncommitted cash balances, the Fund may also invest in U.S. Treasury bills, domestic bank certificates of deposit, repurchase agreements with its custodian bank covering U.S. Treasury and agency obligations having a term of not more than one week, high-quality commercial paper and money market funds registered under the 1940 Act, or retain all or part of its assets in cash. Accordingly, the composition of the Fund's portfolio may vary from time to time.

Repurchase agreements are in effect loans by the Fund to its custodian, and the agreements for such transactions require the custodian to maintain securities having a value at least equal to the amount loaned as collateral. Repurchase agreements could involve certain risks if the custodian defaults or becomes insolvent, including possible delays or restrictions upon the Fund's ability to dispose of collateral.

CHANGES IN INVESTMENT GOAL AND POLICIES

The Fund's primary investment goal of long-term capital growth is a fundamental policy of the Fund and may not be changed without approvals of the holders of a majority of the Fund's outstanding shares of Common Stock and Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, voting together as a single class, and a majority of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, voting as a separate class (which for this purpose and under the 1940 Act means the lesser of (i) 67% or more of the relevant shares of capital stock of the Fund present or represented at a meeting of stockholders, at which the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding relevant shares of capital stock are present or represented, or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding relevant shares of capital stock of the Fund). Except as indicated under "Investment Restrictions" in the Statement of Additional Information, the Fund does not consider its other policies, such as seeking current income, to be fundamental, and such policies may be changed by the Board of Directors without stockholder approval or prior notice to stockholders.

The Fund's investment policies are subject to certain restrictions. See "Investment Restrictions" in the Statement of Additional Information.

RISK FACTORS - INVESTING IN SMALL- AND MICRO-CAP COMPANIES

Royce views the large and diverse universe of small-cap companies as having two investment segments or tiers. Royce defines small-cap as those companies with market capitalizations between \$400 million and \$2 billion; it refers to the segment with market capitalizations less than \$400 million as micro-cap.

The securities of small- and micro-cap companies offer investment opportunities and additional risks. They may not be well known to the investing public, may not be significantly owned by institutional investors, and may not have steady earnings growth. In addition, the securities of such companies may be more volatile in price, have wider spreads between their bid and ask prices and have significantly lower trading volumes than larger capitalization stocks. As a result, the purchase or sale of more than a limited number of shares of a small- or micro-cap security may affect its market price. Royce may need a considerable amount of time to purchase or sell its positions in these securities, particularly when other accounts managed by Royce or other investors are also seeking to purchase or sell them. Accordingly, Royce's investment focus on small- and micro-cap companies generally requires it to have a long-term (at least three years) investment outlook for a portfolio security.

The micro-cap segment consists of more than 5,900 companies. These companies are followed by relatively few, if any, securities analysts, and there tends to be less publicly available information about them. Their securities

generally have even more limited trading volumes and are subject to even more abrupt or erratic market price movements than are the securities in the upper tier, and Royce may be able to deal with only a few market-makers when purchasing and selling these securities. Such companies may also have limited markets, financial resources or product lines, may lack management depth and may be more vulnerable to adverse business or market developments. These conditions, which create greater opportunities to find securities trading well below Royce's estimate of the company's current worth, also involve increased risk. This leads Royce to more broadly diversify most of the Fund's assets invested in micro-cap stocks by holding proportionately smaller positions in more companies.

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The upper tier of the small-cap universe of securities consists of approximately 1,500 companies. In this segment, there is a relatively higher level of ownership by institutional investors and more research coverage by securities analysts than generally exists for micro-cap companies. This greater attention makes the market for these securities more efficient than that of micro-cap companies because they have somewhat greater trading volumes and narrower bid/ask spreads. As a result, Royce normally employs a more concentrated approach when investing in the upper tier of small-caps, holding proportionately larger positions in a relatively limited number of securities.

RISK FACTORS - LIQUIDITY RISK

During an initial period which is not expected to exceed 30 days after the date of issuance, the Cumulative Preferred Stock will not be listed on any securities exchange. During such period, the Underwriters intend to make a market in the Cumulative Preferred Stock; however, they have no obligation to do so. Consequently, the Cumulative Preferred Stock may be illiquid during such period. No assurance can be provided that listing on any securities exchange or market making by the Underwriters will result in the market for Cumulative Preferred Stock being liquid at any time.

RISK FACTORS - CREDIT RATING RISK

The credit rating on the Cumulative Preferred Stock could be reduced or withdrawn by Moody's or a successor NRSRO, if any, while an investor holds shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock, either as a result of the Fund's termination of compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines or otherwise. The credit rating does not eliminate or mitigate the risks of investing in the Cumulative Preferred Stock. A reduction or withdrawal of the credit rating by Moody's or a successor NRSRO, if any, may have an adverse effect on the liquidity and market value of the Cumulative Preferred Stock. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Termination of Rating Agency Guidelines".

The Fund is authorized to borrow money. So long as the Cumulative Preferred Stock is rated by Moody's, however, the Fund cannot borrow for investment leverage purposes. Borrowings create an opportunity for greater capital appreciation with respect to the Fund's investment portfolio, but at the same time such borrowing is speculative in that it will increase the Fund's exposure to capital risk. In addition, borrowed funds are subject to interest costs that may offset or exceed the return earned on the borrowed funds.

RISK FACTORS - RESTRICTIONS ON DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

The Fund has qualified, and intends to remain qualified for Federal income tax purposes, as a regulated investment company. Qualification requires, among other things, compliance by the Fund with certain distribution requirements. If the Fund does not meet the asset coverage requirements set forth in the 1940 Act or the Articles Supplementary, the Fund will be required to suspend distributions to holders of its Common Stock until such asset coverage is restored. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Dividends". Such a limitation on distributions could jeopardize the Fund's ability to meet the above-referenced distribution requirements. Although the Fund presently intends, to the extent possible, to purchase or redeem

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Cumulative Preferred Stock and/or any other Preferred Stock to maintain its qualification as a regulated investment company, no assurance can be given that such actions can be effected in time to meet the above-referenced distribution requirements. See "Taxation" in this Prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information.

RISK FACTORS - REDEMPTION

The Cumulative Preferred Stock is subject to both mandatory and optional redemption under specified circumstances at a redemption price equal to \$25.00 per share plus accumulated and unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared) through the redemption date. Upon redemption, stockholders may not be able to reinvest the proceeds received from the redemption in an investment providing the same or a better rate than that of the Cumulative Preferred Stock. For a description of the circumstances in which shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock may be redeemed, see "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Redemption" in this Prospectus.

BORROWING MONEY AND ISSUING SENIOR SECURITIES

The 1940 Act and the Fund's fundamental investment policies and restrictions (see "Investment Restrictions" in the Statement of Additional Information) permit the Fund to borrow money from banks and certain other lenders and to issue and sell senior securities (as defined by the 1940 Act)

representing other forms of indebtedness or consisting of Preferred Stock if various requirements are met. Such requirements include initial asset coverage tests of 300% for indebtedness and 200% for Preferred Stock and restrictive provisions concerning Common Stock dividend payments and other distributions, Preferred Stock dividend payments and other distributions (if indebtedness is incurred), stock repurchases and maintenance of asset coverage and giving senior securityholders the right to elect directors in the event specified asset coverage tests are not met or dividends are not paid. While the issuance and sale of senior securities allows the Fund to raise additional cash for investments, it is a speculative investment technique, involving the risk considerations of leverage, potential dilution and increased share price volatility for the Fund's Common Stock. In addition, the Fund may be required to sell investments in order to make required payments to senior securityholders when it may be disadvantageous to do so.

The Cumulative Preferred Stock offered hereby is a senior security, as defined by the 1940 Act, of the Fund, which means, among other things, it is senior in priority to the Fund's Common Stock; however, it will rank junior to any future indebtedness of the Fund. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock". Payments to the holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock of dividends or upon redemption or in liquidation will be subject to the prior payment of interest and repayment of principal then due on any outstanding indebtedness of the Fund.

Assuming the Fund had issued and sold the Cumulative Preferred Stock and redeemed the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred as of June 30, 2003, the Fund would have had 48,820,755 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding, with an aggregate net asset value of \$692,009,396, and 8,800,000 shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, with an aggregate initial liquidation preference of \$220,000,000, issued and outstanding, and no outstanding indebtedness. Accordingly, assuming the Fund had issued and sold the Cumulative Preferred Stock and redeemed the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred as of such date, the Fund could have, under its investment policies and restrictions, issued and sold senior securities

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representing indebtedness of up to approximately \$456 million or additional shares of Preferred Stock having an aggregate involuntary liquidation preference of up to approximately \$472 million or various combinations of lesser amounts of both securities representing indebtedness and Preferred Stock.

RATINGS AGENCY GUIDELINES

Certain of the capitalized terms used herein are defined in the

Glossary that appears at the end of this Prospectus.

Moody's has established guidelines in connection with the Fund's receipt from Moody's of a rating of Aaa for the Cumulative Preferred Stock on the Date of Original Issue. Moody's, an NRSRO, issues ratings for various securities reflecting the perceived creditworthiness of such securities. The quidelines have been developed by Moody's in connection with issuances of asset-backed and similar securities, including debt obligations and various auction rate preferred stocks, generally on a case-by-case basis through discussions with the issuers of these securities. The guidelines are designed to ensure that assets underlying outstanding debt or preferred stock will be sufficiently varied and will be of sufficient quality and amount to justify investment-grade ratings. The guidelines do not have the force of law, but are being adopted by the Fund in order to satisfy current requirements necessary for Moody's to issue the above-described rating for the Cumulative Preferred Stock. The guidelines provide a set of tests for portfolio composition and discounted asset coverage that supplement (and in some cases are more restrictive than) the applicable requirements of Section 18 of the 1940 Act. The Moody's guidelines are included in the Articles Supplementary and are referred to in this Prospectus as the "Rating Agency Guidelines".

The Fund intends to maintain a Portfolio Calculation at least equal to the Basic Maintenance Amount. If the Fund fails to meet such requirement and such failure is not cured by the applicable cure date, the Fund will be required to redeem some or all of the Cumulative Preferred Stock. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Redemption -- Mandatory Redemption". The Rating Agency Guidelines also: (i) exclude certain types of securities in which the Fund may invest from Moody's Eligible Assets and, therefore, from the Portfolio Calculation, (ii) prohibit the Fund's acquisition of futures contracts or options on futures contracts, (iii) prohibit reverse repurchase agreements, (iv) limit the writing of options on portfolio securities and (v) limit the lending of portfolio securities to 15% of the Fund's total assets. Royce does not believe that compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines will have an adverse effect on its management of the Fund's portfolio or on the achievement of the Fund's investment goal. For a further discussion of the Rating Agency Guidelines, see "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock".

The Fund may, but is not required to, adopt any modifications to the Rating Agency Guidelines that may hereafter be established by Moody's. Failure to adopt such modifications, however, may result in a change in the Moody's rating or a withdrawal of a rating altogether. In addition, Moody's may, at any time, change or withdraw such rating. The terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock provide that the interpretation or applicability of any or all of the Rating Agency Guidelines may from time to time be modified by the Board of Directors of the Fund in its sole discretion based on a determination by the Board of Directors that such action is necessary or appropriate with respect to the Cumulative Preferred Stock; provided, however, that

the Board of Directors receives written confirmation from Moody's that any such modification would not impair the then current rating assigned to the Cumulative Preferred Stock by Moody's. Furthermore, under certain circumstances, the Board of Directors of the Fund may determine that it is not in the best interests of the Fund to continue to comply with the Rating Agency Guidelines. If the Fund terminates compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines, it is likely that Moody's will change its rating on the Cumulative Preferred Stock or withdraw its rating altogether. However, at the time of such termination, the Cumulative Preferred Stock must have received a rating from at least one NRSRO that is at least comparable to the then current rating from Moody's. The Fund will then be required to comply with the guidelines established by such successor NRSRO. It is the Fund's present intention to continue to comply with the Rating Agency Guidelines.

As recently described by Moody's, a preferred stock rating is an assessment of the capacity and willingness of an issuer to pay preferred stock obligations. The rating on the Cumulative Preferred Stock is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell such shares, inasmuch as the rating does not comment as to market price or suitability for a particular investor. Moreover, the Rating Agency Guidelines do not address the likelihood that a holder of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be able to sell such shares. The rating is based on current information furnished to Moody's by the Fund and Royce and information obtained from other sources. The rating may be changed, suspended or withdrawn as a result of changes in, or the unavailability of, such information.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

Royce & Associates, LLC (which term as used in this Prospectus includes its corporate predecessor) ("Royce"), a Delaware limited liability company, is an investment advisory firm whose predecessor was organized in February 1967. Royce is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. Royce became investment adviser of the Fund in November 1986, when the Fund commenced operations. Royce also serves as investment adviser to other management investment companies and institutional accounts. As of September 30, 2003, Royce managed approximately \$12.6 billion in assets for the Fund and other client accounts. Royce's principal business address is 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019.

On October 1, 2001, Royce became an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason, Inc. ("Legg Mason"). On March 31, 2002, Royce's corporate predecessor was merged into Royce Holdings, LLC (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason), which then changed its name to Royce & Associates, LLC. As a result of this merger, Royce & Associates, LLC became the Fund's investment adviser and a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason. Founded in 1899, Legg Mason is a publicly-held financial services company primarily engaged in providing asset management, securities brokerage, investment banking and related financial

services through its subsidiaries. As of June 30, 2003, Legg Mason's asset management subsidiaries had aggregate assets under management of approximately \$215.4 billion.

Under the Fund's Articles of Incorporation, as amended and supplemented (the "Charter"), and Maryland law, the Fund's business and affairs are managed under the direction of its Board of Directors. Investment decisions for the Fund are made by Royce, subject to any

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direction it may receive from the Fund's Board of Directors, which periodically reviews the Fund's investment performance.

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

Royce is responsible for the management of the Fund's assets. Royce has been investing in small-cap companies with a value approach for more than 25 years. Its offices are located at 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. Charles M. Royce has been the firm's President and Chief Investment Officer during this period. He is also the primary portfolio manager of the Fund.

Royce's investment staff also includes three other Senior Portfolio Managers: W. Whitney George, Managing Director and Vice President; Boniface A. Zaino, Managing Director; and Charles R. Dreifus, Principal. Royce's investment staff is assisted by Jack E. Fockler, Jr., Managing Director and Vice President. Mr. George has been a Portfolio Manager at Royce since 2000, and prior thereto was a Senior Analyst. He has been employed by Royce since 1991. Mr. Zaino joined Royce in April 1998 as a Senior Portfolio Manager and previously was a Portfolio Manager and Group Managing Director at Trust Company of the West (since 1984). Mr. Dreifus joined Royce in February 1998 as a Senior Portfolio Manager and previously was a Portfolio Manager and Managing Director (since June 1995) and General Partner (from 1983 until June 1995) of Lazard Freres & Co. LLC. Mr. Fockler has been employed by Royce since 1989 as its Director of Marketing.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT

Under the Investment Advisory Agreement between the Fund and Royce dated October 1, 2001 (the "Investment Advisory Agreement"), Royce determines the composition of the Fund's portfolio, the nature and timing of the changes in it and the manner of implementing such changes; provides the Fund with investment advisory, research and related services for the investment of its assets; and pays all expenses incurred in performing its investment advisory duties under the Investment Advisory Agreement.

The Fund pays all of its own administrative and other costs and expenses attributable to its operations and transactions (except those set forth

above), including, without limitation, registrar, transfer agent and custodian fees; legal, administrative and clerical services; rent for its office space and facilities; auditing; preparation, printing and distribution of its proxy statements, stockholder reports and notices; Federal and state registration fees; listing fees and expenses; Federal, state and local taxes; non-affiliated Directors fees; interest on its borrowings; brokerage commissions; and the cost of issue, sale and repurchase of its shares. Thus, unlike most other investment companies, the Fund is required to pay substantially all of its expenses, and Royce does not incur substantial fixed expenses.

ADVISORY FEE

As compensation for its services under the Investment Advisory Agreement, Royce is entitled to receive a fee comprised of a Basic Fee (the "Basic Fee") at the rate of 1% per annum of the Fund's average net assets (including assets obtained from the sale of Preferred Stock) and an adjustment to the Basic Fee based on the investment performance of the Fund in relation to

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the investment record of the S&P 600. A rolling period of 60 months ending with the most recent calendar month is utilized for measuring performance and average net assets, as described below.

The Basic Fee for each such month will be increased or decreased at the rate of 1/12 of .05% per percentage point, depending on the extent, if any, by which the investment performance of the Fund exceeds by more than two percentage points, or is exceeded by more than two percentage points by, the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 for the performance period. The maximum increase or decrease in the Basic Fee for any month is 1/12 of 0.5%. Accordingly, for each month the maximum monthly fee rate as adjusted for performance will be 1/12 of 1.5% and will be payable if the investment performance of the Fund exceeds the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 by 12 or more percentage points for the performance period, and the minimum monthly fee rate as adjusted for performance will be 1/12 of 0.5% and will be payable if the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 exceeds the investment performance of the Fund by 12 or more percentage points for the performance period. As a result, the actual investment advisory fee rate may at times be greater than the fee rate paid by many other funds.

Because the Basic Fee is a function of the Fund's net assets and not of its total assets, Royce will not receive any fee in respect of those assets of the Fund equal to the aggregate unpaid principal amount of any indebtedness of the Fund. Royce will receive a fee in respect of any assets of the Fund equal to the liquidation preference of the outstanding Cumulative Preferred Stock and for any other Preferred Stock that may be issued and sold by the Fund.

The following table illustrates, on an annualized basis, the full range of permitted increases or decreases to the Basic Fee.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PERFORMANCE ADJUSTMENT TO 1% OF FUND AND % CHANGE IN S&P 600 RECORD BASIC FEE FEES AS ADJUSTED ------ +12 or more +0.50% 1.50% +11 +0.45% 1.45% +10 +0.40% 1.40% +9 +0.35% 1.35% +8 +0.30% 1.30% +7 +0.25% 1.25% +6 +0.20% 1.20% +5 +0.15% 1.15% +4 +0.10%

+0.25%
1.25% +6
+0.20%
1.20% +5
+0.15%
1.15% +4
+0.10%
1.10% +3
+0.05%
1.05% +/-2
0.00% 1.00%
-3 -0.05%
0.95% -4 0.10% 0.90%
-5 -0.15%
0.85% -6 -

0.20% 0.80% -7 -0.25% 0.75% -8 -0.30% 0.70% -9 -0.35% 0.65% -10 -0.40% 0.60% -11 -0.45% 0.55% -12 or less -0.50% 0.50%

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In calculating the investment performance of the Fund and the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600, all dividends and other distributions during the performance period are treated as having been reinvested at net asset value on the record date, and no effect is given to gain or loss resulting from capital share transactions of the Fund. Fractions of a percentage point are rounded to the nearest whole point (to the higher whole point if exactly one-half).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Royce will not be entitled to receive any fee for any month when the investment performance of the Fund for the rolling 36-month period ending with such month is negative on an absolute basis. In the event that the Fund's investment performance for such a performance period is less than zero, Royce will not be required to refund to the Fund any fee earned in respect of any prior performance period.

Royce has volunteered to waive the portion of its investment advisory fee attributable to the liquidation preference of the 7.80% Preferred, the 7.30% Preferred and the Cumulative Preferred Stock (net of the liquidation preference of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred) for any month when the Fund's net asset value average annual total return since the initial issuance of the 7.80% Preferred, the 7.30% Preferred or the Cumulative Preferred Stock fails to exceed the blended dividend rate on those assets.

Because Royce's fee is partially based on the average net assets of the Fund (including assets obtained from the sale of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and other Preferred Stock), Royce has generally benefited from the Fund's issuance of Preferred Stock.

CODE OF ETHICS

The Fund's Board of Directors approved a Code of Ethics under Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act that covers the Fund and Royce. The Code of Ethics establishes procedures for personal investing and restricts certain transactions. Employees subject to the Code of Ethics may invest in securities for their personal investment accounts, including, in certain cases, securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund. See "Code of Ethics and Related Matters" in the Statement of Additional Information.

DESCRIPTION OF CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK

The following is a brief description of the terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock. This description does not purport to be complete and is qualified by reference to the Charter, including the Articles Supplementary, the form of which is filed as an exhibit to the Fund's Registration Statement, and the Bylaws. Certain of the capitalized terms used herein are defined in the Glossary that appears at the end of this Prospectus.

GENERAL

The Cumulative Preferred Stock offered hereby is a senior security, as defined by the 1940 Act, of the Fund, which means, among other things, it is senior in priority to the Fund's Common Stock; however, it will rank junior to any future indebtedness of the Fund. Under the terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock, the Fund is initially authorized to issue up to 8,800,000 shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock. No fractional shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be issued. The Board of Directors reserves the right to issue additional shares of Cumulative

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Preferred Stock or other Preferred Stock from time to time, subject to the restrictions in the Charter and the 1940 Act. The shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will, upon issuance, be fully paid and nonassessable and will have no appraisal, preemptive, exchange or conversion rights. Any shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock repurchased or redeemed by the Fund will be returned to the status of authorized but unissued shares of Preferred Stock, without designation as to series. The Board of Directors may by resolution classify or reclassify any authorized but unissued Preferred Stock from time to time by setting or changing the preferences, rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends or other distributions, qualifications or terms or conditions of redemption. The Fund will not issue any class of stock senior to the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock.

DIVIDENDS

Holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be entitled to

receive, when, as and if authorized by the Board of Directors and declared by the Fund out of funds legally available therefor, cumulative cash dividends at the annual rate of 5.90% per share (computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) of the initial liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share, payable quarterly on March 23, June 23, September 23 and December 23 (each, a "Dividend Payment Date"), commencing on December 23, 2003 (or, if any such day is not a Business Day, then on the next succeeding Business Day), to the persons in whose names the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are registered at the close of business on the preceding March 6, June 6, September 6 and December 6 (or, if any such day is not a Business Day, then on the next succeeding Business Day), respectively.

Dividends on the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will accumulate from the date on which such shares are originally issued (the "Date of Original Issue").

No dividends will be declared or paid or set apart for payment on shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock for any dividend period or part thereof unless full cumulative dividends have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid on all outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock through the most recent Dividend Payment Date thereof. If full cumulative dividends are not paid on the Cumulative Preferred Stock, all dividends on the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be paid pro rata to the holders of the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock. Holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock will not be entitled to any dividends, whether payable in cash, property or stock, in excess of full cumulative dividends. No interest, or sum of money in lieu of interest, will be payable in respect of any dividend payment that may be in arrears.

For so long as any shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are outstanding, the Fund will not declare, pay or set apart for payment any dividend or other distribution (other than a dividend or distribution paid in shares of, or options, warrants or rights to subscribe for or purchase shares of, Common Stock or other stock, if any, ranking junior to the Cumulative Preferred Stock as to dividends or payment upon liquidation) in respect of the Common Stock or any other stock of the Fund ranking junior to or on a parity with the Cumulative Preferred Stock as to dividends or payment upon liquidation, or call for redemption, redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire for consideration any shares of its Common Stock or any other junior stock (except by conversion into or exchange for stock of the Fund ranking junior to or on a parity with the Cumulative Preferred Stock as to dividends or payment upon liquidation), unless, in each case, (i) immediately after such transaction, the Fund will have a Portfolio Calculation for Moody's at

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cumulative dividends on shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock due on or prior to the date of the transaction have been declared and paid (or sufficient Deposit Securities to cover such payment have been deposited with the Paying Agent) and (iii) the Fund has redeemed the full number of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock required to be redeemed by any provision for mandatory redemption contained in the Charter.

If the Fund fails to pay dividends for two years or more, holders of the Cumulative Preferred Stock will acquire certain additional voting rights. See "-- Voting Rights" below. Such rights will be their exclusive remedy for any such failure.

ASSET MAINTENANCE

The Fund will be required to satisfy two separate asset maintenance requirements under the terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock. These requirements are summarized below.

Asset Coverage. For so long as any shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are outstanding, the Fund will be required to maintain as of the last Business Day of each March, June, September and December of each year, an "asset coverage" (as defined by the 1940 Act) of at least 200% (or such higher percentage as may be required under the 1940 Act) with respect to all outstanding senior securities of the Fund which are stock, including the Cumulative Preferred Stock (the "Asset Coverage"). If the Fund fails to maintain the Asset Coverage on such dates and such failure is not cured in 60 days, the Fund will be required under certain circumstances to redeem certain of the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock. See "-- Redemption -- Mandatory Redemption" below.

Assuming the Fund had issued and sold the Cumulative Preferred Stock and redeemed the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred as of June 30, 2003, the Asset Coverage immediately following such issuance and sale of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and such redemption of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred (after giving effect to the deduction of the underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses for such shares) would have been computed as follows:

Basic Maintenance Amount. For so long as any shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are outstanding, the Fund will be required to maintain, as of each Valuation Date, portfolio holdings meeting specified guidelines of Moody's, as described under "Rating Agency Guidelines", having an aggregate discounted value (a "Portfolio Calculation") at least equal to the Basic Maintenance

Amount, which is in general the sum of the aggregate liquidation preferences of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, any indebtedness for borrowed money and current liabilities and dividends. If the Fund fails to meet such requirement as to any Valuation Date and such failure is not cured within 14 days after such Valuation Date, the Fund will be required to redeem certain of the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock. See "-- Redemption -- Mandatory Redemption" below.

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Any security not in compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines will be excluded from the Portfolio Calculation.

The Moody's Discount Factors and guidelines for determining the market value of the Fund's portfolio holdings have been based on criteria established in connection with the rating of the Cumulative Preferred Stock. These factors include, but are not limited to, the sensitivity of the market value of the relevant asset to changes in interest rates, the liquidity and depth of the market for the relevant asset, the credit quality of the relevant asset (for example, the lower the rating of a corporate debt obligation, the higher the related discount factor) and the frequency with which the relevant asset is marked to market. The Moody's Discount Factor relating to any asset of the Fund and the Basic Maintenance Amount, the assets eligible for inclusion in the calculation of the discounted value of the Fund's portfolio and certain definitions and methods of calculation relating thereto may be changed from time to time by the Board of Directors, provided that, among other things, such changes will not impair the rating then assigned to the Cumulative Preferred Stock by Moody's.

On or before the third Business Day after each Quarterly Valuation Date, the Fund is required to deliver to Moody's a Basic Maintenance Report ("Basic Maintenance Report"). Within ten Business Days after delivery of such report relating to the last Quarterly Valuation Date of the Fund's fiscal year, the Fund will deliver a letter prepared by the Fund's independent accountants regarding the accuracy of the calculations made by the Fund in such a Basic Maintenance Report. If any such letter prepared by the Fund's independent accountants shows that an error was made in the most recent Basic Maintenance Report, the calculation or determination made by the Fund's independent accountants will be conclusive and binding on the Fund.

REDEMPTION

Mandatory Redemption. The Fund will be required to redeem, at a

redemption price equal to \$25.00 per share plus accumulated and unpaid dividends through the date of redemption (whether or not earned or declared) (the "Redemption Price"), certain of the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock (to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, Maryland law and any agreement in respect of indebtedness of the Fund to which it may be a party or by which it may be bound) in the event that:

- (i) the Fund fails to maintain the quarterly Asset Coverage and such failure is not cured on or before 60 days following such failure (a "Cure Date"); or
- (ii) for so long as the Fund is complying with the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Fund fails to maintain a Portfolio Calculation at least equal to the Basic Maintenance Amount as of any Valuation Date, and such failure is not cured on or before the 14th day after such Valuation Date (also, a "Cure Date").

The amount of such mandatory redemption will equal the minimum number of outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and/or any other Preferred Stock the redemption of which, if such redemption had occurred immediately prior to the opening of business on a Cure Date, would have resulted in the Asset Coverage having been satisfied or the Fund having a Portfolio Calculation for Moody's equal to or greater than the Basic Maintenance Amount on such Cure Date or, if the Asset Coverage or a Portfolio Calculation for Moody's

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equal to or greater than the Basic Maintenance Amount, as the case may be, cannot be so restored, all of the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock, at the Redemption Price. In the event that shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are redeemed due to the occurrence of (i) above, the Fund may, but is not required to, redeem a sufficient number of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock in order to increase the "asset coverage" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the remaining outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock after redemption up to 275%. In the event that shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and/or any other Preferred Stock are redeemed due to the occurrence of (ii) above, the Fund may, but is not required to, redeem a sufficient number of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock so that the Portfolio Calculation exceeds the Basic Maintenance Amount of the remaining outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock remaining after redemption by up to 10%.

If the Fund does not have funds legally available for the redemption of, or is otherwise unable to redeem, all the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock to be redeemed on any redemption date, the Fund is required to redeem on such redemption date that number of shares for which it has legally available funds and is otherwise able to redeem, pro rata from each holder whose shares

are to be redeemed, and the remainder of the shares required to be redeemed will be redeemed on the earliest practicable date on which the Fund will have funds legally available for the redemption of, or is otherwise able to redeem, such shares upon written notice of redemption ("Notice of Redemption").

If fewer than all shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are to be redeemed, such redemption will be made pro rata from each holder of shares in accordance with the respective number of shares held by each such holder on the record date for such redemption. If fewer than all shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock held by any holder are to be redeemed, the Notice of Redemption mailed to such holder will specify the number of shares to be redeemed from such holder. Unless all accumulated and unpaid dividends for all past dividend periods will have been or are contemporaneously paid or declared and Deposit Securities for the payment thereof deposited with the Paying Agent, no redemptions of Cumulative Preferred Stock or any other Preferred Stock may be made.

Optional Redemption. Prior to October 9, 2008, the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are not subject to any optional redemption by the Fund unless such redemption is necessary, in the judgment of the Board of Directors of the Fund, to maintain the Fund's status as a RIC under the Code. Commencing October 9, 2008 and thereafter, the Fund may at its option redeem shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock at any time in whole or in part at the Redemption Price. Such redemptions are subject to the limitations of the 1940 Act, Maryland law and any agreement in respect of indebtedness of the Fund to which it may be a party or by which it may be bound.

Redemption Procedures. A Notice of Redemption will be given to the holders of record of Cumulative Preferred Stock to be redeemed not less than 30 or more than 45 days prior to the date fixed for the redemption. Each Notice of Redemption will state: (i) the redemption date, (ii) the number of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock to be redeemed, (iii) the CUSIP number(s) of such shares, (iv) the Redemption Price, (v) that dividends on the shares to be redeemed will cease to accumulate on such redemption date and (vi) the provision of the Charter under which the redemption is being made. No defect in the Notice of Redemption or in the

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mailing thereof will affect the validity of the redemption proceedings, except as required by applicable law.

LIQUIDATION RIGHTS

Upon a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Fund (whether voluntary or involuntary), holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock then outstanding will be entitled to receive out of the assets of the Fund available for distribution to stockholders, after satisfying claims

of creditors but before any distribution or payment of assets is made to holders of the Common Stock or any other class of stock of the Fund ranking junior to the Cumulative Preferred Stock as to liquidation payments, a liquidation distribution in the amount of \$25.00 per share plus an amount equal to all unpaid dividends accumulated to and including the date fixed for such distribution or payment (whether or not earned or declared by the Fund, but excluding interest thereon) (the "Liquidation Preference"), and such holders will be entitled to no further participation in any distribution or payment in connection with any such liquidation, dissolution or winding up. If, upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the Fund, whether voluntary or involuntary, the assets of the Fund available for distribution among the holders of all outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other outstanding class or series of Preferred Stock of the Fund ranking on a parity with the Cumulative Preferred Stock as to payment upon liquidation, will be insufficient to permit the payment in full to such holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock of the Liquidation Preference and the amounts due upon liquidation with respect to such other Preferred Stock, then such available assets will be distributed among the holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock and such other Preferred Stock ratably in proportion to the respective preferential amounts to which they are entitled. Unless and until the Liquidation Preference has been paid in full to the holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock, no dividends or distributions will be made to holders of the Common Stock or any other stock of the Fund ranking junior to the Cumulative Preferred Stock as to liquidation.

Upon any liquidation, the holders of the Common Stock, after required payments to the holders of Preferred Stock, will be entitled to participate equally and ratably in the remaining assets of the Fund.

VOTING RIGHTS

Except as otherwise stated in this Prospectus and as otherwise required by applicable law, holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock will be entitled to one vote per share on each matter submitted to a vote of stockholders and will vote together with holders of shares of Common Stock as a single class. Also, except as otherwise required by the 1940 Act, (i) holders of outstanding shares of the Cumulative Preferred Stock will be entitled as a series, to the exclusion of the holders of all other securities, including other Preferred Stock, Common Stock and other classes of capital stock of the Fund, to vote on matters affecting the Cumulative Preferred Stock that do not materially adversely affect any of the contract rights of holders of such other securities, including other Preferred Stock, Common Stock and other classes of capital stock, as expressly set forth in the Fund's Charter, and (ii) holders of outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will not be entitled to vote on matters affecting any other Preferred Stock that do not materially adversely affect any of the contract rights of holders of the Cumulative Preferred Stock, as expressly set forth in the Charter. The foregoing voting provisions will not apply to any shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote otherwise would be required will be effected,

such shares will have been (i) redeemed or (ii) called for redemption and sufficient Deposit Securities provided to the Paying Agent to effect such redemption.

In connection with the election of the Fund's directors, holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, voting as a separate class, will be entitled at all times to elect two of the Fund's directors, and the remaining directors will be elected by holders of shares of Common Stock and holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, voting together as single class. In addition, if at any time dividends on outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and/or any other Preferred Stock are unpaid in an amount equal to at least two full years' dividends thereon and sufficient Deposit Securities shall not have been deposited with the Paving Agent for the payment of such accumulated dividends, or if at any time holders of any shares of Preferred Stock are entitled, together with the holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock, to elect a majority of the directors of the Fund under the 1940 Act, then the number of directors constituting the Board of Directors will automatically increase by the smallest number that, when added to the two directors elected exclusively by the holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock as described above, would constitute a majority of the Board of Directors as so increased by such smallest number. Such additional directors will be elected at a special meeting of stockholders which will be called and held as soon as practicable, and at all subsequent meetings at which directors are to be elected, the holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, voting as a separate class, will be entitled to elect the smallest number of additional directors that, together with the two directors which such holders in any event will be entitled to elect, constitutes a majority of the total number of directors of the Fund as so increased. The terms of office of the persons who are directors at the time of that election will continue. If the Fund thereafter pays, or declares and sets apart for payment in full, all dividends payable on all outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock for all past dividend periods, the additional voting rights of the holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock as described above will cease, and the terms of office of all of the additional directors elected by the holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock (but not of the directors with respect to whose election the holders of shares of Common Stock were entitled to vote or the two directors the holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock have the right to elect in any event) will terminate and the number of directors constituting the Board of Directors will automatically decrease accordingly.

So long as shares of the Cumulative Preferred Stock are outstanding, the Fund will not, without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock outstanding at the time, voting separately as one class, amend, alter or repeal the provisions of the Charter,

whether by merger, consolidation or otherwise, so as to materially adversely affect any of the contract rights expressly set forth in the Charter of holders of shares of the Cumulative Preferred Stock. Under Maryland law, the terms of stock may be made dependent on facts ascertainable outside of the charter of a corporation, including an action or determination of the board of directors. Accordingly, the interpretation or applicability of any or all of the Rating Agency Guidelines may from time to time be modified by the Board of Directors in its sole discretion based on a determination by the Board of Directors that such action is necessary or appropriate with respect to the Cumulative Preferred Stock; provided, however, that the Board of Directors receives written confirmation from Moody's that any such modification would not impair the then current rating assigned to the Cumulative Preferred Stock

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by Moody's. Furthermore, under certain circumstances, without the vote of stockholders, the Board of Directors of the Fund may determine that it is not in the best interests of the Fund to continue to comply with the Rating Agency Guidelines. See "-- Termination of Rating Agency Guidelines" below. The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, voting as a separate class, will be required to approve any plan of reorganization adversely affecting such shares or any action requiring a vote of security holders under Section 13(a) of the 1940 Act, including, among other things, changes in the Fund's primary investment goal or changes in the investment restrictions described as fundamental policies under "Investment Restrictions" in the Statement of Additional Information. The class vote of holders of shares of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock described above in each case will be in addition to a separate vote of the requisite percentage of shares of Common Stock and Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, voting together as a single class, necessary to authorize the action in question. See "Description of Capital Stock -- Certain Corporate Governance Provisions".

TERMINATION OF RATING AGENCY GUIDELINES

The terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock provide that if the Board of Directors of the Fund determines that it is not in the best interests of the Fund to continue to comply with the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Fund will no longer be required to comply with such guidelines, provided that (i) the Fund has given the Paying Agent, Moody's and holders of the Cumulative Preferred Stock at least 20 calendar days written notice of such termination of compliance, (ii) the Fund is in compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines at the time the notice required in clause (i) above is given and at the time of termination of compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines, (iii) at the time the notice required in clause (i) above is given and at the time of termination of compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Cumulative Preferred Stock is listed on the NYSE or on another exchange registered with the Commission as a national securities exchange and (iv) at the time of termination of compliance

with the Rating Agency Guidelines, the Cumulative Preferred Stock must have received a rating from at least one NRSRO that is at least comparable to the then current rating from Moody's.

If the Fund voluntarily terminates compliance with the Rating Agency Guidelines, Moody's may change its rating on the Cumulative Preferred Stock or withdraw its rating altogether. However, the Fund will then be required to comply with the guidelines established by the successor NRSRO. It is the Fund's present intention to continue to comply with the Rating Agency Guidelines.

LIMITATION ON ISSUANCE OF ADDITIONAL PREFERRED STOCK

So long as any shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are outstanding, the Charter provides that the Fund may issue and sell up to 41,200,000 additional shares of one or more other series of Preferred Stock (assuming redemption of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred as discussed under "Use of Proceeds"), provided that (i) immediately after giving effect to the issuance and sale of such additional Preferred Stock and to the Fund's receipt and application of the proceeds thereof, the Fund will maintain the Asset Coverage of the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock and all other Preferred Stock of the Fund then outstanding, and (ii) no such additional Preferred Stock will have any preference or priority over any other

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Preferred Stock of the Fund upon the distribution of the assets of the Fund or in respect of the payment of dividends.

BOARD'S ABILITY TO MODIFY ARTICLES SUPPLEMENTARY

The terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock provide that, to the extent permitted by law, the Board of Directors may modify or interpret the terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock to resolve any inconsistency or ambiguity or remedy any formal defect so long as such modification or interpretation does not materially adversely affect any of the contract rights expressly set forth in the Charter of holders of shares of the Cumulative Preferred Stock or any other capital stock of the Fund or adversely affect the then current rating on the Cumulative Preferred Stock by Moody's or any successor NRSRO.

REPURCHASE OF CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK

The Fund is a closed-end investment company and, as such, holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock do not, and will not, have the right to redeem their shares of the Fund. Redemption of the Cumulative Preferred Stock is subject to the terms of the Articles Supplementary. The Fund may, however, repurchase shares of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and/or any other Preferred Stock when it is deemed advisable by the Board of Directors in compliance with the requirements of the 1940 Act and the rules and regulations thereunder and

Maryland law.

BOOK-ENTRY

Shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will initially be held in the name of Cede & Co. ("Cede"), as nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"). The Fund will treat Cede as the holder of record of the Cumulative Preferred Stock for all purposes. In accordance with the procedures of DTC, however, purchasers of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be deemed the beneficial owners of shares purchased for purposes of dividends, voting and liquidation rights. The Cumulative Preferred Stock will be held in book-entry only form. Shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will not be delivered in certificated form to individual purchasers thereof. The laws of some jurisdictions require that certain purchasers of Cumulative Preferred Stock take physical delivery of such securities in certificated form. Such limits and laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock. See "Book-Entry System" in the Statement of Additional Information for more information about DTC and its procedures.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

COMMON STOCK

The Fund is authorized to issue 150,000,000 shares of Common Stock, par value \$.001 per share. Each share of Common Stock has equal voting, dividend, distribution and liquidation rights. The shares of Common Stock outstanding are fully paid and non-assessable. The shares of Common Stock are not redeemable and have no preemptive, exchange, conversion or cumulative voting rights. Under Maryland law and the rules of the NYSE, the Fund generally is required to hold annual meetings of its stockholders.

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PREFERRED STOCK

Under the Charter, the Fund's Board of Directors has authority to classify and reclassify any authorized but unissued shares of stock into other classes or series of stock, including Preferred Stock, and to cause the Fund to issue such shares. The Fund's Board of Directors currently has authority to cause the Fund to issue and sell up to 50,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, including shares that may be convertible into shares of the Fund's Common Stock. The terms of such Preferred Stock would be fixed by the Board of Directors and would materially limit and/or qualify the rights of the holders of the Fund's Common Stock. The Board of Directors has designated 8,800,000 shares of Preferred Stock as the Cumulative Preferred Stock, all of which are being offered hereby. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock". The Board of Directors previously classified and designated 10,000,000 shares of

Preferred Stock as 7.80% Preferred, 2,400,000 of which are issued and outstanding, and 10,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock as 7.30% Preferred, 4,000,000 of which are issued and outstanding. The terms of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred are substantially similar to the terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock.

The Fund will use a substantial portion of the net proceeds from the issuance and sale of the Cumulative Preferred Stock to redeem the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred. So long as any shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are outstanding, the Charter provides that the Fund may issue and sell up to 41,200,000 additional shares of one or more other series of Preferred Stock (assuming redemption of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred as discussed under "Use of Proceeds").

The following table shows as of June 30, 2003 the number of shares of: (i) capital stock authorized, (ii) capital stock held by the Fund for its own account and (iii) capital stock outstanding for each class of authorized securities of the Fund.

CERTAIN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PROVISIONS

The six Fund Directors who are elected by the holders of Common Stock and Preferred Stock voting together are divided into three classes, each serving a staggered term of three years and until a successor is elected and qualifies. The two Directors elected only by the holders of Preferred Stock stand for election at each annual meeting of stockholders. Accordingly, it likely would take a number of years for stockholders to change a majority of the Board of Directors. Vacancies on the Board of Directors for one or more of the six classified positions may be filled by the remaining Directors for the balance of the term of the class and until a successor is elected and qualifies.

The Fund's Bylaws permit stockholders to call a special meeting of stockholders only if certain procedural requirements are met and the request is made by stockholders entitled to cast at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast at such a meeting. The Bylaws also require that advance notice be given to the Fund in the event a stockholder desires to nominate a person for election to the Board of Directors or to transact any other business at an annual meeting of stockholders. With respect to an annual meeting of stockholders, notice of any such nomination or business must be delivered to or received at the principal executive offices of the Fund not less than 90 calendar days nor more than 120 calendar days prior to the anniversary of the date of mailing of the notice for the preceding year's annual meeting (subject to certain exceptions). Any advance notice by a stockholder must be accompanied by certain information as provided in the Bylaws. The Bylaws contain similar advance notice provisions with respect to special meetings of stockholders.

Certain provisions of the 1940 Act and the Charter require a separate additional vote of the holders of Preferred Stock to approve certain transactions, including certain mergers, asset dispositions and conversion of the Fund to open-end status.

These provisions may have the effect of maintaining the continuity of management and thus may make it more difficult for the Fund's stockholders to change the majority of Directors.

TAXATION

The Fund intends to continue to qualify for the special tax treatment afforded RICs under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). As long as it so qualifies, in any taxable year in which it distributes at least 90% of its investment company taxable income ("ICTI") (as that term is defined in the Code without regard to the deduction for dividends paid) for such taxable year, the Fund will not be subject to Federal income tax on the part of its ICTI and net capital gains (i.e., the excess of the Fund's net realized long-term capital gains over its net realized short-term capital losses), if any, that it distributes to its stockholders in each taxable year. The Fund intends to distribute substantially all of such income.

Under the 2003 Tax Act, Fund distributions comprised of dividends from domestic corporations and certain foreign corporations (generally, corporations incorporated in a possession of the United States, some corporations eligible for treaty benefits under a treaty with the United States and corporations whose stock is readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States) are eligible for taxation at a maximum tax rate of 15% also applicable to capital gains in the hands of individual shareholders. Capital gain dividends likewise, are taxed at the reduced maximum rate of 15% for non-corporate

taxpayers. These tax rates are scheduled to apply through 2008. Not later than 60 days after the close of its taxable year, the Fund will provide its stockholders with a written notice designating the amounts of any long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income and Other Ordinary Income.

If the Fund does not meet the asset coverage requirements of the 1940 Act or the Articles Supplementary, the Fund will be required to suspend distributions to holders of its Common Stock until the asset coverage is restored. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Dividends". Such a suspension of distributions might prevent the Fund from distributing 90% of its ICTI, as is required in order to avoid Fund-level taxation of such income. Upon any failure to meet the asset coverage requirements of the 1940 Act or the Articles Supplementary, the Fund may, and in certain circumstances will be required to, partially redeem shares of its Cumulative Preferred Stock in order to maintain or restore the requisite asset coverage and avoid the adverse

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consequences to the Fund and its stockholders of failing to qualify as a RIC. If asset coverage were restored, the Fund would again be able to pay dividends and might be able to avoid Fund-level taxation of its income.

The Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") currently requires that a RIC that has two or more classes of stock allocate to each class proportionate amounts of each type of its income (e.g., capital gains, qualified dividend income and Other Ordinary Income). Accordingly, the Fund intends to designate dividends paid to holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock as comprised of capital gains, qualified dividend income and/or Other Ordinary Income, as applicable, in proportion to the Cumulative Preferred Stock's share of total dividends paid during the year.

If the Fund pays a dividend in January which was declared in the previous October, November or December to stockholders of record on a specified date in one of such months, then such dividend will be treated for tax purposes as being paid by the Fund and received by its stockholders on December 31 of the year in which such dividend was declared.

Stockholders may be entitled to offset their capital gain dividends with capital losses. There are a number of statutory provisions affecting when capital losses may be offset against capital gains, and limiting the use of losses from certain investments and activities. Accordingly, stockholders with capital losses are urged to consult their tax advisers.

In the opinion of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be treated as stock of the Fund for Federal income tax purposes and distributions with respect to such shares (other than distributions in redemption of the Cumulative Preferred Stock under section 302(b) of the Code) will constitute dividends to the extent of the Fund's

current and accumulated earnings and profits, as calculated for Federal income tax purposes. Nevertheless, the IRS might take a contrary position, asserting, for example, that the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock constitute debt of the Fund. The Fund believes this position, if asserted, would be unlikely to prevail. If this position were upheld, however, the discussion of the treatment of distributions herein, and in the Statement of Additional Information, would not apply. Instead, distributions by the Fund to holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock would constitute taxable interest income, whether or not they exceeded the earnings and profits of the Fund. In such event, the designations of particular types of income, such as capital gains and qualified dividend income, would not be effective.

Ordinary income dividends (but not capital gain dividends) paid to stockholders who are non-resident aliens or foreign entities generally will be subject to a 30% United States withholding tax unless a lower treaty rate applies.

Dividends and interest received by the Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes. Stockholders generally will not be entitled to claim a credit or deduction with respect to such taxes paid by the Fund.

By law, unless you qualify for an exemption from backup withholding (for instance, if you are a corporation), your dividends and redemption proceeds will be subject to a backup withholding tax (currently 28%) if you have not provided a tax identification number or social security number or if the number you have provided is incorrect.

This section summarizes some of the consequences under Federal tax law of an investment in Cumulative Preferred Stock of the Fund. It is not a substitute for personal tax

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advice. Consult your personal tax adviser about the potential tax consequences of purchasing and holding Cumulative Preferred Stock in the Fund under all applicable tax laws. For additional tax discussion, see "Taxation" in the Statement of Additional Information.

CUSTODIAN, DIVIDEND-PAYING AGENT, TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

State Street Bank and Trust Company, Two Heritage Drive, North Quincy, Massachusetts 02171, acts as custodian of the cash and other assets of the Fund. Equiserve Trust Company, N.A., PO Box 43011, Providence, RI 02940-3011, acts as transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and registrar for the Fund's shares and as

agent to provide notice of redemption and certain voting rights for the Cumulative Preferred Stock. Stockholder inquiries should be directed to P.O. Box 8200, Boston, Massachusetts 02266-8200 (Tel. No. (800) 426-5523).

UNDERWRITING

Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and UBS Securities LLC are acting as representatives of the several Underwriters in this offering. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the Fund's underwriting agreement dated October 6, 2003 (the "Underwriting Agreement"), each Underwriter named below has severally agreed to purchase, and the Fund has agreed to sell to such Underwriter, the number of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock set forth opposite the name of such Underwriter.

NUMBER OF SHARES OF

UNDERWRITER	CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK	
Citigroup Global Markets Inc	2,000,000	
UBS Securities LLC	2,000,000	
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith		
Incorporated	1,970,000	
Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC	1,970,000	
Legg Mason Wood Walker, Incorporated	180,000	
Banc of America Securities LLC	50,000	
Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc	50,000	
H&R Block Financial Advisors, Inc	50,000	
A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc	50,000	
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc	50,000	
Quick & Reilly, Inc. A FleetBoston Financial		
Company	50,000	
RBC Dain Rauscher Inc	50,000	
TD Waterhouse Investor Services, Inc	50,000	
U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray Inc	50,000	
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC	50,000	
Advest, Inc	20,000	
Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated	20,000	
Ferris, Baker Watts, Incorporated	20,000	
J.J.B. Hilliard, W.L. Lyons, Inc	20,000	
Janney Montgomery Scott LLC	20,000	
Mesirow Financial, Inc	20,000	
Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc	20,000	
Raymond James & Associates, Inc	20,000	
Ryan Beck & Co., Inc	20,000	
Total	8,800,000	
Total	8,800,000 ======	

The Underwriting Agreement provides that the obligations of the Underwriters to purchase the Cumulative Preferred Stock included in this offering are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The Underwriters are obligated to purchase all the Cumulative Preferred Stock if they purchase any such shares.

The Underwriters propose to offer some of the Cumulative Preferred Stock directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this Prospectus and some of the Cumulative Preferred Stock to dealers at the public offering price less a concession not to exceed \$.50 per share of Cumulative Preferred Stock. The sales load or underwriting discount the Fund will pay of \$.7875 per share of Cumulative Preferred Stock is equal to 3.15% of the initial offering price. The Underwriters may allow, and such dealers may reallow, a concession not to exceed \$.45 per share on sales to certain other dealers. After the initial public offering, the Underwriters may change the public offering price and other selling terms. Investors must pay for any Cumulative Preferred Stock purchased on or before October 9, 2003.

In the Underwriting Agreement, the Fund and Royce have each agreed to indemnify the several Underwriters or contribute to losses arising out of certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act").

The Fund anticipates that from time to time the representatives of the Underwriters and certain other Underwriters may act as brokers or dealers in connection with the execution of the Fund's portfolio transactions after they have ceased to be Underwriters and, subject to certain restrictions, may act as brokers while they are Underwriters. Citigroup Global Markets Inc. and UBS Securities LLC acted as financial advisers to Royce in connection with its acquisition by Legg Mason on October 1, 2001. Royce and Legg Mason Wood Walker, Incorporated, one of the Underwriters in this offering, are affiliates because they are under the common control of Legg Mason. In addition, certain of the Underwriters have in the past and may in the future act as financial advisers to Royce or have other investment banking relationships with Royce.

Prior to the offering, there has been no public market for the Cumulative Preferred Stock. Application will be made to list the Cumulative Preferred Stock on the NYSE. However, during an initial period which is not expected to exceed 30 days after the date of this Prospectus, the Cumulative Preferred Stock will not be listed on any securities exchange. During such period, the Underwriters intend to make a market in the Cumulative Preferred Stock; however, they have no obligation to do so. Consequently, an investment in the Cumulative Preferred Stock may be illiquid during such period.

In connection with the offering, the Underwriters may purchase and sell shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve syndicate

sales of shares in excess of the number of shares to be purchased by the Underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Stabilizing transactions consist of bids for or purchases of shares in the open market while the offering is in progress.

The Underwriters may also impose a penalty bid. Penalty bids permit the Underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the Underwriters repurchase shares originally sold by that syndicate member in order to cover syndicate short positions or make stabilizing purchases.

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Any of these activities may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the stock. They may also cause the price of the Cumulative Preferred Stock to be higher than the price that would otherwise exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The Underwriters may conduct these transactions on the NYSE or in the over-the-counter market, or otherwise. If the Underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

The principal business address of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is 388 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10013. The principal business address of UBS Securities LLC is 299 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10171.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain matters concerning the legality under Maryland law of the Cumulative Preferred Stock will be passed on by Venable LLP, Baltimore, Maryland. Certain legal matters will be passed on by Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, New York, New York, special counsel to the Fund, and by Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, counsel to the Underwriters. Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP will each rely as to matters of Maryland law on the opinion of Venable LLP.

EXPERTS

Tait, Weller & Baker, independent auditors, are the independent auditors of the Fund. The audited financial statements of the Fund and certain of the information appearing under the caption "Financial Highlights" included in this Prospectus and under the caption "Financial Statements" included in the Statement of Additional Information have been audited by Tait, Weller & Baker for the periods indicated in its report with respect thereto which is included in the Statement of Additional Information. Such financial statements and information is included in this Prospectus and in the Statement of Additional Information in reliance upon such report and upon the authority of such firm as

experts in accounting and auditing. Tait, Weller & Baker has an office at 1818 Market Street, Suite 2400, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, and also performs tax and other professional services for the Fund.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Fund is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Securities Exchange Act") and the 1940 Act and, in accordance therewith, files reports and other information with the Commission. Reports, proxy statements and other information filed by the Fund with the Commission pursuant to the informational requirements of such Acts can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. The Commission maintains a Web site at http://www.sec.gov. containing reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants, including the Fund, that file electronically with the Commission.

This Prospectus constitutes part of a Registration Statement filed by the Fund with the Commission under the Securities Act and the 1940 Act. This Prospectus omits certain of the information contained in the Registration Statement, and reference is hereby made to the Registration Statement and related exhibits for further information with respect to the Fund and the Cumulative Preferred Stock offered hereby. Any statements contained herein concerning the

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provisions 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. The complete Registration Statement may be obtained from the Commission upon payment of the fee prescribed by its rules and regulations or free of charge through the Commission's web site (http://www.sec.gov).

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this Prospectus constitute forward-looking statements, which involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements of the Fund to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, those listed under "Risk Factors and Special Considerations" in the Statement of Additional Information and elsewhere in this Prospectus. As a result of the foregoing and other factors, no assurance can be given as to the future results, levels of

activity or achievements, and neither the Fund nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of such statements.

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A Statement of Additional Information dated October 6, 2003 has been filed with the Commission and is incorporated by reference in this Prospectus. A copy of the Statement of Additional Information may be obtained without charge by writing to the Fund at its address at 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019, or by calling the Fund toll-free at (800) 221-4268. The Table of Contents of the Statement of Additional Information is as follows:

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No person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representation in connection with this offering other than those contained in this Prospectus in connection with the offer contained herein, and, if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Fund, Royce or the Underwriters. Neither the delivery of this Prospectus nor any sale made hereunder will, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Fund since the date hereof or that the information contained herein is correct as of any time subsequent to its date. This Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy such securities in any circumstance in which such an offer or solicitation is unlawful.

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GLOSSARY

"Articles Supplementary" means the Fund's Articles Supplementary creating and fixing the rights of the Cumulative Preferred Stock.

"Asset Coverage" means asset coverage, as defined in Section 18(h) of the 1940 Act, of at least 200%, or such higher percentage as may be required under the 1940 Act, with respect to all outstanding senior securities (as defined by the 1940 Act) of the Fund which are stock, including all outstanding shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock.

"Basic Maintenance Amount" means, as of any Valuation Date, the dollar amount equal to (i) the sum of (A) the product of the number of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock outstanding on such Valuation Date multiplied by the Liquidation Preference; (B) to the extent not included in (A), the aggregate amount of cash dividends (whether or not earned or declared) that will have accumulated for each outstanding share of Cumulative Preferred Stock from the most recent Dividend Payment Date to which dividends have been paid or duly provided for (or, in the event the Basic Maintenance Amount is calculated on a date prior to the initial Dividend Payment Date with respect to the Cumulative Preferred Stock, then from the Date of Original Issue) through the Valuation Date plus all dividends to accumulate on the Cumulative Preferred Stock then outstanding during the 70 days following such Valuation Date; (C) the Fund's other liabilities due and payable as of such Valuation Date (except that dividends and other distributions payable by the Fund by the issuance of Common Stock shall not be included as a liability) and such liabilities projected to become due and payable by the Fund during the 90 days following such Valuation Date (excluding liabilities for investments to be purchased and for dividends and other distributions not declared as of such Valuation Date); (D) any current liabilities of the Fund as of such Valuation Date to the extent not reflected in any of (i)(A) through (i)(C) (including, without limitation, and immediately upon determination, any amounts due and payable by the Fund pursuant to reverse repurchase agreements and any payables for assets purchased as of such Valuation Date) less (ii) (A) the Discounted Value of any of the Fund's assets and/or (B) the face value of any of the Fund's assets if, in the case of both (ii) (A) and (ii) (B), such assets are either cash or securities which mature prior to or on the date of redemption or repurchase of Cumulative Preferred Stock or payment of another liability and are either U.S. Government Obligations or securities which have a rating assigned by Moody's of at least Aaa, P-1, VMIG-1 or MIG-1 or by S&P of at least AAA, SP-1+ or A-1+, in both cases irrevocably held by the Fund's custodian bank in a segregated account or deposited by the Fund with the Paying Agent for the payment of the amounts needed to redeem or repurchase Cumulative Preferred Stock subject to redemption or repurchase or, without duplication, any of (i) (B) through (i) (D) and provided that in the event the Fund has repurchased Cumulative Preferred Stock at a price of less than the Liquidation Preference thereof and irrevocably segregated or deposited assets as described above with its custodian bank or the Paying Agent for the payment of the repurchase price the Fund may deduct 100% of the Liquidation Preference of such Cumulative Preferred Stock to be repurchased from (i) above.

"Business Day" means a day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading and that is neither a Saturday, Sunday nor any other day on which banks in the City of New York are authorized by law to close. "Charter" means the Articles of Incorporation, as amended and supplemented (including the Articles Supplementary), of the Fund on file in the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland.

"Common Stock" means the Common Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund.

"Cumulative Preferred Stock" means the 5.90% Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund.

"Date of Original Issue" means the date on which shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock are originally issued.

"Deposit Securities" means cash, Short-Term Money Instruments and U.S. Government Obligations. Except for determining whether the Fund has a Portfolio Calculation equal to or greater than the Basic Maintenance Amount, each Deposit Security will be deemed to have a value equal to its principal or face amount payable at maturity plus any interest payable thereon after delivery of such Deposit Security but only if payable on or prior to the applicable payment date in advance of which the relevant deposit is made.

"Discounted Value" means, with respect to a Moody's Eligible Asset, the quotient of (A) in the case of non-convertible fixed income securities, the lower of the principal amount and the market value thereof, or (B) in the case of any other Moody's Eligible Assets, the market value thereof, divided by the applicable Moody's Discount Factor.

"Dividend Payment Date" means each March 23, June 23, September 23, and December 23.

"Fitch" means Fitch Ratings or its successor.

"Fund" means Royce Value Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation.

"Lien" means any material lien, mortgage, pledge, security interest or security agreement of any kind.

"Liquidation Preference" means \$25.00 per share of Cumulative Preferred Stock plus an amount equal to all unpaid dividends accumulated to and including the date fixed for such distribution or payment (whether or not earned or declared by the Fund, but excluding interest thereon).

"Moody's" means Moody's Investors Service, Inc., or its successor.

"Moody's Discount Factor" means, for purposes of determining the Discounted Value of any Moody's Eligible Asset, the percentage determined as follows:

(i) Preferred securities (non-convertible): The percentage determined by reference to the rating on such asset with reference to whether such asset pays cumulative or non-cumulative dividends, in accordance with the table set forth below.

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Rating Category (1)	Cumulative	Non-Cumulative
Aaa	150%	165%
Aa	155	171
A	160	176
Baa	165	182
Ва	196	216
В	216	238
Below B and Unrated	250	275

(1) Unless conclusions regarding liquidity risk as well as estimates of both the probability and severity of default for the Fund's assets can be derived from other sources as well as combined with a number of sources as presented by the Fund to Moody's, securities rated below B3 by Moody's and unrated securities, which are securities rated by neither Moody's, S&P nor Fitch, are limited to 10% of Moody's Eligible Assets. If a non-convertible preferred security is unrated by Moody's, S&P or Fitch, the Fund will use the percentage set forth opposite "Below B and Unrated" in this table. Ratings assigned by S&P or Fitch are generally accepted by Moody's at face value. However, adjustments to face value may be made by Moody's to particular categories of credits for which the S&P and/or Fitch rating does not seem to approximate a Moody's rating equivalent. Split rated securities assigned by S&P and Fitch will be accepted by Moody's at the lower of the two ratings.

The Moody's Discount Factor applied to non-convertible preferred securities that are Rule 144A Securities will equal the sum of the Moody's Discount Factor which would apply if such securities were registered under the Securities Act plus 20%.

(ii) Corporate debt securities (non-convertible): The percentage determined by reference to the rating on such asset with reference to the remaining term to maturity of such asset, in accordance with the table set forth below.

Terms To Maturity of Rating Category
Below B Corporate Debt Security -------- and -----Aaa Aa A Baa Ba B Unrated(1) --- ---

1 year or
less
109% 112% 115% 118% 137% 150% 250% 2
years or less (but longer than 1
year) 115 118 122 125 146 160
250 3 years or less (but longer than
2 years) 120 123 127 131 153
168 250 4 years or less (but longer
than 3 years) 126 129 133 138
161 176 250 5 years or less (but
longer than 4 years) 132 135
139 144 168 185 250 7 years or less
(but longer than 5 years) 139
143 147 152 179 197 250 10 years or
less (but longer than 7 years)
145 150 155 160 189 208 250 15 years
or less (but longer than 10 years)
150 155 160 165 196 216 250 20
years or less (but longer than 15
years) 150 155 160 165 196 228
250 30 years or less (but longer than
20 years) 150 155 160 165 196 229
250 Greater than 30 years
189 205 240 250

(1) Unless conclusions regarding liquidity risk as well as estimates of both the probability and severity of default for the Fund's assets can be derived from other sources as well as combined with a number of sources as presented by the Fund to Moody's, securities rated below B3 by Moody's and unrated securities, which are securities rated by neither Moody's, S&P nor Fitch, are limited to 10% of Moody's Eligible Assets. If a corporate debt security is unrated by Moody's, S&P or Fitch, the Fund will use the percentage set forth under "Below B and Unrated" in this table. Ratings assigned by S&P or Fitch are generally accepted by Moody's at face value. However, adjustments to face value may be made by Moody's to particular categories of credits for which the S&P and/or Fitch rating does not seem to approximate a Moody's rating equivalent. Split rated securities assigned by S&P and Fitch will be accepted by Moody's at the lower of the two ratings.

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The Moody's Discount Factors presented in the immediately preceding table will also apply to corporate debt securities that do not pay interest in U.S. dollars or euros, provided that the Moody's Discount Factor determined from the table

shall be multiplied by a factor of 120% for purposes of calculating the Discounted Value of such securities.

(iii) U.S. Government Obligations and U.S. Treasury Strips:

- (iv) Short term instruments and cash: The Moody's Discount Factor applied to short term portfolio securities, including without limitation short term corporate debt securities, Short Term Money Market Instruments and short term municipal debt obligations, will be (A) 100%, so long as such portfolio securities mature or have a demand feature at par exercisable within the Moody's Exposure Period; (B) 115%, so long as such portfolio securities mature or have a demand feature at par not exercisable within the Moody's Exposure Period; (C) 125%, if such securities are not rated by Moody's, so long as such portfolio securities are rated at least A-1+/AA or SP-1+/AA by S&P and mature or have a demand feature at par exercisable within the Moody's Exposure Period; and (D) 148%, if such securities are not rated by Moody's, so long as such portfolio securities are rated at least A-1+/AA or SP-1+/AA by S&P and mature or have a demand feature at par exercisable greater than the Moody's Exposure Period. A Moody's Discount Factor of 100% will be applied to cash. A Moody's Discount Factor of 100% will also apply to money market funds rated by a NRSRO that comply with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act.
- (v) Rule 144A Securities: Except as set forth in clause (i)

above with respect to non-convertible preferred securities, the Moody's Discount Factor applied to Rule 144A Securities will be 130% of the Moody's Discount Factor which would apply if the securities were registered under the Securities Act.

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(vi) Convertible securities (including convertible preferred securities):

Rating Category ----_____ _____ Below B and Industry Category Aaa Aa A Baa Ba B Unrated(1) ---_____ _____ Utility 162% 167% 172% 188% 195% 199% 300% Industrial 256 261 266 282 290 293 300 Financial 233 238 243 259 265 270 300 Transportation 250 265 275 285 290 295 300

⁽¹⁾ Unless conclusions regarding liquidity risk as well as estimates of both the probability and severity of default for the Fund's assets can be derived from other sources as well as combined with a number of sources as presented by the Fund to Moody's, securities rated below B3 by Moody's and unrated securities, which are securities rated by neither Moody's, S&P nor Fitch, are limited to 10%

of Moody's Eligible Assets. If a convertible security is unrated by Moody's, S&P or Fitch, the Fund will use the percentage set forth under "Below B and Unrated" in this table. Ratings assigned by S&P or Fitch are generally accepted by Moody's at face value. However, adjustments to face value may be made by Moody's to particular categories of credits for which the S&P and/or Fitch rating does not seem to approximate a Moody's rating equivalent. Split rated securities assigned by S&P and Fitch will be accepted by Moody's at the lower of the two ratings.

(vii) U.S. Common Stock and Common Stock of foreign issuers for which ADRs are traded.

Utility	170%
Industrial	264
Financial	241
Other	300

(viii) The Moody's Discount Factor applied to Common Stock of foreign issuers (in existence for at least five years) for which no ADRs are traded will be 400%.

The Moody's Discount Factor for any Moody's Eligible Asset other than the securities set forth above will be the percentage provided in writing by Moody's.

For purposes of this definition, ratings assigned by S&P or Fitch are generally accepted by Moody's at face value. However, adjustments to face value may be made by Moody's to particular categories of credits for which the S&P and/or Fitch rating does not seem to approximate a Moody's rating equivalent. Split rated securities assigned by S&P and Fitch will be accepted by Moody's at the lower of the two ratings.

"Moody's Eligible Assets" means:

(i) Cash (including interest and dividends due on assets rated (A) Baa3 or higher by Moody's if the payment date is within five Business Days of the Valuation Date, (B) A2 or higher if the payment date is within thirty days of the Valuation Date, and (C) A1 or higher if the payment date is within the Moody's Exposure Period) and receivables for assets sold if the receivable is due within five Business Days of the Valuation Date, and if the trades which generated such

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receivables are (A) settled through clearing house firms with respect to which the Fund has received prior written

authorization from Moody's or (B)(1) with counterparties having a Moody's long term debt rating of at least Baa3 or the equivalent from S&P or Fitch or (2) with counterparties having a Moody's Short Term Money Market Instrument rating of at least P-1 or the equivalent from S&P or Fitch.

- (ii) Short Term Money Market Instruments, so long as (A) such securities are rated at least P-1 or if not rated by Moody's, rated at least A-1+/AA or SP-1+/AA by S&P or the equivalent by Fitch, (B) in the case of demand deposits, time deposits and overnight funds, the supporting entity is rated at least A2 by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch, or (C) in all other cases, the supporting entity (1) is rated A2 by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch and the security matures within one month, (2) is rated A1 by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch and the security matures within three months or (3) is rated at least Aa3 by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch and the security matures within six months. In addition, money market funds that comply with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act are Moody's Eligible Assets;
- (iii) U.S. Government Obligations and U.S. Treasury Strips;
- (iv) Rule 144A Securities;
- (v) Corporate debt securities, except as noted below, if (A)(1) such securities are rated B3 or higher by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch; (2) for securities, which provide for conversion or exchange at the option of the issuer into equity capital at some time over their lives, the issuer must be rated at least B3 by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch; or (3) for debt securities rated Bal and below by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch, no more than 10% of the original amount of such issue may constitute Moody's Eligible Assets; (B) such securities provide for the periodic payment of interest in cash in U.S. dollars or euros, except that such securities that do not pay interest in U.S. dollars or euros shall be considered Moody's Eligible Assets if they are rated by Moody's, S&P or Fitch; and (C) such securities have been registered under the Securities Act or are restricted as to resale under Federal securities laws but are eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act, except that such securities that are not subject to U.S. Federal securities laws shall be considered Moody's Eligible Assets if they are publicly traded.

In order to merit consideration as Moody's Eligible Asset, debt securities are issued by entities which have not filed for bankruptcy within the past three years, are current on all principal and interest in their fixed income obligations, are current on all preferred security dividends and possess a current, unqualified auditor's report without qualified, explanatory language.

Corporate debt securities not rated at least B3 by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch or not rated by Moody's, S&P or Fitch shall be considered to be

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Moody's Eligible Assets only to the extent the market value of such corporate debt securities does not exceed 10% of the aggregate market value of all Moody's Eligible Assets.

(vi) Preferred securities if (A) such preferred securities pay cumulative or non-cumulative dividends, (B) such securities provide for the periodic payment of dividends thereon in cash in U.S. dollars or euros, (C) the issuer or the parent company of the issuer of such a preferred security has common stock listed on either the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or Nasdag or is a U.S. Government Agency, (D) the issuer or the parent company of the issuer of such a preferred security has a senior debt rating or a preferred security rating from Moody's of Baa3 or higher or the equivalent from S&P or Fitch and (E) such preferred security has paid consistent cash dividends in U.S. dollars or euros over the last three years or has a minimum rating of A1 from Moody's or the equivalent from S&P or Fitch (if the issuer of such preferred security or the parent company of the issuer has other preferred issues outstanding that have been paying dividends consistently for the last three years, then a preferred security without such a dividend history would also be eligible). In addition, the preferred securities must have the diversification requirements set forth in the table below and the preferred securities issue must be greater than \$50 million.

Diversification Table:

The table below establishes maximum limits for inclusion as Moody's Eligible Assets (other than common stock as set forth below) prior to applying Moody's Discount Factors to Moody's Eligible Assets.

Minimum Maximum Maximum Maximum Single Issue Size

Industry Industry Ratings(1) (\$ in Million) (2) Issuer (3)(4) Non-Utility (4)(5) Utility(4)(5)Aaa...... \$100 100% 100% 100% Aa............ 100 20 60 30 A.... 100 10 40 25 Baa...... 100 6 20 20 Ba...... 50(6) 4 12 12 B1-B2.... 50(6) 3 8 8 B3 or below..... 50(6) 2 5 5

Single Single

- (1) Refers to the preferred security and senior debt rating of the portfolio holding.
- (2) Except for preferred security, which has a minimum issue size of \$50 million.
- (3) Companies subject to common ownership of 25% or more are considered as one issuer.
- (4) Percentages represent a portion of the aggregate market value of the Fund's total assets.
- (5) Industries are determined according to Moody's Industry Classifications, as defined herein.
- (6) Portfolio holdings from issues ranging from \$50 million to \$100 million are limited to 20% of the Fund's total assets.

(vii) Common stocks (A) (i) which are traded in the United States on a national securities exchange or in the over-the-counter market, (ii) which, if cash dividend paying, pay cash dividends in U.S. dollars, and (iii) which may be sold without restriction by the Fund; provided, however, that common stock which, while a Moody's Eligible Asset owned by the Fund, ceases paying any regular cash dividend will no longer be considered a Moody's Eligible Asset until 71 days

after the date of the announcement of such cessation, unless the issuer of the common stock has senior debt securities rated at least A3 by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch, (B) which are securities denominated in any currency other than the U.S. dollar or securities of issuers formed under the laws of jurisdictions other than the United States, its states, commonwealths, territories and possessions, including the District of Columbia, for which there are (i) sponsored ADR programs or (ii) Level II or Level III ADRs, and (C) which are securities of issuers formed under the laws of jurisdictions other than the United States, its states, commonwealths, territories and possessions, including the District of Columbia (and in existence for at least five years), for which no ADRs are traded;

Common Stock Diversification Table:

Industry Category	Maximum Single Issuer (%)(1)	<pre>Maximum Single Industry (%)(1)</pre>	Maximum Single State (%)(1)
Utility	4	50	7 (2)
Industrial	4	45	7
Financial	5	40	6
Other	6	20	N/A

- (1) Percentages represent both a portion of the aggregate market value and the number of outstanding shares of the common stock portfolio.
- (2) Utility companies operating in more than one state should be diversified according to the state of incorporation.

(viii) Financial contracts, as such term is defined in Section 3(c)(2)(B)(ii) of the 1940 Act, not otherwise provided for in this definition but only upon receipt by the Fund of a letter from Moody's specifying any conditions on including such financial contract in Moody's Eligible Assets and assuring the Fund that including such financial contract in the manner so specified would not affect the credit rating assigned by Moody's to the AMPS.

When the Fund sells a portfolio security and agrees to repurchase it at a future date, the Discounted Value of such security will constitute a Moody's Eligible Asset and the amount the Fund is required to pay upon repurchase of such security will count as a liability for purposes of calculating

the Basic Maintenance Amount. When the Fund purchases a security and agrees to sell it at a future date to another party, cash receivable by the Fund thereby will constitute a Moody's Eligible Asset if the long term debt of such other party is rated at least A2 by Moody's or the equivalent by S&P or Fitch and such agreement has a term of 30 days or less; otherwise the Discounted Value of such security will constitute a Moody's Eligible Asset. For the purpose of calculation of Moody's Eligible Assets, portfolio securities which have been called for redemption by the issuer thereof shall be valued at the lower of market value or the call price of such portfolio securities.

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Notwithstanding the foregoing, an asset will not be considered a Moody's Eligible Asset to the extent that it has been irrevocably deposited for the payment of (i) (A) through (i) (D) under the definition of Basic Maintenance Amount or to the extent it is subject to any Liens, including assets segregated under margin account requirements in connection with the engagement in hedging transactions, except for (A) Liens which are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and which Moody's has indicated to the Fund will not affect the status of such assets as a Moody's Eligible Asset, (B) Liens for taxes that are not then due and payable or that can be paid thereafter without penalty, (C) Liens to secure payment for services rendered or cash advanced to the Fund by Royce, the Fund's custodian, transfer agent or registrar or the Auction Agent and (D) Liens arising by virtue of any repurchase agreement.

For purposes of this definition, ratings assigned by S&P or Fitch are generally accepted by Moody's at face value. However, adjustments to face value may be made by Moody's to particular categories of credits for which the S&P and/or Fitch rating does not seem to approximate a Moody's rating equivalent. Split rated securities assigned by S&P and Fitch will be accepted by Moody's at the lower of the two ratings.

"Moody's Exposure Period" means the sum of (i) that number of calendar days from the last Valuation Date on which the Portfolio Calculation was at least equal to the Basic Maintenance Amount to the Valuation Date on which the Portfolio Calculation was not at least equal to the Basic Maintenance Amount, (ii) that number of calendar days following a Valuation Date that the Fund has under the terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock to cure any failure to maintain a Portfolio Calculation at least equal to the Basic Maintenance Amount, and (iii) the maximum number of calendar days the Fund has to effect a redemption under the terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock.

"Moody's Industry Classifications" means, for the purposes of determining Moody's Eligible Assets, each of the following industry classifications (or such other classifications as Moody's may from time to time approve for application to the Cumulative Preferred Stock):

Aerospace and Defense: Major Contractor, Subsystems, Research, Aircraft Manufacturing, Arms, Ammunition

Automobile: Automotive Equipment, Auto-Manufacturing, Auto Parts Manufacturing, Personal Use Trailers, Motor Homes, Dealers

Banking: Bank Holding, Savings and Loans, Consumer Credit, Small Loan, Agency, Factoring, Receivables

Beverage, Food and Tobacco: Beer and Ale, Distillers, Wines and Liquors, Distributors, Soft Drink Syrup, Bottlers, Bakery, Mill Sugar, Canned Foods, Corn Refiners, Dairy Products, Meat Products, Poultry Products, Snacks, Packaged Foods, Distributors, Candy, Gum, Seafood, Frozen Food, Cigarettes, Cigars, Leaf/Snuff, Vegetable Oil

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Buildings and Real Estate: Brick, Cement, Climate Controls, Contracting, Engineering, Construction, Hardware, Forest Products (building-related only), Plumbing, Roofing, Wallboard, Real Estate, Real Estate Development, REITs, Land Development

Chemicals, Plastics and Rubber: Chemicals (non-agriculture), Industrial Gases, Sulfur, Plastics, Plastic Products, Abrasives, Coatings, Paints, Varnish, Fabricating

Containers, Packaging and Glass: Glass, Fiberglass, Containers made of: Glass, Metal, Paper, Plastic, Wood, or Fiberglass

Personal and Non Durable Consumer Products (Manufacturing Only): Soaps, Perfumes, Cosmetics, Toiletries, Cleaning Supplies, School Supplies

Diversified/Conglomerate Manufacturing

Diversified/Conglomerate Service

Diversified Natural Resources, Precious Metals and Minerals: Fabricating, Distribution

Ecological: Pollution Control, Waste Removal, Waste Treatment, Waste Disposal

Electronics: Computer Hardware, Electric Equipment, Components, Controllers, Motors, Household Appliances, Information Service Communication Systems, Radios, Televisions, Tape Machines, Speakers, Printers, Drivers, Technology

Finance: Investment Brokerage, Leasing, Syndication, Securities

Farming and Agriculture: Livestock, Grains, Produce; Agricultural Chemicals, Agricultural Equipment, Fertilizers

Grocery: Grocery Stores, Convenience Food Stores

Healthcare, Education and Childcare: Ethical Drugs, Proprietary Drugs, Research, Health Care Centers, Nursing Homes, HMOs, Hospitals, Hospital Supplies, Medical Equipment

Home and Office Furnishings, Housewares, and Durable Consumer Products: Carpets, Floor Coverings, Furniture, Cooking, Ranges

Hotels, Motels, Inns and Gaming

Insurance: Life, Property and Casualty, Broker, Agent, Surety

Leisure, Amusement, Motion Pictures, Entertainment: Boating, Bowling, Billiards, Musical Instruments, Fishing, Photo Equipment, Records, Tapes, Sports, Outdoor Equipment (Camping), Tourism, Resorts, Games, Toy Manufacturing, Motion Picture Production Theaters, Motion Picture Distribution

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Machinery (Non-Agriculture, Non-Construction, Non-Electronic): Industrial, Machine Tools, Steam Generators

Mining, Steel, Iron and Non Precious Metals: Coal, Copper, Lead, Uranium, Zinc, Aluminum, Stainless Steel, Integrated Steel, Ore Production, Refractories, Steel Mill Machinery, Mini-Mills, Fabricating, Distribution and Sales of the foregoing

Oil and Gas: Crude Producer, Retailer, Well Supply, Service and Drilling

Printing, Publishing and Broadcasting: Graphic Arts, Paper, Paper Products, Business Forms, Magazines, Books, Periodicals, Newspapers, Textbooks, Radio, Television, Cable Broadcasting Equipment

Cargo Transport: Rail, Shipping, Railroads, Rail-Car Builders, Ship Builders, Containers, Container Builders, Parts, Overnight Mail,

Trucking, Truck Manufacturing, Trailer Manufacturing, Air Cargo, Transport

Retail Stores: Apparel, Toy, Variety, Drugs, Department, Mail Order Catalog, Showroom

Telecommunications: Local, Long Distance, Independent, Telephone, Telegraph, Satellite, Equipment, Research, Cellular

Textiles and Leather: Producer, Synthetic Fiber, Apparel Manufacturer, Leather Shoes

Personal Transportation: Air, Bus, Rail, Car Rental

Utilities: Electric, Water, Hydro Power, Gas

Diversified Sovereigns: Semi-sovereigns, Canadian Provinces, Supra-national agencies

The Fund will use its discretion in determining which industry classification is applicable to a particular investment in consultation with the Fund's independent accountants and Moody's, to the extent the Fund considers necessary.

"Nasdag" means the Nasdag Stock Market, Inc.

"1940 Act" means the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

"Notice of Redemption" means written notice by the Fund to holders of Cumulative Preferred Stock in compliance with the provisions of the Articles Supplementary of the Fund's intention to redeem shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock.

"NRSRO" means any nationally recognized statistical rating organization, as that term is used in Rule 15a3-1 under the Securities Exchange Act or any successor provisions.

"Other Ordinary Income" means ordinary income other than qualified dividend income but including short-term capital gains, interest income and non-qualified dividend income.

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"Paying Agent" means Equiserve Trust Company, N.A. and its successors or any other paying agent appointed by the Fund.

"Portfolio Calculation" means the aggregate Discounted Value of all Moody's Eligible Assets.

"Preferred Stock" means the issued and outstanding shares of preferred

stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund, and includes the Cumulative Preferred Stock.

"Quarterly Valuation Date" means the last Valuation Date of March, June, September and December, commencing December 26, 2003.

"Redemption Price" means \$25.00 per share plus accumulated and unpaid dividends through the date of redemption (whether or not earned or declared).

"Rule 144A Securities" means securities that are restricted as to resale under U.S. Federal securities laws but are eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act or successor provisions.

- "7.80% Preferred" means, so long as any shares of such series are issued and outstanding, the 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund.
- "7.30% Preferred" means, so long as any shares of such series are issued and outstanding, the 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund.

"Short-Term Money Market Instruments" means the following types of instruments if, on the date of purchase or other acquisition thereof by the Fund, the remaining term to maturity thereof is not in excess of 180 days:

- (i) Commercial paper rated P-1 by Moody's, F1 by Fitch or A-1 by S&P if such commercial paper matures in 30 days or less, or P-1 by Moody's and either F1 by Fitch or A-1+ by S&P if such commercial paper matures in over 30 days;
- (ii) Demand or time deposits in, and banker's acceptances and certificates of deposit of (A) a depository institution or trust company incorporated under the laws of the United States of America or any state thereof or the District of Columbia or (B) a United States branch office or agency of a foreign depository institution (provided that such branch office or agency is subject to banking regulation under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia);
 - (iii) Overnight funds;
 - (iv) U.S. Government Obligations; and
- (v) Eurodollar demand or time deposits in, or certificates of deposit of, the head office or the London branch office of a depository institution or trust company if the certificates of deposit, if any, and the long-term unsecured debt obligations (other than such obligations the ratings of which are based on the credit of a person or entity other

than such depository institution or trust company) of such depository institution or trust company that have (1) credit ratings on such Valuation Date of at least P-1 from Moody's and either F1+ from Fitch or A-1+ from S&P, in the case of commercial paper or certificates of deposit, and (2) credit ratings on each Valuation Date of at least Aa3 from Moody's and either AA- from Fitch or AA- from S&P, in the case of long-term unsecured debt obligations; provided, however, that in the case of any such investment that matures in no more than one Business Day from the date of purchase or other acquisition by the Fund, all of the foregoing requirements shall be applicable except that the required long-term unsecured debt credit rating of such depository institution or trust company from Moody's, Fitch and S&P shall be at least A2, A and A, respectively; and provided further, however, that the foregoing credit rating requirements shall be deemed to be met with respect to a depository institution or trust company if (1) such depository institution or trust company is the principal depository institution in a holding company system, (2) the certificates of deposit, if any, of such depository institution or trust company are not rated on any Valuation Date below P-1 by Moody's, F1+ by Fitch or A-1+ by S&P and there is no long-term rating, and (3) the holding company shall meet all of the foregoing credit rating requirements (including the preceding proviso in the case of investments that mature in no more than one Business Day from the date of purchase or other acquisition by the Fund); and provided further, that the interest receivable by the Fund shall not be subject to any withholding or similar taxes.

"S&P" means Standard & Poor's or its successor.

"2003 Tax Act" means the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003, Public Law 108-27.

- "U.S. Government Agency" means any agency, sponsored enterprise or instrumentality of the United States of America.
- "U.S. Government Obligations" means direct obligations of the United States or U.S. Government Agencies that are entitled to the full faith and credit of the United States and that, other than United States Treasury Bills and U.S. Treasury Strips, provide for the periodic payment of interest and the full payment of principal at maturity.
- "U.S. Treasury Strips" means securities based on direct obligations of the United States Treasury created through the Separate Trading of Registered Interest and Principal of Securities program.

"Valuation Date" means every Friday or, if such day is not a Business Day, the immediately preceding Business Day.

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\$220,000,000

ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

8,800,000 SHARES

5.90% CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK

PROSPECTUS

October 6, 2003

Citigroup
UBS Investment Bank
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Wachovia Securities
Legg Mason Wood Walker
Incorporated

STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

8,800,000 SHARES

ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

5.90% CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK LIQUIDATION PREFERENCE \$25.00 PER SHARE

The 5.90% Cumulative Preferred Stock, initial liquidation preference \$25.00 per share (the "Cumulative Preferred Stock"), to be issued by Royce Value Trust, Inc. (the "Fund") will be senior securities of the Fund. The Fund will use a substantial portion of the net proceeds from the offering of the Cumulative Preferred Stock to redeem the issued and outstanding shares of 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund, and the issued and outstanding shares of 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Fund. Royce & Associates, LLC ("Royce"), the Fund's investment adviser, expects to use any proceeds remaining after the redemption of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred to purchase additional portfolio securities in accordance with the Fund's investment goal and policies.

The Fund is a closed-end diversified management investment company. The Fund's primary investment goal is long-term capital growth, which it seeks by normally investing at least 75% of its assets in equity securities of small- and micro-cap companies. The Fund's address is 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019, and its telephone number is (212) 355-7311.

This Statement of Additional Information is not a prospectus, but should be read in conjunction with the Fund's Prospectus (dated October 6, 2003). Please retain this document for future reference. To obtain an additional copy of the Prospectus, the Fund's Annual Report to Stockholders for the year ended December 31, 2002, or the Fund's Semi-Annual Report to Stockholders for the six months ended June 30, 2003 please call Investor Information at 1-800-221-4268. Defined terms used in this Statement of Additional Information have the meanings given to them in the Prospectus.

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Date: October 6, 2003

RISK FACTORS AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

FUND'S RIGHTS AS STOCKHOLDER

The Fund may not invest in a company for the purpose of exercising control of management. However, the Fund may exercise its rights as a stockholder and communicate its views on important matters of policy to management, the board of directors and/or stockholders if Royce or the Board of Directors determines that such matters could have a significant effect on the value of the Fund's investment in the company. The activities that the Fund may engage in, either individually or in conjunction with others, may include, among others, supporting or opposing proposed changes in a company's corporate structure or business activities; seeking changes in a company's board of directors or management; seeking changes in a company's direction or policies; seeking the sale or reorganization of a company or a portion of its assets; or supporting or opposing third party takeover attempts. This area of corporate activity is increasingly prone to litigation, and it is possible that the Fund could be involved in lawsuits related to such activities. Royce will monitor such activities with a view to mitigating, to the extent possible, the risk of litigation against the Fund and the risk of actual liability if the Fund is involved in litigation. However, no assurance can be given that litigation against the Fund will not be undertaken or liabilities incurred.

The Fund may, at its expense or in conjunction with others, pursue litigation or otherwise exercise its rights as a security holder to seek to protect the interests of security holders if Royce and the Board of Directors determine this to be in the best interests of the Fund's stockholders.

HIGH-YIELD AND INVESTMENT GRADE DEBT SECURITIES

The Fund may invest up to 5% of its assets in high-yield, non-convertible debt securities. They may be rated from Ba to Ca by Moody's or from BB to D by S&P or may be unrated. These securities have poor protection

with respect to the payment of interest and repayment of principal and may be in default as to the payment of principal or interest. These securities are often speculative and involve greater risk of loss or price changes due to changes in the issuer's capacity to pay. The market prices of high-yield debt securities may fluctuate more than those of higher-rated debt securities and may decline significantly in periods of general economic difficulty, which may follow periods of rising interest rates.

The market for high-yield debt securities may be thinner and less active than that for higher-rated debt securities, which can adversely affect the prices at which the former are sold. If market quotations cease to be readily available for a high-yield debt security in which the Fund has invested, the security will then be valued in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Directors. Judgment may play a greater role in valuing high-yield debt securities than is the case for securities for which more external sources for quotations and last sale information are available. Adverse publicity and changing investor perceptions may affect the Fund's ability to dispose of high-yield debt securities.

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Since the risk of default is higher for high-yield debt securities, Royce's research and credit analysis may play an important part in managing securities of this type for the Fund. In considering such investments for the Fund, Royce will attempt to identify those issuers of high-yield debt securities whose financial condition is adequate to meet future obligations, has improved or is expected to improve in the future. Royce's analysis may focus on relative values based on such factors as interest or dividend coverage, asset coverage, earnings prospects and the experience and managerial strength of the issuer.

The Fund may also invest in non-convertible debt securities in the lowest rated category of investment grade debt. Such securities may have speculative characteristics, and adverse changes in economic conditions or other circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity to make principal and interest payments than is the case with higher grade securities.

The Fund may also invest in higher rated investment grade non-convertible debt securities. Such securities include those rated Aaa by Moody's or AAA by S&P (which are considered to be of the highest credit quality and where the capacity to pay interest and repay principal is extremely strong), those rated Aa by Moody's or AA by S&P (where the capacity to repay principal is considered very strong, although elements may exist that make risks appear somewhat larger than expected with securities rated Aaa or AAA), securities rated A by Moody's or A by S&P (which are considered to possess adequate factors giving security to principal and interest) and securities rated Baa by Moody's or BBB by S&P (which are considered to have an adequate capacity to pay interest and repay principal, but may have some speculative characteristics).

The Fund may invest up to 10% of its assets in the securities of foreign issuers. (For purposes of this restriction, securities issued by a foreign domiciled company that are registered with the Commission under Section 12(b) or (g) of the Securities Exchange Act are not treated as securities of foreign issuers.) Foreign investments involve certain risks which typically are not present in securities of domestic issuers. There may be less information publicly available about a foreign company than a domestic company; foreign companies may not be subject to accounting, auditing and reporting standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to domestic companies; and foreign markets, brokers and issuers are generally subject to less extensive government regulation than their domestic counterparts. Markets for foreign securities may be less liquid and may be subject to greater price volatility than those for domestic securities. Foreign brokerage commissions and custodial fees are generally higher than those in the United States. Foreign markets also have different clearance and settlement procedures, and in certain markets there have been times when settlements have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, thereby making it difficult to conduct such transactions. Delays or problems with settlements might affect the liquidity of the Fund's portfolio. Foreign investments may also be subject to local economic and political risks, political, economic and social instability, military action or unrest or adverse diplomatic developments, and possible nationalization of issuers or expropriation of their assets, which might adversely affect the Fund's ability to realize on its investment in such securities. Royce may not be able to anticipate these potential events or counter their effects. Furthermore, some foreign securities are subject to brokerage taxes levied by foreign governments, which have the effect of increasing the cost of such investment and reducing the realized gain or increasing the realized loss on such securities at the time of sale. Foreign markets may also give less protection to investors such as the Fund.

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Although changes in foreign currency rates may adversely affect the Fund's foreign investments, Royce does not expect to purchase or sell foreign currencies for the Fund to hedge against declines in the U.S. dollar or to lock in the value of any foreign securities it purchases for the Fund. Consequently, the risks associated with such investments may be greater than if the Fund were to engage in foreign currency transactions for hedging purposes.

Exchange control regulations in such foreign markets may also adversely affect the Fund's foreign investments, and the Fund's ability to make certain distributions necessary to maintain its eligibility as a regulated investment company and avoid the imposition of income and excise taxes may, to that extent, be limited.

The considerations noted above are generally intensified for

investments in developing countries. Developing countries may have relatively unstable governments, economies based on only a few industries and securities markets that trade a small number of securities.

The Fund may purchase the securities of foreign companies in the form of American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"). ADRs are certificates held in trust by a bank or similar financial institution evidencing ownership of securities of a foreign-based issuer. Designed for use in U.S. securities markets, ADRs are alternatives to the purchase of the underlying foreign securities in their national markets and currencies.

Depositories may establish either unsponsored or sponsored ADR facilities. While ADRs issued under these two types of facilities are in some respects similar, there are distinctions between them relating to the rights and obligations of ADR holders and the practices of market participants. A depository may establish an unsponsored facility without participation by (or even necessarily the acquiescence of) the issuer of the deposited securities, although typically the depository requests a letter of non-objection from such issuer prior to the establishment of the facility. Holders of unsponsored ADRs generally bear all the costs of such facilities. The depository usually charges fees upon the deposit and withdrawal of the deposited securities, the conversion of dividends into U.S. dollars, the disposition of non-cash distributions and the performance of other services. The depository of an unsponsored facility frequently is under no obligation to distribute stockholder communications received from the issuer of the deposited securities or to pass through voting rights to ADR holders in respect of the deposited securities. Depositories create sponsored ADR facilities in generally the same manner as unsponsored facilities, except that the issuer of the deposited securities enters into a deposit agreement with the depository. The deposit agreement sets out the rights and responsibilities of the issuer, the depository and the ADR holders. With sponsored facilities, the issuer of the deposited securities generally will bear some of the costs relating to the facility (such as deposit and withdrawal fees). Under the terms of most sponsored arrangements, depositories agree to distribute notices of stockholder meetings and voting instructions and to provide stockholder communications and other information to the ADR holders at the request of the issuer of the deposited securities.

REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS

In a repurchase agreement, the Fund in effect makes a loan by purchasing a security and simultaneously committing to resell that security to the seller at an agreed upon price on an agreed upon date within a number of days (usually not more than seven) from the date of purchase. The resale price reflects the purchase price plus an agreed upon incremental amount which is unrelated to the coupon rate or maturity of the purchased security. A repurchase

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obligation is in effect secured by the value (at least equal to the amount of the agreed upon resale price and marked to market daily) of the underlying security.

The Fund may engage in repurchase agreements, provided that such agreements are collateralized by cash or securities issued by the U.S. Government or its agencies having a value at least equal to the amount loaned. Repurchase agreements could involve certain risks if the custodian defaults or becomes insolvent, including possible delays or restrictions upon the Fund's ability to dispose of collateral. While it does not presently appear possible to eliminate all risks from these transactions (particularly the possibility of a decline in the market value of the underlying securities, as well as delays and costs to the Fund in connection with bankruptcy proceedings), it is the policy of the Fund to enter into repurchase agreements only with its custodian, State Street Bank and Trust Company, and having a term of seven days or less.

WARRANTS, RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

The Fund may invest up to 5% of its assets in warrants, rights and options. A warrant, right or call option entitles the holder to purchase a given security within a specified period for a specified price and does not represent an ownership interest. A put option gives the holder the right to sell a particular security at a specified price during the term of the option. These securities have no voting rights, pay no dividends and have no liquidation rights. In addition, their market prices do not necessarily move parallel to the market prices of the underlying securities.

The sale of warrants, rights or options held for more than one year generally results in a long-term capital gain or loss to the Fund, and the sale of warrants, rights or options held for one year or less generally results in a short term capital gain or loss to the Fund. The holding period for securities acquired upon exercise of a warrant, right or call option, however, generally begins on the day after the date of exercise, regardless of how long the warrant, right or option was held. The securities underlying warrants, rights and options could include shares of common stock of a single company or securities market indices representing shares of the common stocks of a group of companies, such as the S&P 600.

Investing in warrants, rights and call options on a given security allows the Fund to hold an interest in that security without having to commit assets equal to the market price of the underlying security and, in the case of securities market indices, to participate in a market without having to purchase all of the securities comprising the index. Put options, whether on shares of common stock of a single company or on a securities market index, would permit the Fund to protect the value of a portfolio security against a decline in its market price and/or to benefit from an anticipated decline in the market price of a given security or of a market. Thus, investing in warrants, rights and options permits the Fund to incur additional risk and/or to hedge against risk.

The Fund may invest in other investment companies whose investment goals and policies are consistent with those of the Fund. In accordance with the 1940 Act, the Fund may invest up to 10% of its total assets in securities of other investment companies. In addition, under the 1940 Act the Fund may not own more than 3% of the total outstanding voting stock of any investment

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company and not more than 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets may be invested in securities of any one investment company. If the Fund acquires shares in investment companies, stockholders would bear both their proportionate share of expenses in the Fund (including advisory fees) and, indirectly, the expenses of such investment companies (including management and advisory fees).

INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The policies set forth below are fundamental policies of the Fund and may not be changed without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities, as indicated in the Prospectus under "Investment Goal, Policies and Risks -- Changes in Investment Goal and Policies". The Fund may not:

- 1. Issue any class of senior security, or sell any such security of which it is the issuer, except as permitted by the 1940 Act.
- 2. Purchase on margin or write call options on its portfolio securities.
- 3. Sell securities short.
- 4. Underwrite the securities of other issuers, or invest in restricted securities unless such securities are redeemable shares issued by money market funds registered under the 1940 Act.
- 5. Invest more than 25% of its total assets in any one industry.
- 6. Purchase or sell real estate or real estate mortgage loans, or invest in the securities of real estate companies unless such securities are publicly-traded.
- 7. Purchase or sell commodities or commodity contracts.
- 8. Make loans, except for (a) purchases of portions of issues of publicly distributed bonds, debentures and other securities, whether or not such purchases are made on the original issuance of such securities, (b) repurchase agreements with any bank that is the custodian of its

assets covering U.S. Treasury and agency obligations and having a term of not more than one week, and (c) except that the Fund may loan up to 25% of its assets to qualified brokers, dealers or institutions for their use relating to short sales or other security transactions (provided that such loans are secured by collateral equal at all times to at least 100% of the value of the securities loaned).

- 9. Invest in companies for the purpose of exercising control of management.
- 10. Purchase portfolio securities from or sell such securities directly to any of its officers, directors, employees or investment adviser, as principal for their own accounts.
- 11. Invest in the securities of any one issuer (other than the United States or any agency or instrumentality of the United States) if, at the time of acquisition, the Fund would own more than 10% of the voting securities of such issuer or, as to 75% of the

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Fund's total assets, more than 5% of such assets would be invested in the securities of such issuer.

12. Invest more than 5% of its total assets in warrants, rights or options.

If a percentage restriction is met at the time of investment, a later increase or decrease in percentage resulting from a change in values of portfolio securities or amount of total assets is not considered a violation of any of the above restrictions.

In addition to issuing and selling senior securities as set forth in No. 1 above, the Fund may obtain (i) temporary bank borrowings (not in excess of 5% of the value of its total assets) for emergency or extraordinary purposes and (ii) such short-term credits (not in excess of 5% of the value of its total assets) as are necessary for the clearance of securities transactions. Under the terms of the Cumulative Preferred Stock and the 1940 Act, such temporary bank borrowings would be treated as indebtedness in determining whether or not asset coverage was at least 300% for senior securities of the Fund representing indebtedness.

Although there are no liquidity restrictions on investments made by the Fund and the Fund may, therefore, invest without limit in illiquid securities, the Fund expects to invest only in securities for which market quotations are readily available.

The Fund has elected to be treated as a RIC, and has qualified and intends to continue to qualify for the special tax treatment afforded RICs under the Code. As long as it so qualifies, in any taxable year in which it distributes at least 90% of its investment company taxable income ("ICTI") (as that term is defined in the Code without regard to the deduction for dividends paid) for such taxable year, the Fund will not be subject to Federal income tax on the part of its ICTI and net capital gains (i.e., the excess of the Fund's net realized long-term capital gains over its net realized short-term capital losses), if any, that it distributes to its stockholders in each taxable year. The Fund intends to distribute substantially all of such income.

The Code requires RIC to pay a non-deductible 4% excise tax to the extent the RIC does not distribute, during each calendar year, 98% of its ordinary income, determined on a calendar year basis, and 98% of its capital gains, determined, in general, on an October 31 year end, plus 100% of undistributed amounts from previous years. For these purposes, the Fund will be deemed to have distributed any income or gains on which it paid corporate income tax. While the Fund intends to distribute its ordinary income and capital gains in the manner necessary to minimize imposition of the 4% excise tax, there can be no assurance that sufficient amounts of the Fund's ordinary income and capital gains will be distributed to avoid entirely the imposition of the tax. In such event, the Fund will be liable for the tax only on the amount by which it does not meet the foregoing distribution requirements.

In the opinion of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be treated as stock of the Fund for Federal income tax purposes and distributions with respect to such shares (other than distributions in redemption of the Cumulative Preferred Stock under section 302(b) of the Code) will constitute dividends to the extent of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits, as calculated for Federal income tax purposes.

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Nevertheless, the IRS might take a contrary position, asserting, for example, that the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock constitute debt of the Fund. The Fund believes this position, if asserted, would be unlikely to prevail. If this position were upheld, however, the discussion of the treatment of distributions below would not apply. Instead, distributions by the Fund to holders of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock would constitute taxable interest income, whether or not they exceeded the earnings and profits of the Fund. In such event, the designations of particular types of income, such as capital gains and qualified dividend income, as discussed below, would not be effective.

Dividends paid by the Fund from its ICTI (such dividends are referred to in this section as "ordinary income dividends") are taxable to stockholders as ordinary income (some of which may represent qualified dividend income,

taxable at a reduced rate, as discussed below) to the extent of the Fund's earnings and profits. Earnings and profits are treated as first being used to pay distributions on the Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock, and only the earnings and profits remaining after the distribution preference of the Fund's Preferred Stock has been satisfied are treated as being used to pay distributions on the Fund's Common Stock. Distributions made from net capital gains (including gains or losses from certain transactions in warrants, rights and options) and properly designated by the Fund (such distributions are referred to in this section as "capital gain dividends") are taxable to stockholders as long-term capital gains, regardless of the length of time the stockholder has owned Fund shares. Distributions in excess of the Fund's earnings and profits will first reduce the adjusted tax basis of a holder's shares and, after such adjusted tax basis is reduced to zero, will constitute capital gains to such holder (assuming the shares are held as a capital asset).

The Fund may elect to retain its net capital gains or a portion thereof for investment and be taxed at corporate rates on the amount retained. In such case, it may designate the retained amount as undistributed capital gains in a notice to its stockholders, who will be treated as if each received a distribution of his pro rata share of such gains, with the result that each stockholder will (i) be required to report his pro rata share of such gains on his tax return as long-term capital gain, (ii) receive a refundable tax credit for his pro rata share of tax paid by the Fund on the gains and (iii) increase the tax basis for his shares by an amount equal to the deemed distributions less the tax credit.

Gain or loss, if any, recognized on the sale or other disposition of shares of the Fund will be taxed as a capital gain or loss if the shares are capital assets in the stockholder's hands. Such gain or loss will be long-term or short-term, depending upon the stockholder's holding period for the shares. Generally, a stockholder's gain or loss will be a long-term gain or loss if the shares have been held for more than one year. Any loss realized upon the sale or exchange of Fund shares will be disallowed to the extent the shares disposed of are replaced within a period of 61 days beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after disposition of the original shares. In such case, the basis of the shares acquired will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss. Any loss realized upon the sale or exchange of Fund shares held for six months or less will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of any capital gain dividends received by the stockholder (or amounts credited to the stockholder as undistributed capital gains) with respect to such shares.

Under the 2003 Tax Act, Fund distributions comprised of dividends from domestic corporations and certain foreign corporations (generally, corporations incorporated in a possession of the United States, some corporations eligible for treaty benefits under a treaty with

the United States and corporations whose stock is readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States) are eligible for taxation at a maximum tax rate of 15% also applicable to capital gains in the hands of individual stockholders, provided holding period and other requirements are satisfied. Capital gain dividends likewise, are taxed at the reduced maximum rate of 15% for non-corporate taxpayers. The 15% income tax rate applicable to capital gains and qualified dividend income is scheduled to expire after December 31, 2008. After this date, absent extension or modification of the relevant legislative provisions, long-term capital gain dividends paid by the Fund generally will be taxable at the previously applicable maximum 20% rate and distributions attributable to qualified dividend income will be taxed to the stockholder at his or her marginal Federal income tax rate (which generally will be higher than 15%).

A portion of the Fund's ordinary income dividends may be eligible for the dividends received deduction ("DRD") allowed to corporations under the Code, if certain requirements are met. For these purposes, the Fund will allocate any dividends eligible and any other Preferred Stock for the DRD between the holders of Common Stock, Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock in proportion to the total dividends paid to each class during the taxable year, or otherwise as required by applicable law. A holder of shares of Cumulative Preferred stock (a) that is taxed as a corporation for Federal income tax purposes, (b) meets applicable holding period and taxable income requirements of section 246 of the Code, (c) is not subject to the "debt-financed portfolio stock" rules of section 246A of the Code with respect to an investment in the Fund and (d) is otherwise entitled to the DRD can claim a deduction equal to 70% of the dividends received on the Cumulative Preferred Stock which are designated by the Fund as qualifying for the DRD.

The IRS has taken the position in Revenue Ruling 89-81 that if a RIC has more than one class of shares, it may designate distributions made to each class in any year as consisting of no more than such class's proportionate share of particular types of income, such as long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income. A class's proportionate share of a particular type of income is determined according to the percentage of total dividends paid by the RIC during such year that was paid to such class. Consequently, the Fund will designate distributions made to the Common Stock and Cumulative Preferred Stock and any other Preferred Stock as consisting of particular types of income in accordance with the classes' proportionate shares of such income. The amount of long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income, and Other Ordinary Income allocable among the Cumulative Preferred Stock, other Preferred Stock, and the Common Stock will depend upon the amount of such long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income, and Other Ordinary Income realized by the Fund and the total dividends paid by the Fund on shares of Common Stock, Cumulative Preferred Stock and other Preferred Stock during a taxable year.

In the opinion of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, under current law, the manner in which the Fund intends to allocate long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income and Other Ordinary Income among shares of Common

Stock, Cumulative Preferred Stock and other Preferred Stock will be respected for Federal income tax purposes. However, there is currently no direct guidance from the IRS or other sources specifically addressing whether the Fund's method of allocation will be respected for Federal income tax purposes, and it is possible that the IRS could disagree with counsel's opinion and attempt to reallocate the Fund's long-term capital gains, qualified dividend income or Other Ordinary Income. Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP has advised the Fund that, in its opinion, if the IRS were to challenge in court the Fund's

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allocations, the IRS would be unlikely to prevail. The opinion of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, however, represents only its best legal judgment and is not binding on the IRS or courts.

Act or the Articles Supplementary, the Fund will be required to suspend distributions to the holders of the Common Stock until the asset coverage is restored. See "Description of Cumulative Preferred Stock -- Dividends" in the Prospectus. Such a suspension of distributions might prevent the Fund from distributing 90% of its ICTI, as is required in order to avoid Fund-level taxation of such income, or might prevent it from distributing enough ordinary income and capital gains to avoid completely imposition of the excise tax. Upon any failure to meet the asset coverage requirements of the 1940 Act or the Articles Supplementary, the Fund may, and in certain circumstances will be required to, partially redeem the shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock in order to maintain or restore the requisite asset coverage and avoid the adverse consequences to the Fund and its stockholders of failing to qualify as a RIC. If asset coverage were restored, the Fund would again be able to pay dividends and might be able to avoid Fund-level taxation of its income.

Qualification as a RIC requires, among other things, that at least 90% of the Fund's gross income in each taxable year consist of certain types of income, including dividends, interest, gains from the disposition of stocks and securities and other investment-type income. In addition, the Fund's investments must meet certain diversification standards. If the Fund were unable to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement or otherwise were to fail to qualify to be taxed as a RIC in any year, it would be subject to tax in such year on all of its taxable income, whether or not the Fund made any distributions. To qualify again to be taxed as a RIC in a subsequent year, the Fund would be required to distribute to Cumulative Preferred Stockholders and Common Stockholders as an ordinary income dividend, its earnings and profits attributable to non-RIC years reduced by an interest charge on 50% of such earnings and profits payable by the Fund to the IRS. In addition, if the Fund failed to qualify as a RIC for a period greater than one taxable year, the Fund would be required to recognize and pay tax on any net built-in gains (the excess of aggregate gains, including items of income, over aggregate losses that would have been realized if the Fund had been liquidated) or, alternatively, to elect to be subject to taxation on

such built-in-gains recognized for a period of 10 years, in order to qualify as a RIC in a subsequent year.

The Fund may invest in debt obligations purchased at a discount with the result that the Fund may be required to accrue income (and to distribute such income in accordance with the distribution requirements of the Code) for Federal income tax purposes before amounts due under the obligations are paid. The Fund may also invest in securities rated in the medium to lower rating categories of nationally recognized rating organizations, and in unrated securities ("high yield securities"). A portion of the interest payments on such high yield securities may be treated as dividends for Federal income tax purposes.

Certain transactions of the Fund are subject to complex federal income tax provisions that may, among other things, a) affect the character of gains and losses realized, b) disallow, suspend or otherwise limit the allowance of certain losses or deductions, and c) accelerate the recognition of income. Operation of these rules could, therefore, affect the character, amount and timing of distributions to stockholders. The Fund will monitor its transactions and may make certain tax elections in order to mitigate the effect of these provisions.

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Foreign currency gains or losses from certain debt instruments or arising from delays between accrual and receipt of investment income will generally be treated as ordinary income or loss, and will therefore generally increase or decrease the amount of the Fund's net investment income available for distribution as ordinary income dividends. If substantial in relation to net investment income, such foreign currency losses could affect the ability of the Fund to distribute ordinary income dividends in a taxable year, and could require all or a portion of distributions made before the losses were realized, but in the same taxable year, to be recharacterized as a return of capital.

If the Fund invests in stock of a passive foreign investment company ("PFIC"), it may be subject to Federal income tax at ordinary rates and an additional charge in the nature of interest, on a portion of its distributions from the PFIC and on gain from the disposition of the shares of the PFIC, even if such distributions and gain are paid by the Fund as a dividend to its stockholders. In some cases, the Fund may be able to elect to include annually in income its pro rata share of the ordinary earnings and capital gains (whether or not distributed) of the PFIC. Alternatively, the Fund could elect to mark to market at the end of each taxable year its shares in PFICs; in this case, the Fund would recognize as ordinary income any increase in the value of such shares, and as ordinary loss any decrease in such value to the extent it did not exceed prior increases included in income. Under either election, the Fund might be required to recognize in a year income in excess of its distributions from PFICs and its proceeds from dispositions of PFIC stock during that year.

Dividends paid by PFICs will not qualify as qualified dividend income eligible for taxation at reduced rates under the 2003 Tax Act.

Under certain provisions of the Code, some stockholders may be subject to a withholding tax (28% for 2003) on ordinary income dividends, capital gain dividends and redemption payments ("backup withholding"). A stockholder, however, may generally avoid becoming subject to this requirement by filing an appropriate form with the payor (i.e., the financial institution or brokerage firm where the stockholder maintains his or her account), certifying under penalties of perjury that such stockholder's taxpayer identification number is correct and that such stockholder (i) has never been notified by the IRS that he or she is subject to backup withholding, (ii) has been notified by the IRS that he or she is no longer subject to backup withholding, or (iii) is exempt from backup withholding. Corporate stockholders and certain other stockholders are exempt from backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from payments made to a stockholder may be refunded or credited against such stockholder's Federal income tax liability, provided the required information is furnished to the IRS.

Ordinary income dividends (but not capital gain dividends) paid to stockholders who are non-resident aliens or foreign entities generally will be subject to a 30% United States withholding tax under existing provisions of the Code applicable to foreign individuals and entities unless a reduced rate of withholding or a withholding exemption is provided under applicable treaty law. However, if ordinary income dividends or capital gain dividends received by a non-resident stockholder are effectively connected with the conduct by such stockholder of a trade or business in the United States, the dividends will be subject to United States federal income tax at regular income tax rates. Non-resident stockholders are urged to consult their own tax advisers concerning the applicability of the United States withholding and income taxes.

Dividends and interest received by the Fund may give rise to withholding and other taxes imposed by foreign countries. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States

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may reduce or eliminate such taxes. Stockholders generally will not be entitled to claim a credit or deduction with respect to such taxes paid by the Fund.

Under recently promulgated Treasury regulations, if a stockholder recognizes a loss on the disposition of shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock of \$2 million or more for an individual stockholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate stockholder in any single taxable year (or a greater loss over a combination of years), the stockholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Stockholders should consult their tax advisers

to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

The foregoing is a general and abbreviated summary of the applicable provisions of the Code and Treasury regulations presently in effect and discusses some of the consequences under Federal tax law of an investment in Cumulative Preferred Stock of the Fund. For the complete provisions, reference should be made to the pertinent Code sections and the Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder. The Code and the Treasury regulations are subject to change by legislative, judicial or administrative action, either prospectively or retroactively. The discussion above is not a substitute for personal tax advice. Distributions may also be subject to additional state, local and foreign taxes, depending on each stockholder's particular situation. Stockholders are advised to consult their own tax advisers with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Cumulative Preferred Stock.

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PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS

As of September 2, 2003, there were 48,820,752.5593 shares of Common Stock and 6,400,000 shares of Preferred Stock of the Fund outstanding. The following persons were known to the Fund to be beneficial owners or owners of record of 5% or more of its outstanding shares of Common Stock or Preferred Stock as of the date above:

AMOUNT AND
NATURE
PERCENT OF
NAME AND
ADDRESS OF
OWNER
CLASS/SERIES
OF STOCK OF
OWNERSHIP
CLASS/SERIES

Cede & Co.*
Common Stock

47,045,920 shares--Record 96.36% Depository Trust Company P.O. Box #20 Bowling Green Station New York, NY 10028 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock 2,378,516 shares--Record 99.10% 7.30% Tax-Advantaged 3,975,000 shares--Record 99.37% Cumulative

+ Q1 1 1 1 1

Preferred Stock

* Shares held by brokerage firms, banks and other financial intermediaries on behalf of beneficial owners are registered in the name of Cede & Co.

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DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The Board of Directors of the Fund is comprised of the eight individuals named below. Two of the Directors, William L. Koke and David L. Meister, are elected annually by the holders of Preferred Stock, voting as a separate class. The remaining six Directors are divided into three classes and are elected by the holders of Common Stock and Preferred Stock, voting together

as a single class. The Class I Directors, Charles M. Royce and G. Peter O'Brien, have terms that expire in 2006; the Class II Directors, Mark R. Fetting and Richard M. Galkin, have terms that expire in 2004; and the Class III Directors, Donald R. Dwight and Stephen L. Isaacs, have terms that expire in 2005. To the extent permitted by the 1940 Act and Maryland law, vacancies on the Board can be filled by the remaining Directors for the remainder of the term of the respective Board position.

There are no family relationships between any of the Fund's Directors and officers. Each Director will hold office until his term expires and his successor has been duly elected and qualifies or until his earlier resignation or removal. Each of the Fund's Directors is also a director/trustee of the other management investment companies comprising "The Royce Funds", which have seventeen portfolios.

DIRECTORS

Interested Directors. Certain biographical and other information concerning the Directors who are "interested persons" as defined in the 1940 Act, of the Fund, including their designated classes, is set forth below. Officers are elected by and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. Each officer will hold office for the year ending December 31, 2003, and thereafter until his respective successor is duly elected and qualifies.

TERM OF NUMBER OF OTHER PUBLIC OFFICE AND ROYCE FUNDS' COMPANY NAME, AGE AND POSITION(S) LENGTH OF PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS DURING PORTFOLIOS DIRECTORSHIPS ADDRESS* WITH THE FUND TIME SERVED PAST FIVE YEARS OVERSEEN HELD BY DIRECTOR

--- Charles M. Royce** Class I Director Term as Director President, Chief Investment 18 None (63) and President expires 2006; Officer and Member of Board of Director and Managers of Royce; and Officer since President of The Royce Funds. 1986 Mark R. Fetting** Class II Director Term as Director Executive Vice President of 18 Director/Trustee (48) expires 2004; Legg Mason; Member of Board of of registered Director since Managers of Royce; and Division investment 2001 President and Senior Officer of companies Prudential Financial Group, constituting the Inc. and related companies, 22 Legg Mason including Fund Boards and Funds consulting services to subsidiary companies (from 1991 to 2000).

Mr. Fetting's
prior business
experience also
includes having
served as
Partner,
Greenwich
Associates, and
Vice President,
T. Rowe Price
Group, Inc.

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Non-Interested Directors. Certain biographical and other information concerning the Fund Directors who are not "interested persons," as defined in the 1940 Act, of the Fund, including their designated classes, is set forth below. Each non-interested Director is also a member of the Fund's audit committee.

TERM OF NUMBER OF
OTHER PUBLIC
OFFICE AND ROYCE
FUNDS' COMPANY
NAME, AGE AND
POSITION(S) LENGTH
OF PRINCIPAL
OCCUPATIONS DURING
PORTFOLIOS
DIRECTORSHIPS
ADDRESS* WITH THE
FUND TIME SERVED
PAST FIVE YEARS
OVERSEEN HELD BY
DIRECTOR -----

^{*} Mr. Royce's address is c/o Royce, 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019. Mr. Fetting's address is c/o Legg Mason, 100 Light Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

^{**} Messrs. Royce and Fetting are "interested persons" of the Fund within the meaning of Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act due to the positions they hold with Royce and for Mr. Fetting, Legg Mason, and their ownership in Legg Mason.

Donald R. Dwight Class III Term as President of Dwight 18 None (72) Director Director Partners, Inc., corporate expires 2005; communications Director consultants; and Chairman since 1998 (from 1982 until March 1998) of Newspapers New England, Inc. Mr. Dwight's prior experience includes having served as Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, President and Publisher of Minneapolis Star and Tribune Company and as Trustee of the registered investment companies constituting the 94 Eaton Vance Funds. Richard M. Galkin Class II Term as Private investor. Mr. 18 None (65) Director Director Galkin's prior business of expires 2004; Richard M. Galkin Director Associates, Inc., since 1986 telecommunications

consultants, President of Manhattan Cable Television (a subsidiary of Time Inc.), President of Haverhills Inc. (another Time Inc. subsidiary), President of Rhode Island Cable Television and Senior Vice President of Satellite Television Corp. (a subsidiary of Comsat). Stephen L. Isaacs Class III Term as President of The Center 18 None (63) Director Director for Health and Social expires 2005; Policy (since September Director 1996); Attorney and since 1986 President of Health Policy Associates, Inc., consultants. Mr. Isaacs' prior experience includes having served as Director of Columbia University Development Law and Policy Program and Professor at Columbia University. William L. Koke Director elected Term as Financial planner with 18 None (68) by

Preferred Director Shoreline Financial Stockholders expires Consultants. Mr. Koke's annually; prior business experience Director includes having served as since 2001 Director of Financial Relations of SONAT, Inc., Treasurer of Ward Foods, Inc. and President of CFC, Inc.

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TERM OF NUMBER OF OTHER PUBLIC OFFICE AND ROYCE FUNDS' COMPANY NAME, AGE AND POSITION(S) LENGTH OF PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS DURING PORTFOLIOS DIRECTORSHIPS ADDRESS* WITH THE FUND TIME SERVED PAST FIVE YEARS OVERSEEN HELD BY DIRECTOR -- -------- David L.

Meister Director elected Term as Chairman and Chief 18 None (63) by Preferred Director Executive Officer of The Stockholders expires Tennis Channel (since June annually; 2000); and Chief Executive Director Officer of Seniorlife.com since 1986 (from December 1999 to May 2000). Mr. Meister's prior business experience includes having served as a consultant to the communications industry, President of Financial News Network, Senior Vice President of HBO, President of Time-Life Films and Head of Broadcasting for Major League Baseball. G. Peter O'Brien** Class I Term as Trustee of Colgate 18 Director/Trustee of (57) Director Director University, President of the

registered expires 2006; Hill House, Inc. and investment companies Director Managing Director/Equity constituting the 22 since 2001 Capital Markets Group of Legg Mason Funds; Merrill Lynch & Co. (from Director of 1971 to 1999). Renaissance Capital Greenwich Fund.

OFFICERS

Certain biographical and other information concerning the other officers of the Fund is set forth below. Officers are elected by and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. Each officer will hold office for the year ending December 31, 2003, and thereafter until his respective successor is duly elected and qualified.

TERM OF OFFICE
POSITION(S)
AND LENGTH OF
PRINCIPAL
OCCUPATIONS
DURING NAME,
AGE AND
ADDRESS* WITH
THE FUND TIME

^{*} Messrs. Dwight, Galkin, Isaacs, Koke, Meister and O'Brien's address is c/o Royce, 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019.

^{**} Solely as a result of his ownership of securities of one of the underwriters, Mr. O'Brien is technically an "interested person," as defined in the 1940 Act, of the Fund until after the completion of the Cumulative Preferred Stock offering. After completion of the offering, he will be a non-interested Director.

SERVED PAST FIVE YEARS ------- John D. Diederich (52) Vice President, Officer since 2001 Member of Board of Managers, Chief Director of Operating Officer (since October Administration and 2001), Chief Financial Officer Treasurer (since March 2002) and Managing Director of Royce; Vice President, Treasurer and Director of Administration of the other Royce Funds; and President of Royce Fund Services, Inc. Jack E. Fockler, Jr. (44) Vice President Officer since 1995 Managing Director and Vice President of Royce; Vice President of

The Royce Funds. W. Whitney George (45) Vice President Officer since 1995 Managing Director and Vice President of Royce; and Vice President of The Royce Funds. Daniel A. O'Byrne (41) Vice President and Officer since 1994 Principal and Vice President of Royce; and Vice President of Assistant Secretary The Royce Funds. John E. Denneen (36) Secretary and Officer from 1996 to General Counsel of Royce (Deputy General Counsel 2001 and since April General Counsel prior to 2003); Principal,

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TERM OF OFFICE POSITION(S) AND LENGTH

Chief Legal

OF PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS DURING NAME, AGE AND ADDRESS* WITH THE FUND TIME SERVED PAST FIVE YEARS -- 2002 and Compliance Officer and Secretary of Royce (since March 2002); Secretary of The Royce Funds (1996-2001 and since April 2002); Associate General Counsel, Principal and Chief Compliance Officer of Royce (1996-2001); and Principal of Credit Suisse First Boston Private

Equity	7
(2001-	-
2002)	

OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Information relating to each Director's share ownership in the Fund and in The Royce Funds as of December 31, 2002 is set forth in the tables below.

Aggregate Dollar Range of Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Name Equity Securities in the Fund Securities in The Rovce Funds -----Interested Directors Charles M. Royce..... Over \$100,000 Over \$100,000 Mark R. Fetting..... None* Over \$100,000 Non-Interested Directors Donald Dwight..... \$1-\$10,000 Over \$100,000 Richard M. Galkin..... \$1-\$10,000 Over \$100,000 Stephen L. Isaacs..... \$10,001-\$50,000 \$10,001-\$50,000** William L. Koke\$50,001-\$100,000 Over \$100,000 David L. Meister.... None Over \$100,000 G. Peter O'Brien.....

\$10,001-\$50,000 Over \$100,000

^{*} The address of each officer is c/o Royce, 1414 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10019.

^{*} As of the date of this Statement of Additional Information, the aggregate

dollar range of equity securities in the Fund held by Mr. Fetting was \$10,001-\$50,000.

** As of the date of this Statement of Additional Information, the aggregate dollar amount of equity securities in The Royce Funds held by Mr. Isaacs was over \$100,000.

As of the date of this Statement of Additional Information, all Directors and officers of the Fund as a group owned less than 1% of the Fund's outstanding Common Stock and Preferred Stock. As of the date of this Statement of Additional Information, none of the non-interested Directors of the Fund nor any of their immediate family members owned beneficially or of record any securities issued by Legg Mason or any of its affiliates (other than registered investment companies).

BOARD COMMITTEES AND MEETINGS

The Board of Directors has an Audit Committee, comprised of Donald R. Dwight, Richard M. Galkin, Stephen L. Isaacs, William L. Koke, David L. Meister and G. Peter O'Brien. The Audit Committee is responsible for, among other things, the appointment, compensation, and oversight of the work of the Fund's independent accountants including the resolution of disagreements regarding financial reporting between Fund management and such independent accountants. The Fund has adopted an Audit Committee charter. Mr. Galkin serves as Chairman of the Audit Committee. The members of the Audit Committee are "independent" within the meaning of the 1940 Act and the New York Stock Exchange corporate governance standards for

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audit committees. The Fund's Audit Committee held three meetings during the year ended December 31, 2002. Although the Board of Directors does not have a standing compensation committee or a nominating committee, the non-interested Directors review and nominate candidates to serve as non-interested Directors. The non-interested Directors generally will not consider nominees recommended by stockholders of the Fund.

COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS AND CERTAIN OFFICERS

For the year ended December 31, 2002, the following Directors of the Fund received compensation from the Fund and The Royce Funds, as follows:

Aggregate Pension or Retirement Estimated Total Compensation Compensation Benefits Accrued as Annual Benefits from The Royce Funds Name from Fund Part of Fund Expenses upon Retirement paid to Directors --_____ _____ Donald R. Dwight, \$15,000 None None \$65,250 Director(1) Richard M. Galkin, \$15,000 None None \$65,250 Director(2) Stephen L. Isaacs, \$15,000 None None \$65,250 Director William L. Koke, \$15,000 None None \$65,250 Director David L. Meister, \$15,000 None None \$65,250 Director G.
Peter
O'Brien,
\$15,000 None
None \$65,250
Director

- (1) Includes \$2,250 from the Fund (\$9,562.50 from the Fund and other Royce Funds) deferred during 2002 at the election of Mr. Dwight under The Royce Funds' Deferred Compensation Plan for Trustees/Directors.
- (2) Includes \$15,000 from the Fund (\$63,750 from the Fund and other Royce Funds) deferred during 2002 at the election of Mr. Galkin under The Royce Funds' Deferred Compensation Plan for Trustees/Directors.

DIRECTORS' CONSIDERATION OF INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT

The Board of Directors determined at meetings held on June 4 and 5, 2003, to approve the continuance of the current Investment Advisory Agreement relating to the Fund. In making their determination, the Directors considered a wide range of information of the type they regularly consider when determining whether to continue a fund's advisory arrangements as in effect from year to year. In its consideration of the current Investment Advisory Agreement, the Board of Directors focused on information it had received relating to, among other things: (a) the nature, quality and extent of the advisory and other services to be provided to the Fund by Royce, (b) comparative data with respect to advisory fees paid by other funds with similar investment objectives, (c) the operating expenses and expense ratio of the Fund compared to funds with similar investment objectives, (d) the performance of the Fund as compared to such comparable funds, including risk-adjusted performance information prepared by Morningstar Inc., (e) the relative profitability of the arrangements to Royce, (f) information about the services

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to be performed and the personnel performing such services under the current Investment Advisory Agreement, (g) the general reputation and financial resources of Royce and Legg Mason, (h) compensation payable by the Fund to affiliates of Royce for other services and (i) Royce's practices regarding the selection and compensation of brokers that execute portfolio transactions for the Fund and the brokers' provision of brokerage and research services to Royce.

In particular, the Board of Directors compared the investment advisory fee rate, the annual net expense ratio, and the risk-adjusted investment

performance of the Fund to a peer group selected by Morningstar and consisting of 11 other funds with substantially similar investment objectives and policies plus funds in Morningstar's small-cap value category. As set forth in the Prospectus under the heading "Investment Advisory and Other Services - Advisory Fee," Royce is entitled to receive the Basic Fee of 1% per annum of the Fund's average net assets (including assets obtained from the sale of Preferred Stock) and an adjustment to the Basic Fee based on the investment performance of the Fund in relation to the investment record of the S&P 600. A rolling period of 60 months ending with the most recent calendar month is utilized for measuring performance and average net assets, as described below. The Basic Fee for each such month will be increased or decreased at the rate of 1/12 of .05% per percentage point, depending on the extent, if any, by which the investment performance of the Fund exceeds by more than two percentage points, or is exceeded by more than two percentage points by, the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 for the performance period.

With respect to investment advisory fee rates, the Board of Directors noted that the Basic Fee was equal to the peer group average. Although the Fund paid a higher investment advisory fee rate than any other fund in the peer group, the Board of Directors noted that the amounts paid in excess of the peer group average were due to the Fund's outperformance of the S&P 600. The Board of Directors believes that the performance adjustment feature serves as an appropriate incentive for Royce to manage the Fund's portfolio to the best of its abilities for the benefit of the Fund's stockholders. The Board of Directors also considered the following to be positive factors: (a) Royce is not entitled to receive an investment advisory fee for any month when the investment performance of the Fund for the rolling 36-month period ending with such month is negative on an absolute basis, and (b) Royce volunteered to waive the portion of its investment advisory fee attributable to the liquidation preferences of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred for any month when the Fund's net asset value average annual total return since the initial issuances of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred failed to exceed the blended dividend rate on those assets. With respect to annual net expense ratios, even with the performance adjustment feature described above, the Board of Directors observed that the Fund's annual net expense ratio on total net assets (which includes assets attributable to the liquidation preferences of the 7.80% Preferred and the 7.30% Preferred) was lower than three of the funds in the peer group and lower than the average for funds in Morningstar's small-cap value category.

Because the Fund uses a risk-averse approach to investing, the Board of Directors believed that risk-adjusted performance continued to be an appropriate measure of the Fund's investment performance. On this basis, the Fund placed at or near the mean for the one, three and five-year periods among the peer group, but well in excess of the Russell 2000 Index and the S&P 600 for the longer-term periods. For the five-year period, the Fund's risk-adjusted investment performance was in the first quartile of funds in Morningstar's small-cap value category.

After its review of the above-described matters, the Board of Directors approved the continuation of the Investment Advisory Agreement between the Fund and Royce. The Board of Directors was advised by separate legal counsel in connection with its review of the investment advisory arrangements of the Fund.

INFORMATION CONCERNING ROYCE

On October 1, 2001, Royce became an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason. On March 31, 2002, Royce's corporate predecessor was merged into Royce Holdings, LLC (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason), which then changed its name to Royce & Associates, LLC. As a result of this merger, Royce & Associates, LLC became the Fund's investment adviser and a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason.

CODE OF ETHICS AND RELATED MATTERS

Royce and the Fund have adopted a Code of Ethics under which directors (other than non-management directors), officers and employees of Royce ("Royce-related persons") and interested trustees/directors, officers and employees of the Fund are generally prohibited from personal trading in any security which is then being purchased or sold or considered for purchase or sale by the Fund or any other Royce account. The Code of Ethics permits such persons to engage in other personal securities transactions if (i) the securities involved are certain debt securities, money market instruments, shares of registered open-end investment companies or shares acquired from an issuer in a rights offering or under an automatic dividend reinvestment or employer-sponsored automatic payroll deduction cash purchase plan, (ii) the transactions are either non-volitional or are effected in an account over which such person has no direct or indirect influence or control or (iii) they first obtain permission to trade from Royce's Compliance Officer and either an executive officer or Senior Portfolio Manager of Royce. The Code contains standards for the granting of such permission, and permission to trade will usually be granted only in accordance with such standards.

Royce's clients include several private investment companies in which Royce, Royce-related persons and/or other Legg Mason affiliates have (and, therefore, may be deemed to beneficially own) a share of up to 15% of the company's realized and unrealized net capital gains from securities transactions, but less than 25% of the company's equity interests. The Code of Ethics does not restrict transactions effected by Royce for such private investment company accounts, and transactions for such accounts are subject to Royce's allocation policies and procedures. See "Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices".

The Code of Ethics can be reviewed and copied at the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the

Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the Commission at 1-202-942-8090. The Code of Ethics is available on the EDGAR Database on the Commission's Internet site at http://www.sec.gov. Copies of the Code of Ethics may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following E-mail address: publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the Commission's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

As of June 30, 2003, Royce-related persons, interested trustees/directors, officers and employees of The Royce Funds and members of their immediate families beneficially owned

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shares of The Royce Funds having a total value of over \$48.2 million, and such persons beneficially owned equity interests in Royce-related private investment companies totaling approximately \$9.9 million.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

ADVISORY FEE

For the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, Royce received investment advisory fees from the Fund of \$10,024,212, \$9,410,553 and \$7,342,211 (net of \$665,068, \$249,670 and \$505,624 voluntarily waived by Royce), respectively.

OTHER

The Investment Advisory Agreement provides that the Fund may use "Royce" as part of its name only for as long as the Investment Advisory Agreement remains in effect. The name "Royce" is a property right of Royce, and it may at any time permit others, including other investment entities, to use such name.

The Investment Advisory Agreement protects and indemnifies Royce against liability to the Fund, its stockholders or others for any action taken or omitted to be taken by Royce in connection with the performance of any of its duties or obligations under Investment Advisory Agreement or otherwise as an investment adviser to the Fund. However, Royce is not protected or indemnified against liabilities to which it would otherwise be subject by reason of willful malfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of its reckless disregard of its duties and obligations under the Investment Advisory Agreement.

Royce's services to the Fund are not deemed to be exclusive, and Royce or any of its affiliates may provide similar services to other investment companies and other clients or engage in other activities.

The Investment Advisory Agreement will remain in effect until June 30, 2004 and may be continued in effect from year to year thereafter if such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board of Directors or by the vote of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities and, in either case, by a majority of the directors who are not parties to the Agreement or interested persons of any such party. The Investment Advisory Agreement will automatically terminate if it is assigned (as defined by the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder) and may be terminated without penalty by vote of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities or by either party thereto on not less than 60 days' written notice.

SERVICE CONTRACT WITH STATE STREET

State Street Bank and Trust Company ("State Street"), the custodian of the Fund's assets, provides certain management-related services to the Fund. Such services include keeping books of accounts and rendering such financial and other statements as may be requested by the Fund from time to time generally assisting in the preparation of reports to the Fund's stockholders, to the Commission and others and in the auditing of accounts and in other ministerial matters of like nature, as agreed to between the Fund and State Street. For the fiscal years ended December

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31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, the Fund paid \$213,265, \$235,710 and \$218,247 in fees to the Fund's custodian and transfer agent.

BROKERAGE ALLOCATION AND OTHER PRACTICES

Royce is responsible for selecting the brokers who effect the purchases and sales of the Fund's portfolio securities. No broker is selected to effect a securities transaction for the Fund unless such broker is believed by Royce to be capable of obtaining the best price for the security involved in the transaction. Best price and execution is comprised of several factors, including the liquidity of the security, the commission charged, the promptness and reliability of execution, priority accorded the order and other factors affecting the overall benefit obtained. In addition to considering a broker's execution capability, Royce generally considers the brokerage and research services which the broker has provided to it, including any research relating to the security involved in the transaction and/or to other securities. Such services may include general economic research, market and statistical information, industry and technical research, strategy and company research and performance measurement, and may be written or oral. Brokers that provide both research and execution services are generally paid higher commissions than those paid to brokers who do not provide such research and execution services. Royce determines the overall reasonableness of brokerage commissions paid, after

considering the amount another broker might have charged for effecting the transaction and the value placed by Royce upon the brokerage and/or research services provided by such broker, viewed in terms of either that particular transaction or Royce's overall responsibilities with respect to its accounts.

Royce is authorized, under Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act and under its Investment Advisory Agreement with the Fund, to pay a broker a commission in excess of that which another broker might have charged for effecting the same transaction, in recognition of the value of brokerage and research services provided by the broker.

Brokerage and research services furnished by brokers through whom the Fund effects securities transactions may be used by Royce in servicing all of its accounts, and not all of such services may be used by Royce in connection with the Fund.

Even though investment decisions for the Fund are made independently from those for the other accounts managed by Royce, securities of the same issuer are frequently purchased, held or sold by more than one Royce account because the same security may be suitable for all of them. When the same security is being purchased or sold for more than one Royce account on the same trading day, Royce may seek to average the transactions as to price and allocate them as to amount in a manner believed to be equitable to each. Such purchases and sales of the same security are generally effected pursuant to Royce's Trade Allocation Guidelines and Procedures. Under such Guidelines and Procedures, unallocated orders are placed with and executed by broker-dealers during the trading day. The securities purchased or sold in such transactions are then allocated to one or more of Royce's accounts at or shortly following the close of trading, using the average net price obtained. Such allocations are done based on a number of judgmental factors that Royce believes should result in fair and equitable treatment to those of its accounts for which the securities may be deemed suitable. In some cases, this procedure may adversely affect the price paid or received by the Fund or the size of the position obtained for the Fund. In addition, from time to time, certain other Royce accounts managed by Royce portfolio managers

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other than Charles M. Royce, may establish short positions in securities in which the Fund has a long position.

The Fund may effect brokerage transactions on a securities exchange with Legg Mason Wood Walker, Incorporated ("Legg Mason Wood Walker") and any other affiliated broker-dealers in accordance with the procedures and requirements set forth in Rule 17e-1 under the 1940 Act. Any such transactions would involve the use of the affiliated broker-dealer for execution purposes only and/or for locating the purchasers or sellers involved in the transaction. The affiliated broker-dealer would not be compensated because of any other

research-related service or product provided or to be provided by it and may not be used to effect brokerage transactions in Nasdaq or other over-the-counter securities. Although the Fund will not effect any principal transactions with any affiliated broker-dealers, they may purchase securities that are offered in certain underwritings in which an affiliated broker-dealer is a participant in accordance with the procedures and requirements set forth in Rule 10f-3 under the 1940 Act. Charles M. Royce and/or trusts primarily for the benefit of members of his family may own or acquire substantial amounts of Legg Mason common stock.

During the year ended December 31, 2002, the Fund did not acquire any securities of any of its regular brokers (as defined in Rule 10b-1 under the 1940 Act) or of any of their parents.

During each of the three years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, the Fund paid brokerage commissions of approximately \$1,043,502, \$601,519 and \$694,788, respectively. Since October 1, 2001, when Royce became an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason, the Fund paid no brokerage commissions to Legg Mason Wood Walker or to any other affiliates of Legg Mason.

PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

In June 2003, in response to rules adopted by the Commission, Royce adopted written proxy voting policies and procedures (the "Proxy Voting Procedures") for itself, the Fund, and all The Royce Funds and clients accounts for which Royce is responsible for voting proxies. The Board of Directors of the Fund has delegated all proxy voting decisions to Royce. In voting proxies, Royce is guided by general fiduciary principles. Royce's goal is to act prudently, solely in the best interest of the beneficial owners of the accounts it manages. Royce attempts to consider all factors of its vote that could affect the value of the investment and will vote proxies in the manner it believes will be consistent with efforts to enhance and/or protect stockholder value.

Royce personnel are responsible for monitoring receipt of all proxies and ensuring that proxies are received for all securities for which Royce has proxy voting responsibility. Royce divides proxies into "regularly recurring" and "non-regularly recurring" matters. Examples of regularly recurring matters include non-contested elections of directors and non-contested approvals of independent auditors. Regularly recurring matters are usually voted as recommended by the issuer's board of directors or management. Non-regularly recurring matters are brought to the attention of portfolio manager(s) for the applicable account(s) and, after giving consideration to advisories provided by an independent third party research firm, the portfolio manager(s) directs that such matters be voted in a way that he believes should better protect or enhance the value of the investment. If the portfolio manager determines that

information relating to a proxy requires additional analysis, is missing, or is incomplete, the portfolio manager will give the proxy to an analyst or another portfolio manager for review and analysis. Under certain circumstances, Royce may vote against a proposal from the issuer's board of directors or management. Royce's portfolio managers decide these issues on a case-by-case basis. A Royce portfolio manager may, on occasion, decide to abstain from voting a proxy or a specific proxy item when such person concludes that the potential benefit of voting is outweighed by the cost or when it is not in the client's best interest to vote.

In furtherance of Royce's goal to vote proxies in the best interests of its clients, Royce follows specific procedures outlined in the Proxy Voting Procedures to identify, assess and address material conflicts that may arise between Royce's interests and those of its clients before voting proxies on behalf of such clients. In the event such a material conflict of interest is identified, the proxy will be voted by Royce in accordance with the recommendation given by an independent third party research firm.

NET ASSET VALUE

The net asset value ("NAV") of the Fund's shares of Common Stock is calculated as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (generally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) every day that the NYSE is open. The Fund makes this information available daily by telephone (800-221-4268) and via its web site (www.roycefunds.com) and through electronic distribution for media publication, including major internet-based financial services web sites and portals (bloomberg.com, yahoo.com, cbsmarketwatch.com, etc.). Currently, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times and Barron's publish NAVs for closed-end investment companies weekly.

The NAV per share of the Fund's Common Stock is calculated by dividing the current value of the Fund's total assets less the sum of all of its liabilities and the aggregate liquidation preferences of its outstanding shares of Preferred Stock, by the total number of outstanding shares of Common Stock. The Fund's investments are valued based on market value or, if market quotations are not readily available, at their fair value as determined in good faith under procedures established by the Fund's Board of Directors.

For the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, the Fund's portfolio turnover rates were 35%, 30% and 36%, respectively.

BOOK-ENTRY SYSTEM

Shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will initially be held in the name of Cede & Co. ("Cede"), as nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"). The Fund will treat Cede as the holder of record of the Cumulative Preferred Stock for all purposes. In accordance with the procedures of DTC, however, purchasers of Cumulative Preferred Stock will be deemed the beneficial owners of shares

purchased for purposes of dividends, voting and liquidation rights. The Cumulative Preferred Stock will be held in book-entry only form. Shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock will not be delivered in certificated form to individual purchasers thereof. The laws of some jurisdictions require that certain purchasers of Cumulative Preferred Stock take physical delivery of such securities in certificated form. Such limits and laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock.

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DTC has provided the Fund with the following information: DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the United States Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a "clearing corporation" registered under Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. DTC holds securities that its participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among Direct Participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through computerized records for Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need to exchange certificates. Direct Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations.

Other organizations, such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that work through a Direct Participant, also use DTC's book-entry system. The rules that apply to DTC and its participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

A number of Direct Participants, together with the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., The American Stock Exchange LLC and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., own DTC.

DTC's ability to perform properly its services is also dependent upon other parties, including, but not limited to, issuers and their agents, as well as DTC's participants, third party vendors from whom DTC licenses software and hardware, and third party vendors on whom DTC relies for information or the provision of services, including telecommunication and electrical utility service providers, among others.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's system has been obtained from sources that the Fund believes to be reliable, but the Fund takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

The audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, together with the report of Tait, Weller & Baker thereon, and the unaudited financial statements for the six months ended June 30, 2003, are included below in this Statement of Additional Information.

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	DECEMBER 31, 2002
SHARES	VALUE
81,500	\$ 2,888,360
119,000	2,583,490
85 , 700	952 , 127
104,300	2,925,615
150,000	3,264,000
	534,150
	4,381,428
99,400	1,501,934
	19,031,104
210 100	1 207 165
·	1,397,165 829,776
117,200	
	2,226,941
The state of the s	2,241,200
-	574,560
709	1,311,650
	4,127,410
	SHARES 81,500 119,000 85,700 104,300

Bassett Furniture Industries Falcon Products (a) La-Z-Boy (d) Lifetime Hoan Natuzzi ADR (b)	116,675 377,000 68,200 295,327 62,200	1,670,786 1,526,850 1,635,436 1,408,710 631,952
		6,873,734
Publishing - 0.6%		
Marvel Enterprises (a) Scholastic Corporation (a)	304,400 35,000	2,733,512 1,258,250
		3,991,762
Sports and Recreation - 1.2%		
Callaway Golf Coachmen Industries Fleetwood Enterprises (a,d) Monaco Coach (a) Sturm, Ruger & Co. Thor Industries (d)	35,000 67,700 234,300 123,950 258,400 22,100	463,750 1,069,660 1,839,255 2,051,372 2,472,888 760,903
		8,657,828
Other Consumer Products - 1.1% Burnham Corporation Cl. B Fossil (a) Lazare Kaplan International (a) Matthews International Cl. A Oakley (a) Scotts (The) Cl. A (a)	18,000 15,000 103,600 196,000 175,000	648,000 305,100 563,584 4,376,876 1,797,250 490,400
		8,181,210
TOTAL (Cost \$39,087,482)		53,089,989
CONSUMER SERVICES - 5.4% Leisure/Entertainment - 0.8% Ascent Media Group Cl. A (a) Corus Entertainment Cl. B (a) Hasbro Hearst-Argyle Television (a) +Magna Entertainment Cl. A (a,d) Shuffle Master (a,d) Ticketmaster Cl. B (a) +TiVo (a,d)	380,900 22,000 50,000 11,000 140,800 15,000 121,200 70,000	426,608 262,900 577,500 265,210 872,960 286,650 2,571,864 366,100

		5,629,792
Restaurants/Lodgings - 1.0% +Benihana Cl. A (a,d) Four Seasons Hotels IHOP Corporation (a) Prime Hospitality (a) Ryan's Family Steak Houses (a)	2,500 80,000 161,700 106,100 40,900	33,750 2,260,000 3,880,800 864,715 464,215 7,503,480
Retail Stores - 2.5% Big Lots (a) Charming Shoppes (a,d) Claire's Stores PAYLESS SHOESOURCE (a) Stein Mart (a) Urban Outfitters (a)	307,200 753,400 127,700 93,200 192,800 83,800	4,064,256 3,149,212 2,818,339 4,797,004 1,176,080 1,975,166
Other Consumer Services - 1.1% ITT Educational Services (a) SOTHEBY'S HOLDINGS CL. A (a) Strayer Education TOTAL (Cost \$39,910,757)	120,000 500,200 10,000	2,826,000 4,501,800 575,000 7,902,800 39,016,129
FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES - 10.0% Banking - 2.2% BOK Financial (a) Farmers & Merchants Bank of Long Beach First National Bank Alaska Mechanics Bank Oriental Financial Group	121,904 1,266 2,130 200 63,800	3,948,471 4,000,560 2,886,150 3,320,000 1,568,204 15,723,385
<pre>Insurance - 7.4% Argonaut Group Erie Indemnity Company Cl. A (d)</pre>	187,000 107,900	2,758,250 3,912,454

Everest Re Group Fidelity National Financial First American Leucadia National Markel Corporation (a) NYMAGIC (a) Navigators Group (a) +PICO Holdings (a) PMA Capital Cl. A (d) PXRE Group The Phoenix Companies PROASSURANCE (a) RLI Reinsurance Group of America (d) Trenwick Group (d) Wesco Financial WHITE MOUNTAINS INSURANCE GROUP (d) Zenith National Insurance	25,300 13,275 31,700 57,900 4,200 60,200 83,200 151,100 241,700 176,551 81,900 430,170 118,724 30,000 212,260 11,990 25,600 106,900	1,399,090 435,818 703,740 2,160,249 863,100 1,170,890 1,909,440 2,029,273 3,463,561 4,325,499 622,440 9,033,570 3,312,400 812,400 152,827 3,716,301 8,268,800 2,514,288 53,564,390
Securities Brokers - 0.4% E*TRADE Group (a)	575 , 000	2,794,500
TOTAL (Cost \$48,682,808)	5.5,555	72,082,275
FINANCIAL SERVICES - 6.3% Information and Processing - 2.0% +Advent Software (a,d) BARRA (a,d) eFunds Corporation (a) +FactSet Research Systems (d) 26	33,000 42,200 177,675 140,000	449,790 1,279,926 1,618,619 3,957,800
ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.		
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS		DECEMBER 31, 2002
	SHARES	VALUE

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

SHARES

FINANCIAL SERVICES (CONTINUED)

Information and Processing (continued)

Fair, Isaac and Co.

5,190

221,613

Global Payments Moody's Corporation National Processing (a) SEI Investments	61,500 50,000 20,000 93,200	1,968,615 2,064,500 321,000 2,533,176
		14,415,039
Insurance Brokers - 1.4% Brown & Brown	20,000	646,400
Crawford & Co. Cl. A	297,350	1,219,135
Crawford & Co. Cl. B Gallagher (Arthur J.) & Company	75,300 106,200	376,500 3,120,156
HILB, ROGAL & HAMILTON	115,350	4,717,815
		10,080,006
7		
Investment Management - 2.7% Affiliated Managers Group (a,d) Alliance Capital Management	60,000	3,018,000
Holding L.P. (d)	139,000	4,309,000
BKF Capital Group (a)	94,000	1,659,100
BlackRock Cl. A (a) Eaton Vance (d)	35,000 80,200	1,379,000 2,265,650
Federated Investors Cl. B	15,000	380,550
John Nuveen Company Cl. A	119,200	3,021,720
+Neuberger Berman	105,000	3,516,450
		19,549,470
Other Financial Services - 0.2%		
PRG-Schultz International (a)	123,800	1,101,820
TOTAL (Cost \$33,842,910)		45,146,335
		========
HEALTH - 8.3%		
Commercial Services - 1.6% IDEXX Laboratories (a)	104,100	3,466,530
PAREXEL International (a)	277,700	3,051,923
Pharmaceutical Product Development (a)	10,000	292,700
Quintiles Transnational (a)	180,300	2,181,630
Sybron Dental Specialties (a)	21,000	311,850
The TriZetto Group (a)	190,200	1,167,828
Young Innovations (a)	57 , 550	1,339,188
		11,811,649
		11,011,010

Drugs and Biotech - 2.1%			
Abgenix (a)	38,000	280,060	
Affymetrix (a)	86,600	1,982,274	
+Albany Molecular Research (a,d)	40,000	591,640	
Antigenics (a,d)	38,500	394,240	
Applera Corporation-			
Celera Genomics Group (a,d)	199,200	1,902,360	
Biopure Corporation Cl. A (a,d)	43,200	160,704	
BioSource International (a)	1,600	9,582	
Celgene Corporation (a)	40,000	858 , 800	
Cerus Corporation (a,d)	21,700	466,550	
Chiron Corporation (a,d)	21,800	819,680	
Gene Logic (a)	308,100	1,937,949	
Genzyme Corporation - General			
Division (a)	28,000	827 , 960	
IDEC Pharmaceuticals (a)	28,100	932,077	
Lexicon Genetics (a)	256 , 200	1,211,826	
Millennium Pharmaceuticals (a)	24,000	190,560	
Perrigo (a,d)	169,900	2,064,285	
Shire Pharmaceuticals			
Group ADR (a,b,d)	20,853	393,913	
		15,024,460	
Health Services - 0.9%			
Covance (a)	132,700	3,263,093	
Gentiva Health Services (a)	30,150	265,621	
Health Management Associates Cl. A	27,400	490,460	
Lincare Holdings (a)	24,600	777,852	
Manor Care (a)	38,300	712,763	
MedQuist (a)	73,893	1,497,072	
		7,006,861	
Personal Care - 0.6%			
Ocular Sciences (a,d)	177,500	2,754,800	
Regis	57,200	1,486,628	
Neg15	37,200		
		4,241,428	
Curried Droducts and Davies 2 10			
Surgical Products and Devices - 3.1%	180,600	7 245 000	
ARROW INTERNATIONAL (d)		7,345,002	
CONMED (a)	38,500 37,000	754,215 917,637	
Datascope Diagnostic Products Corporation	25,000	965,500	
Diagnostic Products Corporation	25 , 000	900,000	

Haemonetics (a,d) Invacare Novoste (a,d) STERIS (a) Varian Medical Systems (a) Zoll Medical (a)	92,900 100,000 66,500 48,600 75,800 20,200	1,993,634 3,330,000 480,130 1,178,550 3,759,680 720,534
		21,444,882
TOTAL (Cost \$54,015,112)		59,529,280
<pre>INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS - 14.1% Building Systems and Components - 1.2% Decker Manufacturing Preformed Line Products Company SIMPSON MANUFACTURING (a)</pre>	6,022 131,600 190,400	218,298 2,193,772 6,264,160
		8,676,230
Construction Materials - 1.9% ASH GROVE CEMENT COMPANY CL. B FLORIDA ROCK INDUSTRIES Oregon Steel Mills (a)	50,518 158,800 247,900	6,377,897 6,042,340 996,558 1 13,416,795
<pre>Industrial Components - 1.5% Bel Fuse Cl. A (a) Belden (d) Donaldson Company Kaydon Corporation Penn Engineering & Manufacturing Penn Engineering & Manufacturing Cl. A PerkinElmer Powell Industries (a) Woodhead Industries</pre>	6,300 47,800 26,000 161,200 251,600 77,600 135,000 32,400 45,400	114,030 727,516 936,000 3,419,052 2,679,540 869,120 1,113,750 553,360 513,020
Machinery - 3.4% COHERENT (a) Federal Signal (d) Graco LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS National Instruments (a,d)	233,700 58,600 26,550 237,880 41,100	4,662,315 1,138,012 760,658 5,506,922 1,335,339

Nordson Corporation Oshkosh Truck PAXAR (a) Woodward Governor	172,200 5,000 175,100 83,600	4,275,726 307,500 2,582,725 3,636,600
		24,205,797
Paper and Packaging - 0.4% Peak International (a) Sealed Air (a)	408,400 34,000	1,547,836 1,268,200
		2,816,036
27		
ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.		
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS	DI	ECEMBER 31, 2002
	SHARES	VALUE
<pre>INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS (CONTINUED) Pumps, Valves and Bearings - 0.8% Baldor Electric (d) ConBraCo Industries (a) Denison International ADR (a,b) Franklin Electric NN</pre>	62,900 7,630 89,400 23,600 127,100	\$ 1,242,275 572,250 1,430,400 1,133,036 1,269,729
		5,647,690
Specialty Chemicals and Materials - 1.2% Arch Chemicals CFC International (a) Hawkins MACDERMID	38,200 123,500 301,278 211,631	697,150 549,575 2,708,489 4,835,768
		8,790,982
Textiles - 0.3% Fab Industries (a) Unifi (a)	67,700 265,100	551,755 1,391,775
		1,943,530

Other Industrial Products - 3.4% BHA Group Holdings (a)	187,252	3,211,372
Brady Corporation Cl. A	79,400	2,647,990
Diebold	100,000	4,122,000
IMPCO Technologies (a,d)	15,500	72,695
KIMBALL INTERNATIONAL CL. B	334,880	4,772,040
Maxwell Technologies (a,d)	26 , 500	160,325
Myers Industries	52 , 727	564,179
Peerless Mfg. (a,c)	158,600	1,316,380
Steelcase Cl. A	82,500	904,200
Trinity Industries (d)	20,000	379 , 200
VELCRO INDUSTRIES	525,800	4,811,070
Wescast Industries Cl. A	56,000	1,394,400
		24,355,851
TOTAL (Cost \$73,264,335)		100,778,299
		=========
INDUSTRIAL SERVICES - 12.9%		
Advertising/Publishing - 0.8%		
Catalina Marketing (a,d)	60,000	1,110,000
Grey Global Group	3,817	2,332,569
Interpublic Group of Companies	180,000	2,534,400
		5,976,969
Commercial Services - 4.2%		
ABM Industries	119,200	1,847,600
ALLIED WASTE INDUSTRIES (a)	594,800	5,948,000
Carlisle Holdings (a)	204,900	563,475
Central Parking	89,200	1,682,312
+Convergys Corporation (a)	144,000	2,181,600
Cornell Companies (a,d)	124,400	1,119,600
iGATE Corporation (a)	139,500	365,490
Iron Mountain (a)	127,450	4,207,125
Korn/Ferry International (a)	87,400	653,752
Learning Tree International (a,d)	53,400	731,580
MPS Group (a)	294,300	1,630,422
Manpower	55,800	1,780,020
+Metro One Telecommunications (a,d)	25,000 136,500	161,250
New Horizons Worldwide (a) On Assignment (a)	78,800	539,175 671,376
RemedyTemp Cl. A (a)	78 , 500	1,099,000
+Renaissance Learning (a,d)	10,000	189,000
Spherion Corporation (a)	109,000	730,300
+TRC Companies (a,d)	52,000	682,760
	•	•

TMP Worldwide (a) West Corporation (a)	149,000 75,000	1,685,190 1,245,000
		29,714,027
Engineering and Construction - 0.4% Clayton Homes (d) EMCOR Group (a) Jacobs Engineering Group (a,d) McDermott International (a) Washington Group International (a)	25,000 15,000 20,000 71,000 50,000	304,500 795,150 712,000 310,980 797,500
		2,920,130
Food/Tobacco Processors - 1.3% FARMER BROS. MGP Ingredients	22,000 321,200	6,798,000 2,505,360 9,303,360
<pre>Industrial Distribution - 1.0% Central Steel & Wire RITCHIE BROS. AUCTIONEERS (a,d)</pre>	3,699 155,200	1,764,423 5,020,720
		6,785,143
Printing - 1.5% BOWNE & CO. Ennis Business Forms Moore Corporation (a) New England Business Service	383,100 62,700 90,700 178,300	4,578,045 728,574 825,370 4,350,520
		10,482,509
Transportation and Logistics - 3.1% Airborne AirNet Systems (a) Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings (a,d) C. H. Robinson Worldwide CNF Continental Airlines Cl. B (a,d) EGL (a) +Forward Air (a) Frozen Food Express Industries (a) Hub Group Cl. A (a) Landstar System (a,d)	100,000 219,000 165,000 40,000 62,600 150,000 198,525 95,000 306,635 77,000 35,800	1,483,000 1,077,480 249,150 1,248,000 2,080,824 1,087,500 2,828,981 1,843,950 796,331 369,600 2,089,288

Patriot Transportation Holding (a) Pittston Brink's Group UTI Worldwide (d)	136,300 137,278 45,000	3,775,510 2,536,897 1,181,250
		22,647,761
Other Industrial Services - 0.6%		
Landauer Republic Services (a)	117,900 18,600	4,097,025 390,228
		4,487,253
TOTAL (Cost \$81,661,251)		92,317,152
NATURAL RESOURCES - 6.4%		
Energy Services - 2.4% Carbo Ceramics	10F C00	2 550 720
ENSCO International	105,600 6,443	3,558,720 189,746
Global Industries (a)	119,500	498,315
Helmerich & Payne	98,400	2,746,344
Input/Output (a)	540,100	2,295,425
Precision Drilling (a)	37,500	1,220,250
Tidewater	21,600	671 , 760
+Universal Compression Holdings (a)	115,000	2,199,950
Willbros Group (a)	460,600	3,786,132
		17,166,642

DOVCE	VALUE	TRUST.	INC.
RUILE	VALUE	TROST	TINC.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS		DECEMBER 31, 2002
	SHARES	VALUE
NATURAL RESOURCES (CONTINUED)		
Oil and Gas - 2.0%		
Tom Brown (a)	76,000	\$ 1,907,600
+Cimarex Energy (a)	138,170	2,473,243
DENBURY RESOURCES (a)	402,600	4,549,380
EOG Resources (d)	5,000	199,600
Holly Corporation	20,000	437,000
Husky Energy	75 , 000	781 , 952
PetroCorp (a)	155,400	1,592,850

3TEC Energy (a) Toreador Resources (a) Vintage Petroleum	124,200 100,300 48,300	1,762,398 251,753 509,565 14,465,341
Precious Metals and Mining - 0.8% AngloGold ADR (b) +Glamis Gold (a,d) Gold Fields ADR (b) MK Gold (a)	111,900 70,000 57,800 517,900	3,833,694 793,800 806,888 220,108
		5,654,490
Real Estate - 1.2% Alico	52,000	1,383,200
Chelsea Property Group Consolidated-Tomoka Land Public Storage Trammell Crow Company (a)	55,000 13,564 45,000 432,400	1,832,050 261,107 1,453,950 3,891,600
		8,821,907
TOTAL (Cost \$36,026,788)		46,108,380
TECHNOLOGY - 18.5% Aerospace/Defense - 1.2% Curtiss-Wright (d) Ducommun (a) Herley Industries (a) Integral Systems (a)	58,300 182,300 30,000 74,800	3,720,706 2,889,455 522,240 1,499,740
		8,632,141
Components and Systems - 5.2% Adaptec (a) Advanced Digital Information (a) American Power Conversion (a,d) Analogic Cognex Corporation (a) DDi Corporation (a) Dionex (a) Excel Technology (a) Imation Corporation (a) InFocus Corporation (a) KEMET (a)	99,500 90,000 231,200 5,000 163,400 20,000 96,000 168,500 35,700 79,000 135,000	562,175 603,900 3,502,680 251,440 3,011,462 4,400 2,852,160 3,014,465 1,252,356 486,640 1,179,900

Kronos (a) Newport (a,d) Pemstar (a,d) Perceptron (a) Radiant Systems (a) Rainbow Technologies (a) REMEC (a) Scitex (a) Storage Technology (a) Symbol Technologies TTM Technologies (a) TECHNITROL Vishay Intertechnology (a) Zebra Technologies Cl. A (a)	35,850 102,600 245,000 397,400 57,500 116,900 214,200 245,700 90,000 304,900 280,500 285,900 73,900 62,500	1,326,092 1,288,656 553,700 854,410 553,725 838,173 831,096 346,437 1,927,800 2,506,278 928,175 4,614,426 826,202 3,581,250
Distribution - 2.4% Anixter International (a) Arrow Electronics (a) Avnet (a) Benchmark Electronics (a,d) Plexus (a) Tech Data (a)	41,900 326,100 405,355 45,400 269,600 151,500	974,175 4,170,819 4,389,995 1,301,164 2,367,088 4,084,440
<pre>Internet Software and Services - 0.5% CNET Networks (a) CryptoLogic (a,d) DoubleClick (a) RealNetworks (a) Vastera (a)</pre>	379,400 202,000 196,700 85,400 15,000	1,028,174 955,460 1,113,322 325,374 84,765
<pre>IT Services - 3.7% American Management Systems (a) Answerthink (a) +BearingPoint (a) CGI Group Cl. A (a,d) Covansys Corporation (a) DiamondCluster International Cl. A (a) Forrester Research (a) Gartner Cl. A (a) Keane (a)</pre>	331,900 655,000 340,000 106,700 251,600 233,900 91,500 166,000 467,000	3,979,481 1,637,500 2,346,000 466,279 945,513 734,446 1,424,655 1,527,200 4,198,330

	CHADEC	777 T TIE
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS		DECEMBER 31, 2002
ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.		
29		
Business Objects ADR (a,d)	25 , 500	382,500
Autodesk	251,000	3,589,300
Aspen Technology (a,d)	27,100	76,693
ANSYS (a,d)	45,500	919,100
Adobe Systems	30,000	744,030
Software - 1.8%		
		15,958,673
	,	
Veeco Instruments (a,d)	65,000	751,400
NVIDIA Corporation (a,d)	35,000	402,850
Novellus Systems (a)	12,000	336,960
National Semiconductor (a)	23,700	348,232
Mentor Graphics (a)	225,700	1,774,002
Lattice Semiconductor (a)	264,000	2,315,280
Lam Research (a)	105,800 45,000	605,176 486,000
Intevac (a) Kulicke & Soffa Industries (a,d)	191,850	765,482
+Integrated Circuit Systems (a)	140,600	2,565,950
Helix Technology	51,900	581,280
Fairchild Semiconductor Cl. A (a)	175,000	1,874,250
Exar (a)	87,300	1,082,520
Electroglas (a,d)	281,700	433,818
DuPont Photomasks (a)	35,000	813 , 750
Cymer (a,d)	14,500	467,625
Credence Systems (a)	10,600	98,898
Semiconductors and Equipment - 2.2% BE Semiconductor Industries (a)	58 , 000	255,200
		26,923,799
onisys corporation (a)	213,000	
Syntel (a) Unisys Corporation (a)	65,300 215,000	1,371,953 2,128,500
Sapient Corporation (a,d)	1,099,400	2,253,770
QRS Corporation (a)	57,500	379,500
Perot Systems Cl. A (a)	115,100	1,233,872
MAXIMUS (a,d)	88,000	2,296,800
	•	

SHARES VALUE

TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED)		
Software (continued)		
JDA Software Group (a)	149,900	\$ 1,448,034
MRO Software (a)	46,000	558,670
MSC.Software (a)	42,600	328,872
Macromedia (a)	61,600	656,040
Manugistics Group (a,d)	49,200	118,080
Novell (a)	90,000	300,600
Phoenix Technologies (a)	40,900	235,993
Progress Software (a)	50,500	653,975
SPSS (a)	107,500	1,503,925
Transaction Systems Architects		
Cl. A (a)	237,300	1,542,450
		13,058,262
Telecommunications - 1.5%		
ADC Telecommunications (a)	113,000	236,170
+ADTRAN (a,d)	40,000	1,316,000
Allegiance Telecom (a,d)	2,516,700	1,686,189
+Andrew Corporation (a,d)	30,000	308,400
Globecomm Systems (a)	243,700	913 , 875
IDT Corporation (a)	25,000	432,250
IDT Corporation Cl. B (a)	40,000	620,400
Inet Technologies (a)	65,000	396,500
Level 3 Communications (a,d)	488,400	2,393,160
Liberty Satellite & Technology		
Cl. A (a,d)	116,530	308,804
PECO II (a)	93,600	59 , 904
Plantronics (a)	55,100	833,663
Time Warner Telecom Cl. A (a,d)	242,000	510,620
+Tollgrade Communications (a,d)	35,500	416,415
		10,432,350
TOTAL (Cost \$161,093,372)		133,497,999
MISCELLANEOUS - 4.9%		
TOTAL (Cost \$39,674,965)		35,529,837
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		========
(Cost \$607,259,780)		677,095,675
PREFERRED STOCKS - 0.1%		========
+Aristotle Corporation 11.00% Conv.	4,800	38,160
SVB Capital I 8.25%	20,000	484,000
TOTAL PREFERRED STOCKS		
(Cost \$531,005)		522,160

=========

	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT	
CORPORATE BONDS - 0.2% Dixie Group 7.00%		
Conv. Sub. Deb. due 5/15/12 Richardson Electronics 7.25% (c)	\$ 584,000	297 , 840
Conv. Sub. Deb. due 12/15/06	1,319,000	1,055,200
TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS (Cost \$1,555,818)		1,353,040
U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS - 4.3% U.S. Treasury Notes		
4.25%, due 3/31/03	25,000,000	25,185,550
+7.50%, due 2/15/05	5,000,000	5,606,640
TOTAL U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS (Cost \$30,461,424)		30,792,190
REPURCHASE AGREEMENT - 1.2% State Street Bank & Trust Company, 0.50% dated 12/31/02, due 1/2/03, maturity value \$8,646,240 (collateralized by U.S. Treasury Bonds, 6.00% due 2/15/26, valued at \$8,820,698)		========
(Cost \$8,646,000)		8,646,000 ======
TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 100.0% (Cost \$648,454,027)		718,409,065
CASH AND OTHER ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES		2,366,558
PREFERRED STOCK		(160,000,000)
NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS		\$560,775,623 ======

⁽a) Non-income producing.

⁽b) American Depository Receipt.

⁽c) At December 31, 2002, the Fund owned 5% or more of the Company's outstanding voting securities thereby making the Company an Affiliated Company as that term is defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940.

⁽d) A portion of these securities were on loan at December 31, 2002. Total

- market value of loaned securities at December 31, 2002 was \$23,072,285.
- (e) A security for which market quotations are no longer readily available represents 0.3% of investments. This security has been valued at its fair value under procedures established by the Fund's Board of Directors.
- + New additions in 2002.

 BOLD INDICATES THE FUND'S LARGEST 20 EQUITY HOLDINGS IN TERMS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002 MARKET VALUE.

INCOME TAX INFORMATION: The cost of total investments for Federal income tax purposes was \$652,067,259. At December 31, 2002, net unrealized appreciation for all securities was \$66,341,806, consisting of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation of \$170,833,078 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation of \$104,491,272. The primary differences in book and tax basis cost is the timing of the recognition of losses on securities sold and amortization of discount for book and tax purposes.

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	DECEMBER 31, 2002
ASSETS:	
Investments at value (identified cost \$639,808,027)	\$709,763,065
Repurchase agreement (at cost and value) Cash	8,646,000 32
Collateral from brokers on securities loaned	25,147,370
Receivable for investments sold	6,380,230
Receivable for dividends and interest	1,011,806
Prepaid expenses	23,624
Total Assets	750,972,127
LIABILITIES:	
Payable for collateral on securities loaned	25,147,370
Payable for investments purchased	3,821,040
Payable for investment advisory fee Preferred dividends accrued but not yet declared	802,926 266,225
Accrued expenses	158,943
Total Liabilities	30,196,504

60,000,000

\$25 liquidation value per share; 2,400,000 shares outstanding

7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock - \$0.001 par

<pre>value, \$25 liquidation value per share; 4,000,0 outstanding</pre>	000 shares	100,000,000
Total Preferred Stock		160,000,000
NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS		\$560,775,623
ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCK Par value of Common Stock - \$0.001 per share; 42,417,362 shares outstanding (150,000,000 shar Additional paid-in capital Accumulated net realized loss on investments Net unrealized appreciation on investments Preferred dividends accrued but not yet declared		\$ 42,417 496,006,603 (3,813,147) 69,955,038 (266,224)
Net Assets applicable to Common Stockholders (net asset value per share - \$13.22)		\$560,775,623
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS		
	Year ended December 31, 2002	Year ended December 31, 2001
INVESTMENT OPERATIONS: Net investment income (loss) Net realized gain on investments Net change in unrealized appreciation on investments	\$ (583,347) 62,933,497 (156,381,089)	53,961,553
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from investment operations	(94,030,939)	102,403,827
DISTRIBUTIONS TO PREFERRED STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income Net realized gain on investments	(581,030) (11,398,970)	(370,182) (11,609,818)
Total distributions to Preferred Stockholders	(11,980,000)	(11,980,000)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	(106,010,939)	90,423,827
DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income Net realized gain on investments	(2,981,664) (58,496,049)	(1,768,474) (55,464,014)

Total distributions to Common Stockholders		
CAPITAL STOCK TRANSACTIONS: Reinvestment of distributions to Common		
Stockholders		32,687,267
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS		
APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS:	(128, 365, 345)	65,878,606
Beginning of year	689,140,968	623,262,362
End of year (including undistributed net investment income of \$2,116,678 in 2001)	\$ 560,775,623	\$689,140,968
THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF	THESE FINANCIAL	STATEMENTS.
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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.		
	YEAR ENDED DECI	
INVESTMENT INCOME:		
Income:		
Dividends		\$ 7,614,855
Interest		2,842,281
Total income		10,457,136
Expenses:		
Investment advisory fees		10,689,280
Stockholder reports		306,974
Administrative and office facilities expenses Custody and transfer agent fees		210,877 213,265
Directors' fees		115,005
Professional fees		68,790
Other expenses		101,360
Total expenses		11,705,551
Fees waived by investment advisor		(665 , 068)
Net expenses		11,040,483
Net investment income (loss)		(583 , 347)
REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS		
Net realized gain on investments		62,933,497
Net change in unrealized appreciation on investmen	its	(156,381,089)

Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(93,447,592)
NET DECREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATI	
DISTRIBUTIONS TO PREFERRED STOCKHOLDERS	(11,980,000)
NET DECREASE IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	
THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THESE FINA	NCIAL STATEMENTS.
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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.	
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS	
December 31,	
- 2002 2001 2000 1999 1998	
ASSET VALUE	
ASSET VALUE, BEGINNING OF	
PERIOD \$17.31	
\$16.56 \$15.77	
11 70 616 01	

\$15.72 \$16.91

INVESTMENT
OPERATIONS:
Net
investment
income (loss)
(0.02) 0.05
0.02, 0.05
0.18 0.26
0.17 Net
realized and
unrealized
gain (loss)
on
investments
(2.25) 2.58
2.58 1.65
0.67
2.58 1.65 0.67
Total investment
Total investment operations
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84
Total investment operations (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84

DISTRIBUTIONS TO PREFERRED STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income (0.01)(0.01) (0.03)(0.04) (0.03)Net realized gain on investments (0.28) (0.30)(0.30) (0.32)(0.26) --------------- Total distributions to Preferred Stockholders (0.29) (0.31)(0.33) (0.36)(0.29) -----_____ _____ ---- NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS

(2.56) 2.32 2.43 1.55
0.55
 DISTRIBUTIONS
TO COMMON
STOCKHOLDERS: Net
investment
income (0.07) (0.05) (0.13)
(0.15) (0.16)
Net realized gain on
investments
(1.44) (1.44) (1.35) (1.22)
(1.35) (1.22) (1.38)
Total
Total distributions to Common Stockholders
Total distributions to Common Stockholders (1.51) (1.49)
Total distributions to Common Stockholders (1.51) (1.49) (1.48) (1.37) (1.54)
Total distributions to Common Stockholders (1.51) (1.49) (1.48) (1.37) (1.54)
Total distributions to Common Stockholders (1.51) (1.49) (1.48) (1.37) (1.54)
Total distributions to Common Stockholders (1.51) (1.49) (1.48) (1.37) (1.54)
Total distributions to Common Stockholders (1.51) (1.49) (1.48) (1.37) (1.54)

CAPITAL STOCK
TRANSACTIONS:
Effect of
reinvestment
of
distributions
by Common
Stockholders
(0.02) (0.08)
(0.02) (0.08) (0.16) (0.13) (0.09) Effect
(0.10) (0.15)
(U.U9) Effect
of Preferred
Stock
offering
(0.11)
Total capital
stock
transactions
(0.02) (0.08)
(0.16) (0.13)
(0.20)
·
NET
ASSET VALUE,
END OF PERIOD
\$13.22 \$17.31
\$16.56 \$15.77
\$15.72
ATO.17

_____ MARKET VALUE, END OF PERIOD \$13.25 \$15.72 \$14.438 \$13.063 \$13.75 ---------- TOTAL RETURN (a): Market Value (6.9)% 20.0% 22.7% 5.7% 1.5% Net Asset Value (15.6)% 15.2% 16.6% 11.7% 3.3% RATIOS BASED ON AVERAGE NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Total expenses (b,c) 1.72% 1.61% 1.43% 1.39% 1.31% Management fee expense 1.56% 1.45% 1.25% 1.18% 1.10% Other

operating expenses 0.16% 0.16% 0.18% 0.21% 0.21% Net investment income (loss) (0.09)% 0.35% 1.18% 1.47% 1.11% SUPPLEMENTAL DATA: Net Assets Applicable to Common Stockholders, End of Period (in thousands) \$560,776 \$689,141 \$623,262 \$552,928 \$516,963 Liquidation Value of Preferred Stock, End of Period (in thousands) \$160,000 \$160,000 \$160,000 \$160,000 \$160,000 Portfolio Turnover Rate 35% 30% 36% 41% 43% PREFERRED STOCK: Total shares outstanding 6,400,000 6,400,000 6,400,000 6,400,000 6,400,000 Asset coverage per

share \$112.62 \$132.68 \$122.38 \$111.40 \$105.78 Liquidation preference per share \$25.00 \$25.00 \$25.00 \$25.00 \$25.00 Average market value per share: 7.80% Cumulative (d) \$26.37 \$25.70 \$23.44 \$24.98 \$25.91 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative (d) \$25.82 \$25.37 \$22.35 \$24.24 \$25.43 _____

- (a) The Market Value Total Return is calculated assuming a purchase of Common Stock on the opening of the first business day and a sale on the closing of the last business day of each period reported. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed for the purposes of this calculation, to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund's Distribution Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan. Net Asset Value Total Return is calculated on the same basis, except that the Fund's net asset value is used on the purchase and sale dates instead of market value.
- (b) Expense ratios based on total average net assets including liquidation value of Preferred Stock were 1.38%, 1.30%, 1.12%, 1.06% and 1.06% for the periods ended December 31, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively.
- (c) Expense ratios based on average net assets applicable to Common Stockholders before waiver of fees by the investment adviser would have been 1.82%,

- 1.65%, 1.51%, 1.48% and 1.34% for the periods ended December 31, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively.
- (d) The average of month-end market values during the period.

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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Royce Value Trust, Inc. ("the Fund") was incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland on July 1, 1986 as a diversified closed-end investment company. The Fund commenced operations on November 26, 1986. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

VALUATION OF INVESTMENTS:

Securities listed on an exchange or on the Nasdaq National Market System (NMS) are valued on the basis of the last reported sale prior to the time the valuation is made or, if no sale is reported for such day, at their bid price for exchange-listed securities and at the average of their bid and asked prices for Nasdaq NMS securities. Quotations are taken from the market where the security is primarily traded. Other over-the-counter securities for which market quotations are readily available are valued at their bid price. Securities for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at their fair value under procedures established by the Fund's Board of Directors. Bonds and other fixed income securities may be valued by reference to other securities with comparable ratings, interest rates and maturities, using established independent pricing services.

INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS AND RELATED INVESTMENT INCOME:

Investment transactions are accounted for on the trade date. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date and any non-cash dividend income is recorded at the fair market value of the securities received. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are determined on the basis of identified cost for book and tax purposes.

EXPENSES:

The Fund incurs direct and indirect expenses. Expenses directly attributable to the Fund are charged to the Fund's operations, while

expenses applicable to more than one of the Royce Funds are allocated in an equitable manner. Allocated personnel and occupancy costs related to The Royce Funds are included in administrative and office facilities expenses. The Fund has adopted a deferred fee agreement that allows the Fund's Directors to defer the receipt of all or a portion of Directors' Fees otherwise payable. The deferred fees remain invested in certain Royce Funds until distributed in accordance with the agreement.

TAXES:

As a qualified regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund is not subject to income taxes to the extent that it distributes substantially all of its taxable income for its fiscal year. The Schedule of Investments includes information regarding income taxes under the caption "Income Tax Information".

DISTRIBUTIONS:

The Fund currently has a policy of paying quarterly distributions on the Fund's Common Stock. Distributions are currently being made at the annual rate of 9% of the rolling average of the prior four calendar quarter-end NAVs of the Fund's Common Stock, with the fourth quarter distribution being the greater of 2.25% of the rolling average or the distribution required by IRS regulations. Distributions to Preferred Stockholders are recorded on an accrual basis and paid quarterly. Distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations that may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Permanent book and tax basis differences relating to stockholder distributions will result in reclassifications within the capital accounts. Undistributed net investment income may include temporary book and tax basis differences, which will reverse in a subsequent period. Any taxable income or gain remaining undistributed at fiscal year end is distributed in the following year.

REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS:

The Fund enters into repurchase agreements with respect to its portfolio securities solely with State Street Bank and Trust Company ("SSB&T"), the custodian of its assets. The Fund restricts repurchase agreements to maturities of no more than seven days. Securities pledged as collateral for repurchase agreements, which are held by SSB&T until maturity of the repurchase agreements, are marked-to-market daily and maintained at a value at least equal to the principal amount of the repurchase agreement (including accrued interest). Repurchase agreements could involve certain risks in the event of default or insolvency of SSB&T, including possible delays or restrictions upon the ability of the Fund to dispose of the underlying securities.

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2. SECURITIES LENDING:

The Fund loans securities to qualified institutional investors for the purpose of realizing additional income. This income is included in interest income. Collateral on all securities loaned for the Fund is accepted in cash and is invested temporarily, typically, and specifically at December 31, 2002, in a registered money market fund, by the custodian. The collateral is equal to at least 100% of the current market value of the loaned securities.

3. CAPITAL STOCK:

The Fund currently has two issues of Preferred Stock outstanding: 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock and 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock. Both issues of Preferred Stock have a liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share.

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Fund is required to maintain an asset coverage of at least 200% for the Preferred Stock. In addition, pursuant to the Rating Agency Guidelines established by Moody's, the Fund is required to maintain a certain discounted asset coverage. The Fund has met these requirements since issuing Preferred Stock.

The Fund is required to allocate long-term capital gain distributions and other types of income proportionately to distributions made to holders of shares of Common Stock and Preferred Stock. To the extent that distributions are not paid from long-term capital gains, net investment income or net short-term capital gains, they will represent a return of capital. The Fund issued 2,615,641 and 2,167,201 shares of Common Stock as reinvestment of distributions by Common Stockholders for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

4. INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT:

As compensation for its services under the Investment Advisory Agreement, Royce & Associates, LLC ("Royce") receives a fee comprised of a Basic Fee ("Basic Fee") and an adjustment to the Basic Fee based on the investment performance of the Fund in relation to the investment record of the S&P 600 SmallCap Index ("S&P 600").

The Basic Fee is a monthly fee equal to 1/12 of 1% (1% on an annualized basis) of the average of the Fund's month-end net assets attributable to common stockholders plus liquidation value of Preferred Stock for the rolling 60-month period ending with such month. The Basic Fee for each month is increased or decreased at the rate of 1/12 of .05% for each percentage point that the investment performance of the Fund exceeds, or is exceeded by, the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 for the performance period by more than two percentage points. The maximum increase or decrease in the Basic Fee for any month may not exceed 1/12 of .5%. Accordingly, for each month, the maximum monthly fee rate as adjusted for performance is 1/12 of 1.5% and is payable if the investment performance of the Fund exceeds the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 by 12 or more percentage points for the performance period, and the

minimum monthly fee rate as adjusted for performance is 1/12 of .5% and is payable if the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 exceeds the investment performance of the Fund by 12 or more percentage points for the performance period.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Royce is not entitled to receive any fee for any month when the investment performance of the Fund for the rolling 36-month period ending with such month is negative. In the event that the Fund's investment performance for such a performance period is less than zero, Royce will not be required to refund to the Fund any fee earned in respect of any prior performance period. Royce has voluntarily committed to waive the portion of its investment advisory fee attributable to an issue of the Fund's Preferred Stock for any month in which the Fund's average annual NAV total return since issuance of the Preferred Stock fails to exceed the applicable Preferred Stock dividend rate. For the year ended December 31, 2002, the Fund accrued and paid Royce advisory fees totaling \$10,024,212, which is net of \$665,068 voluntarily waived by Royce.

5. DISTRIBUTIONS TO STOCKHOLDERS:

The tax character of distributions paid to stockholders during 2002 and 2001 was as follows:

Distributions paid from:	2002	2001
Ordinary income	\$ 6,028,029	16,631,761
Long-term capital gain	67,429,684	52,580,727
	\$73,457,713 =======	\$69,212,488 =======

As of December 31, 2002, the tax basis components of distributable earnings included in stockholders' equity were as follows:

Post October Loss	\$	(199,915)
Unrealized appreciation	6	6,341,806
Accrued preferred distributions		(266,224)
	\$6	5,875,667
	===	

ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
6. PURCHASES AND SALES OF INVESTMENT SECURITIES: For the year ended December 31, 2002, the cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investment securities, other than short-term securities, amounted to \$290,458,749 and \$274,219,404, respectively.
7. TRANSACTIONS IN SHARES OF AFFILIATED COMPANIES: An "Affiliated Company", as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, is a company in which a Fund owns 5% or more of the company's outstanding voting securities. The Fund effected the following transactions in shares of such companies during the year ended December 31, 2002:
Purchases
Sales
Affiliated
Company Shares
Cost Shares
Cost Realized
Gain (Loss)
Dividend
Income
- Open Plan
Systems
376,000 \$
927,874 \$
(924,114)

PCD 5,300 \$ 2,756 482,900 2,705,721 (2,659,433) --Patriot. Transportation Holdings -- --30,000 558,200 100,805 --Peerless Mfq. -- -- -- ---- Richardson Electronics 10,000 106,750 190,300 1,375,899 (190,330)\$22,036 Richardson Electronics 7.25% Conv. due 12/15/06 -- -- -- ---- RockShox ---- 1,141,400 537,508 (69,534) -- --

8. PREFERRED STOCK PRESENTATION

To reflect recent accounting guidance from the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Statement of Assets and Liabilities has been modified to present the liquidation value of Preferred Stock below Liabilities and above Net Assets Applicable to Common Stockholders. As revised, Preferred Stock is no longer included as a component of net assets of the Fund. Likewise, the Statement of Operations, the Statement of Changes in Net Assets, and the Financial Highlights have been revised to show distributions to Preferred Stockholders as a component of the net decrease in net assets applicable to Common Stockholders resulting from investment operations. These modifications do not change the amount of

net assets applicable to Common Stockholders, the net asset value per share of Common Stock, or the total return per share of Common Stock.

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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STOCKHOLDERS OF ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Royce Value Trust, Inc., including the schedule of investments, as of December 31, 2002, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, and the statement of changes in net assets for the two years in the period then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2002, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above and audited by us present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Royce Value Trust, Inc. at December 31, 2002, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

TAIT, WELLER & BAKER

Philadelphia, PA January 15, 2003, except for Note 8, as to which the date is September 12, 2003.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS	JUNE 30, 20	003 (UNAUDITED)
COMMON STOCKS - 91.1%		
	SHARES	VALUE
CONSUMER PRODUCTS - 7.0%		
Apparel and Shoes - 2.5%		
Jones Apparel Group (a)	81,500 \$	2,384,690
K-Swiss Cl. A	119,000	4,107,880
Nautica Enterprises (a)	83,700	1,073,871
Oshkosh B'Gosh Cl. A	104,300	2,816,100
Polo Ralph Lauren Cl. A	150,000	
Timberland Company Cl. A (a)	10,000	
WEYCO GROUP Wolverine World Wide	112,664 94,400	5,183,671 1,818,144
wolverine world wide		1,010,144
	-	21,781,456
Collectibles - 0.2%		
The Boyds Collection (a) Enesco Group (a)	234,200 117,200	1,103,082 867,280
Ellesco Group (a)	117,200	
	-	1,970,362
Food/Beverage/Tobacco - 0.6%		
800 JR Cigar (a,e)	172,400	2,241,200
Hain Celestial Group (a)	37,800	604,422
Hershey Creamery	709	1,772,500
Lancaster Colony	16,900	653 , 354
		5,271,476
	_	
Home Furnishing/Appliances - 1.1% Bassett Furniture Industries	116,675	1,549,444
Falcon Products (a,c)	782,600	3,310,398
La-Z-Boy (d)	68,200	1,526,316
Lifetime Hoan (d)	295,327	2,250,392
Natuzzi ADR (b)	62,200	498,844

9,135,394

Publishing - 0.5%	6 000	F.C. 240
Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Cl. A (a,d) Scholastic Corporation (a)	6,000 130,000	56,340 3,871,400
		3,927,740
Sports and Recreation - 0.7%		
Callaway Golf	35,000	462,700
Coachmen Industries	67,700	809,015
Fleetwood Enterprises (a,d) Monaco Coach (a)	234,300	1,733,820
Thor Industries	141,050 22,100	2,162,296 902,122
inoi induscries	22,100	
		6,069,953
Other Consumer Products - 1.4%		
Blyth	54,700	1,487,840
Burnham Corporation Cl. B	18,000	859,500
Fossil (a)	15,000 103,600	353,400
Lazare Kaplan International (a) Matthews International Cl. A	196,000	600,880 4,852,960
Oakley (a)	243,100	2,861,287
Scotts (The) Cl. A (a)	20,000	990,000
		12,005,867
TOTAL (Cost \$42,721,425)		60,162,248
CONSUMER SERVICES - 5.1%		
Leisure/Entertainment - 0.5%		
Ascent Media Group Cl. A (a,d)	380,900	472,316
Corus Entertainment Cl. B (a,d)	22,000	370,920
Gemstar-TV Guide International (a)	215,100	1,094,859
Hasbro	50,000	874,500
Magna Entertainment Cl. A (a)	198,800	994,000
Shuffle Master (a,d) TiVo (a)	5,000 17,000	146,950 209,950
11VO (a)	17,000	
		4,163,495
Restaurants/Lodgings - 1.4%		
Benihana Cl. A (a,d)	57 , 500	759 , 000
CEC Entertainment (a)	30,000	1,107,900
Four Seasons Hotels (d)	80,000	3,460,800

IHOP CORPORATION (d) Jack in the Box (a) Prime Hospitality (a,d) Ryan's Family Steak Houses (a,d)	161,700 10,000 106,100 48,900	5,104,869 223,000 711,931 684,600
		12,052,100
Retail Stores - 2.3% Big Lots (a) Charming Shoppes (a,d) Claire's Stores Payless ShoeSource (a) Stein Mart (a) Urban Outfitters (a,d)	307,200 803,400 127,700 289,600 192,800 83,800	4,620,288 3,992,898 3,238,472 3,620,000 1,154,872 3,008,420
		19,634,950
Other Consumer Services - 0.9% ITT Educational Services (a) Sotheby's Holdings Cl. A (a,d) Strayer Education	120,000 540,200 10,000	3,510,000 4,019,088 794,500
		8,323,588
TOTAL (Cost \$42,102,506)		44,174,133
FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES - 9.3%		
Banking - 2.3% BOK Financial (a) Farmers & Merchants Bank of Long Beach First National Bank Alaska Mechanics Bank Mercantile Bankshares NetBank Oriental Financial Group	125,561 1,266 2,130 200 20,000 70,000 79,750	4,842,888 4,665,210 3,197,130 3,500,000 787,600 921,200 2,048,777
		19,902,003
<pre>Insurance - 6.3% Argonaut Group (a) ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY CL. A Everest Re Group Fidelity National Financial First American Leucadia National Markel Corporation (a) Montpelier Re Holdings (a)</pre>	187,000 169,900 12,600 12,843 31,700 51,500 4,200 53,000	2,305,710 7,008,375 963,900 395,051 835,295 1,911,680 1,075,200 1,674,800

NYMAGIC Navigators Group (a) PICO Holdings (a) PMA Capital Cl. A (d) PXRE Group Philadelphia Consolidated Holding (a) The Phoenix Companies (d) PROASSURANCE CORPORATION (a) RLI Reinsurance Group of America (d) Trenwick Group (a,d)	85,200 83,200 154,300 231,700 176,551 35,000 81,900 202,070 118,724 30,000 212,260	1,726,152 2,481,024 2,005,900 2,912,469 3,495,710 1,414,000 739,557 5,453,869 3,906,020 963,000 65,801
Trenwick Group (a,d) Wesco Financial	212,260 9,850	65,801 3,073,200

ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.			
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS	JUNE 30,	2003	(UNAUDITED)
	SHARES		VALUE
FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES (CONTINUED)			
Insurance (continued) WHITE MOUNTAINS INSURANCE GROUP (d) Zenith National Insurance (d)	16,900 106,900		6,675,500 3,046,650
			54,128,863
Securities Brokers - 0.6% E*TRADE Group (a) Knight Trading Group (a)	575,000 115,000		4,887,500 715,300
			5,602,800
Other Financial Intermediaries - 0.1% Chicago Mercantile Exchange (d)	10,000		696,300
TOTAL (Cost \$50,876,045)			80,390,768
FINANCIAL SERVICES - 6.2% Information and Processing - 2.1% BARRA (a) eFunds Corporation (a) FACTSET RESEARCH SYSTEMS (d)	42,200 167,675 140,000		1,506,540 1,933,293 6,167,000

Fair Isaac Global Payments Moody's Corporation National Processing (a,d) SEI Investments	5,190 61,500 50,000 20,000 93,200	267,025 2,183,250 2,635,500 321,600 2,982,400
		17,996,608
<pre>Insurance Brokers - 1.0% Brown & Brown Crawford & Co. Cl. A Crawford & Co. Cl. B Gallagher (Arthur J.) & Company Hilb, Rogal & Hamilton</pre>	20,000 297,350 75,300 106,200 105,550	650,000 1,442,147 369,723 2,888,640 3,592,922
Investment Management - 2.7% Affiliated Managers Group (a,d) Alliance Capital Management Holding L.P. BKF Capital Group (a) BlackRock Cl. A (a,d) Eaton Vance Federated Investors Cl. B Neuberger Berman (d) Nuveen Investments Cl. A	60,000 139,000 94,000 35,000 80,200 35,000 105,000 119,200	3,657,000 5,073,500 2,052,020 1,576,400 2,534,320 959,700 4,190,550 3,247,008
Other Financial Services - 0.4% PRG-Schultz International (a,d) Van der Moolen Holding ADR (b)	284,200 119,000	1,676,780 1,642,200 3,318,980
TOTAL (Cost \$37,351,067)		53,549,518
HEALTH - 8.1% Commercial Services - 1.5% IDEXX Laboratories (a) PAREXEL International (a,d) Pharmaceutical Product Development (a) Quintiles Transnational (a) Sybron Dental Specialties (a,d) The TriZetto Group (a) Young Innovations (a)	104,100 277,700 10,000 130,300 21,000 190,200 77,550	3,506,088 3,873,915 287,300 1,848,957 495,600 1,148,808 2,210,175

		13,370,843	
Drugs and Biotech - 2.3%		 	
Abgenix (a,d)	38,000	398,620	
Affymetrix (a,d)	96,600	\$ 1,903,986	
Antigenics (a,d)	38,500		
Applera Corporation - Celera	, , , , , ,	, ,	
Genomics Group (a)	199,200	2,055,744	
Biopure Corporation Cl. A (a,d)	43,200	263 , 952	
BioSource International (a)	1,600	11,040	
Celgene Corporation (a)	40,000	1,216,000	
Cephalon (a)	4,900	201,684	
Cerus Corporation (a)	21,700	163,401	
Chiron Corporation (a)	21,800	953 , 096	
DUSA Pharmaceuticals (a)	79 , 700	200,047	
Endo Pharmaceuticals Holdings (a)	120,000	2,030,400	
Genzyme Corporation - General Division (a)	28,000	1,170,400	
Human Genome Sciences (a)	90,000	1,144,800	
IDEC Pharmaceuticals (a,d)	28,100	955,400	
Invitrogen Corporation (a)	40,000	1,534,800	
Lexicon Genetics (a)	256,200	1,719,102	
Millennium Pharmaceuticals (a)	50,000	786,500	
Perrigo Company	169,900	2,657,236	
Shire Pharmaceuticals Group ADR (a,b)	20,853	410,804	
		 20,220,532	
Health Services - 1.3%	0 705	100 500	
Accredo Health (a)	8,705	189,769	
Albany Molecular Research (a)	65,000	981,500	
First Consulting Group (a)	315,900	1,475,253	
Gene Logic (a,d)	138,100	824,457	
Gentiva Health Services (a)	30,150	271,350	
Health Management Associates Cl. A	27,400	505,530	
+IMPATH (a,d)	93,000	1,315,020	
Lincare Holdings (a)	24,600	775,146	
Manor Care (a)	58 , 300	1,458,083	
MedQuist (a)	73,893 293,200	1,495,594 1,172,800	
On Assignment (a) Quovadx (a)	168,400	503,516	
Quovadx (a)	100,400	 	
		 10,968,018	
Developed Garage O. Co			
Personal Care - 0.6%	177 500	2	
Ocular Sciences (a,d)	177,500	3,523,375	
Regis	57 , 200	 1,661,660 	

Surgical Products and Devices - 2.4%		
Allied Healthcare Products (a)	60,000	214,200
ARROW INTERNATIONAL	151 , 100	6,671,065
CONMED Corporation (a)	38,500	703,010
Datascope	34,000	1,009,460
Diagnostic Products	25 , 000	1,026,250
Haemonetics (a)	92 , 900	1,737,230
Invacare	100,000	3,300,000
Novoste (a)	66,500	399,000
STERIS (a)	48,600	1,122,174
Varian Medical Systems (a)	60,800	3,500,256
Zoll Medical (a)	20,200	677,912
		20,360,557
TOTAL (Cost \$60,623,736)		70,104,985
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS - 13.4%		
Building Systems and Components - 1.1%		
Decker Manufacturing	6,022	198,726
Preformed Line Products Company	131,600	1,928,598
	100 100	6 060 640

SIMPSON MANUFACTURING (a,d)

39

190,400

6,968,640

15,464,748

9,095,964

ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.		
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS	JUNE 30, 2003	(UNAUDITED)
	SHARES	VALUE
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS (CONTINUED) Construction Materials - 1.8%		
ASH GROVE CEMENT COMPANY CL. B ElkCorp FLORIDA ROCK INDUSTRIES Oregon Steel Mills (a)	50,518 \$ 25,000 153,800 247,900	5,961,124 562,500 6,348,864 718,910
Synalloy Corporation (a,c)	345,000	1,873,350

Industrial Components - 1.8%		
Bel Fuse Cl. A	53,200	1,090,600
Belden (d)	95,800	1,522,262
C & D Technologies	50,000	718,000
Donaldson Company	26,000	1,155,700
Kaydon Corporation	171,200	3,560,960
Penn Engineering & Manufacturing	251,600	3,434,340
Penn Engineering & Manufacturing Cl. A	77,600	942,064
PerkinElmer	135,000	1,864,350
Powell Industries (a)	57,400	840,336
Woodhead Industries	45,400	568,408
		15,697,020
Machinery - 3.5%		
Cognex Corporation (a)	163,400	3,651,990
COHERENT (a)	233,700	5,534,016
Federal Signal (d)	58,600	1,029,602
Graco	26,550	849,600
Lincoln Electric Holdings	237,880	4,855,131
National Instruments (a,d)	41,100	1,552,758
Nordson Corporation	172,200	4,106,970
Oshkosh Truck	13,000	771,160
PAXAR Corporation (a)	370,100	4,071,100
Woodward Governor	83,600	3,594,800
woodward Governor	03,000	
		30,017,127
Paper and Packaging - 0.4%		
Peak International (a)	408,400	1,816,972
Sealed Air (a)	34,000	1,620,440
300230 1122 (0)	01,000	
		3,437,412
Pumps, Valves and Bearings - 0.7%	60.000	1 005 540
Baldor Electric	62,900	1,295,740
ConBraCo Industries	7,630	587,510
Denison International ADR (a,b)	79,400	1,528,450
Franklin Electric	23,600	1,313,340
NN	127,100	1,609,086
		6,334,126
Specialty Chemicals and Materials - 1.2%		
Arch Chemicals	38,200	729 , 620
	30,200	, 23, 020

CFC International (a) Commercial Metals Hawkins MACDERMID		666,900 88,950 3,018,806 5,565,895
	_	10,070,171
	_	
Textiles - 0.4%		
Fab Industries (a) Unifi (a)	209,800 285,100	1,930,160 1,767,620
OHILL (a)	203,100	
	_	3,697,780
Other Industrial Products - 2.5% BHA Group Holdings	187 , 252	3,709,462
Brady Corporation Cl. A	129,400	4,315,490
Diebold	100,000	4,325,000
IMPCO Technologies (a)	15,500	95,480
KIMBALL INTERNATIONAL CL. B	334,880	5,224,128
Maxwell Technologies (a,d)	21,500	123,840
Myers Industries	52 , 727	500 , 907
Peerless Mfg. (a,c) Quantum Fuel Systems Technologies	158,600	1,752,530
Worldwide (a,d)	15,500	34,565
Steelcase Cl. A (d)		970,200
Trinity Industries (d)	20,000	370,200
	_	21,421,802
TOTAL (Cost \$83,669,214)	_	115,236,150
	=	
INDUSTRIAL SERVICES - 13.4% Advertising/Publishing - 0.7%		
Catalina Marketing (a,d)	60 000	1,059,000
Cordiant Communications Group ADR (a,b)	100,000	
Grey Global Group	3,817	
Interpublic Group of Companies (a)	155,000	2,073,900
	_	6,109,571
	_	
Commercial Services - 5.0%		
ABM Industries (d)	119,200	1,835,680
ALLIED WASTE INDUSTRIES (a)	569 , 800	5,726,490
Carlisle Holdings (a)	204,900	676,170
Central Parking (d)	171,400	2,118,504
Convergys Corporation (a)	156,000	2,496,000
Core Laboratories (a)	125,200	1,352,160

Cornell Companies (a) Covance (a) Hewitt Associates Cl. A (a) +Hudson Highland Group (a,d) iGATE Corporation (a) Iron Mountain (a) Korn/Ferry International (a) Learning Tree International (a,d) MPS Group (a) Manpower Metro One Telecommunications (a,d) Monster Worldwide (a) New Horizons Worldwide (a) RemedyTemp Cl. A (a,d) Renaissance Learning (a,d) Spherion Corporation (a) TRC Companies (a,d) United Stationers (a) Wackenhut Corrections (a) Watson Wyatt & Company Holdings Cl. A (a) West Corporation (a)	124,400 132,700 40,000 11,174 144,500 127,450 189,400 53,400 53,400 53,800 25,000 149,000 136,500 78,500 10,000 109,000 53,000 23,000 21,100 45,000 75,000	1,883,416 2,401,870 942,000 212,418 501,415 4,727,120 1,534,140 834,642 3,710,384 2,069,622 129,000 2,939,770 584,220 724,555 219,000 757,550 782,280 831,910 289,281 1,043,100 1,998,750
Engineering and Construction - 0.5% EMCOR Group (a) Jacobs Engineering Group (a) McDermott International (a) Washington Group International (a) Food/Tobacco Processors - 0.9% FARMER BROS.	15,000 20,000 71,000 100,000	740,400 843,000 449,430 2,196,000
MGP Ingredients	321,200	7,895,032

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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

	SHARES	VALUE
INDUSTRIAL SERVICES (CONTINUED)		
Industrial Distribution - 1.1%		
Central Steel & Wire	3,699	\$ 1,387,125
RITCHIE BROS. AUCTIONEERS (a)		5,976,752
Strategic Distribution (a)		1,870,015
` '	•	
		9,233,892
Printing - 1.5%		
Bowne & Co.	383,100	4,991,793
Ennis Business Forms	62,700	912,285
Moore Wallace (a)	90,700	1,331,476
NEW ENGLAND BUSINESS SERVICE	178,300	5,349,000
		12,584,554
Transportation and Logistics - 3.1%		
Airborne	100,000	2,090,000
AirNet Systems (a)	219,000	886 , 950
Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings (a,d)	210,000	308 700
Brink's Company (The)	137 , 278	2,000,140
C. H. Robinson Worldwide	40,000	1,422,400
CNF	62 , 600	1,588,788
Continental Airlines Cl. B (a,d)	150,000	2,245,500
EGL (a,d)	198,525	3,017,580
Forward Air (a,d)		3,754,760
Frozen Food Express Industries (a)	306,635	968 , 967
Hub Group Cl. A (a)	77,000	676,060
Landstar System (a)		2,124,330
Patriot Transportation Holding (a)		3,842,297
UTI Worldwide	45,000	1,403,550
		26,330,022
Other Industrial Services - 0.6%	44	4 60:
Landauer	117,900	4,931,757
Republic Services (a)	18,600	421 , 662
		5,353,419
TOTAL (Cost \$90,768,813)		115,056,767
NATURAL RESOURCES - 6.6%		==========

Energy Services - 2.7%

Carbo Ceramics (d) ENSCO International Global Industries (a) Hanover Compressor Company (a) Helmerich & Payne Input/Output (a) Precision Drilling (a) TETRA Technologies (a) Tidewater Universal Compression Holdings (a) Willbros Group (a)	105,600 6,443 119,500 175,000 98,400 540,100 37,500 49,000 21,600 115,000 485,600	3,933,600 173,317 575,990 1,977,500 2,873,280 2,905,738 1,416,000 1,452,850 634,392 2,398,900 5,045,384
Oil and Gas - 2.0% Tom Brown (a) +Chesapeake Energy (d) Cimarex Energy (a) Denbury Resources (a) EOG Resources EnCana Corporation Husky Energy PetroCorp (a) Prima Energy (a) Toreador Resources (a) Veritas DGC (a) Vintage Petroleum	76,000 73,000 138,170 352,600 5,000 21,638 85,000 154,900 17,500 100,300 123,000 48,300	2,112,040 737,300 3,281,537 4,735,418 209,200 830,250 1,097,179 1,727,135 365,400 301,903 1,414,500 544,824
Precious Metals and Mining - 0.7% AngloGold ADR (b,d) Glamis Gold (a) Gold Fields ADR (b) MK Gold (a) Stillwater Mining (a)	111,900 115,000 57,800 517,900 60,000	3,569,610 1,319,050 704,004 393,604 308,400
Real Estate - 1.2% Alico Chelsea Property Group Consolidated-Tomoka Land Public Storage Trammell Crow Company (a)	52,000 55,000 13,564 45,000 432,400	1,283,880 2,217,050 340,728 1,524,150 4,587,764

TOTAL (Cost \$41,719,336)		56,991,877
TECHNOLOGY - 20.2%		=========
Aerospace/Defense - 0.9%		
Curtiss-Wright (d)	58,300	3,684,560
Ducommun (a)	117,200	1,652,520
Herley Industries (a)	32,000	543,360
Integral Systems (a)	74,800	1,487,024
		7,367,464
Components and Systems - 5.4%		
Adaptec (a,d)	99 , 500	774,110
Advanced Digital Information (a)	79,000	789,210
American Power Conversion	231,200	3,604,408
Analogic Corporation	5,000	243,800
Catapult Communications (a)	75,100	797,562
Dionex Corporation (a)	89,000	3,537,750
Excel Technology (a)	168,500	3,846,855
Imation Corporation	35,700	1,350,174
InFocus Corporation (a)	79 , 000	372,880
KEMET Corporation (a,d)	135,000	1,363,500
Kronos (a)	35 , 850	1,821,538
Methode Electronics Cl. A	50 , 000	537,500
Newport Corporation (a,d)	102,600	1,518,480
Pemstar (a,d)	220,000	921,800
Perceptron (a)	397,400	2,384,400
Radiant Systems (a)	47,500	320,150
Rainbow Technologies (a)	116,900	983,129
REMEC (a,d)	214,200	1,490,832
Scitex (a)	245,700	624,078
Storage Technology (a)	90,000	2,316,600
Symbol Technologies	304,900	3,966,749
TTM Technologies (a)	280,500	1,315,545
Technitrol (a)	285,900	4,302,795
Tektronix (a)	65,000	1,404,000
Vishay Intertechnology (a)	83,900	1,107,480
Zebra Technologies Cl. A (a)	62,500	4,699,375
Zebia lecimologies Ci. A (a)	02,300	4,099,373
		46,394,700
Distribution - 2.5%		
Anixter International (a,d)	41,900	981,717
Arrow Electronics (a)	-	·
• •	316,100	4,817,364
AVNET (a,d)	405,355	5,139,901
Benchmark Electronics (a)	45,400	1,396,504

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS	JUNE 30,	2003	(UNAUDITED)
	SHARES		VALUE
TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED) Distribution (continued) Brightpoint (a) Insight Enterprises (a) Plexus (a) TECH DATA (a)	11,286 71,500 274,600 200,500		719,290 3,166,138 5,355,355
			21,715,087
<pre>Internet Software and Services - 0.8% CNET Networks (a) CryptoLogic (a) CyberSource Corporation (a) DoubleClick (a) EarthLink (a) +Overture Services (a,d) RealNetworks (a) +Satyam Computer Services ADR (b,d) Stamps.com (a) Vastera (a)</pre>	265,400 202,000 10,000 166,700 122,700 5,000 85,400 20,000 80,300 15,000		1,653,442 1,510,960 27,400 1,541,975 968,103 90,650 579,012 198,600 385,440 89,550
IT Services - 4.3% American Management Systems (a) Answerthink (a) BearingPoint (a) CIBER (a) Covansys Corporation (a) DiamondCluster International Cl. A (a) Forrester Research (a) Gartner Cl. A (a) CGI Group Cl. A (a) KEANE (a) MAXIMUS (a,d) Perot Systems Cl. A (a)	331,900 655,000 486,000 70,000 251,600 288,900 91,500 166,000 106,700 497,000 113,000 165,100		4,739,532 1,264,150 4,689,900 491,400 772,412 1,071,819 1,496,940 1,258,280 642,334 6,774,110 3,122,190 1,875,536

QRS Corporation (a) Sapient Corporation (a) Syntel (a) Unisys Corporation (a)	57,500 1,124,400 72,400 325,000	304,750 3,114,588 1,138,852 3,991,000
		36,747,793
Semiconductors and Equipment - 2.9%	15.000	220 150
Artisan Components (a)	15,000	339,150
BE Semiconductor Industries (a) Credence Systems (a)	58,000 10,600	310,300 89,782
Credence Systems (a) Cymer (a,d)	14,500	464,145
DSP Group (a)	115,000	2,475,950
DuPont Photomasks (a)	35,000	659,050
Electroglas (a,d)	281,700	369,027
Exar Corporation (a)	92,300	1,461,109
Fairchild Semiconductor Cl. A (a)	183,000	2,340,570
GlobespanVirata (a)	85,000	701,250
Helix Technology (d)	51,900	686,637
Integrated Circuit Systems (a,d)	135,000	4,243,050
Intevac (a,d)	216,650	1,455,888
Kulicke & Soffa Industries (a)	105,800	676 , 062
Lattice Semiconductor (a)	264,000	2,172,720
Mentor Graphics (a,d)	225,700	3,268,136
National Semiconductor (a)	43,200	851,904
Novellus Systems (a)	12,000	439,452
NVIDIA Corporation (a) ParthusCeva (a)	14,000 31,666	322,140 258,078
Semitool (a)	50,000	246,500
Veeco Instruments (a,d)	65,000	1,106,950
veceo instruments (a, a)	007000	
		24,937,850
Software - 1.9%		
Adobe Systems	30,000	962,100
ANSYS (a)	45,500	1,415,050
Aspen Technology (a,d)	27 , 100	130,080
Autodesk	251,000	4,056,160
Business Objects ADR (a,b,d)	25,500	559 , 725
JDA Software Group (a)	149,900	1,677,381
MRO Software (a)	46,000	396 , 980
MSC.Software (a,d)	42,600	287,124
Macromedia (a)	61,600	1,296,064
Manugistics Group (a,d)	49,200	202,212
Novell (a)	146,000	449,680
Phoenix Technologies (a,d) Progress Software (a)	40,900 50,500	231,085 1,046,865
SPSS (a)	107,500	1,799,550
5155 (a)	101,300	1,199,000

Transaction Systems Architects Cl. A (a)	237,300	2,126,208
		16,636,264
Telecommunication - 1.5% ADC Telecommunications (a) ADTRAN (a) Allegiance Telecom (a,d) Anaren (a,d) Andrew Corporation (a) Arris Group (a,d) Comverse Technology (a) Globecomm Systems (a) IDT Corporation (a,d) IDT Corporation Cl. B (a) Inet Technologies (a) Level 3 Communications (a,d) Liberty Satellite & Technology Cl. A (a,d) PECO II (a) Plantronics (a)	113,000 40,000 2,016,700 30,000 30,000 70,000 30,000 233,700 25,000 40,000 65,000 408,400 196,530 93,600 55,100	263,064 2,040,800 110,918 281,100 276,000 347,200 450,900 766,536 447,500 704,000 648,050 2,711,776 510,978 58,781 1,194,017
Polycom (a,d) Sycamore Networks (a) Time Warner Telecom Cl. A (a)	37,000 38,000 204,000	512,820 145,540 1,299,480
		12,769,460
TOTAL (Cost \$167,662,238)		173,613,750
UTILITIES - 0.1% Southern Union (a)	10,000	169,400
TOTAL (Cost \$132,500)		169,400
MISCELLANEOUS - 1.7% TOTAL (Cost \$11,930,853)		14,181,950
TOTAL COMMON STOCKS (Cost \$629,557,734)		783,631,546
PREFERRED STOCKS - 0.1% Aristotle Corporation 11.00% Conv. SVB Capital I 8.25%	4,800 20,000	33,888 499,980
TOTAL PREFERRED STOCKS (Cost \$531,005)		533 , 868

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS	 	JUNE 30), 	2003	(UNAUDITED)
		PRINCIPA AMOUNT			VALUE
CORPORATE BONDS - 0.2%					
Dixie Group 7.00% Conv. Sub. Deb. due 5/15/12	\$ 5	37,000		\$	322,200
Richardson Electronics 7.25% Conv. Sub. Deb. due 12/15/06	1,3	319,000			1,081,580
TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS (Cost \$1,544,984)					1,403,780
U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS - 3.2%				===:	=======
U.S. Treasury Notes 5.625%, due 2/15/06	25,0	000,000			27,649,425
TOTAL U.S. TREASURY OBLIGATIONS (Cost \$27,453,124)					27,649,425 =======
REPURCHASE AGREEMENT - 5.4% State Street Bank & Trust Company, 0.30% dated 6/30/03, due 7/1/03, maturity value \$46,399,387 (collateralized by U.S. Treasury Notes, 1.75% due 12/31/04, valued at \$47,329,137) (Cost \$46,399,000)					46,399,000
TOTAL INVESTMENTS - 100.0% (Cost \$705,485,847)					859,617,619
LIABILITIES LESS CASH AND OTHER ASSETS -					(396, 423)
PREFERRED STOCK				(160,000,000)
NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS				\$	 699,221,196

- (a) Non-income producing.
- (b) American Depository Receipt.

Payable for investment advisory fee

Preferred dividends accrued but not yet declared

- (c) At June 30, 2003, the Fund owned 5% or more of the Company's outstanding voting securities thereby making the Company an Affiliated Company as that term is defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- (d) A portion of these securities were on loan at June 30, 2003. Total market value of loaned securities at June 30, 2003 was \$33,925,944.
- (e) A security for which market quotations are no longer readily available represents 0.3% of investments. This security has been valued at its fair value under procedures established by the Fund's Board of Directors.
- + New additions in 2003.

 BOLD INDICATES THE FUND'S LARGEST 20 EQUITY HOLDINGS IN TERMS OF JUNE 30, 2003 MARKET VALUE.

INCOME TAX INFORMATION: The cost of total investments for Federal income tax purposes was \$709,157,702. At June 30, 2003, net unrealized appreciation for all securities was \$150,459,917, consisting of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation of \$228,856,672 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation of \$78,396,755. The primary differences in book and tax basis cost is the timing of the recognition of losses on securities sold and amortization of discount for book and tax purposes.

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.	
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	JUNE 30, 2003 (UNAUDITED)
ASSETS: Investments at value (identified cost \$659,086,847) Repurchase agreement (at cost and value) Cash Collateral from brokers on securities loaned Receivable for investments sold	\$813,218,619 46,399,000 126 36,246,784 612,103
Receivable for dividends and interest Total Assets	929,758 897,406,379
LIABILITIES:	
Payable for collateral on securities loaned Payable for investments purchased	36,246,784 637,532

809,646

266,225

Accrued expenses	224,996
Total Liabilities	38,185,183
PREFERRED STOCK: 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock - \$0.001 par value, \$25 liquidation value per share; 2,400,000 shares outstanding 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock -	60,000,000
<pre>\$0.001 par value, \$25 liquidation value per share; 4,000,000 shares outstanding</pre>	100,000,000
Total Preferred Stock	160,000,000
NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS	\$699,221,196
Par value of Common Stock - \$0.001 per share; 48,820,755 shares outstanding (150,000,000 shares authorized) Additional paid-in capital Accumulated net investment loss Accumulated net realized gain on investments Net unrealized appreciation on investments Quarterly and accrued distributions	\$ 48,821 566,557,501 (895,291) 15,009,715 154,131,809 (35,631,359)
Net Assets applicable to Common Stockholders (net asset value per share - \$14.32)	\$699,221,196
THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THESE FINANCIAL	STATEMENTS.
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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.	
STATEMENT OF ODERATIONS SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30 2	0000 (IINAIIDIEED)

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2003 (UNAUDITED)

INVESTMENT INCOME:
Income:
Dividends
Interest

Total income

3,480,929

Expenses: Investment advisory fees Stockholder reports Custody and transfer agent fees Administrative and office facilities expending professional fees Other expenses	enses	4,482,527 176,214 104,025 58,433 55,391 46,220 70,077
Total expenses Fees waived by investment advisor		4,992,887 (616,667)
Net expenses		4,376,220
Net investment income (loss)		(895,291)
REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENTS: Net realized gain on investments Net change in unrealized appreciation on investments		18,822,862 84,176,771
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments		102,999,633
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS		102,104,342
DISTRIBUTIONS TO PREFERRED STOCKHOLDERS		(5,990,000)
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS		\$ 96,114,342
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS		
	Six months ended June 30, 2003 (unaudited)	December 31,
INVESTMENT OPERATIONS: Net investment loss Net realized gain on investments Net change in unrealized appreciation on investments	\$ (895,291) 18,822,862 84,176,771	\$ (583,347) 62,933,497 (156,381,089)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from investment operations	102,104,342	(94,030,939)
DISTRIBUTIONS TO PREFERRED STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income Net realized gain on investments	- -	(581,030) (11,398,970)

Quarterly distributions*	(5,990,000)	-
Total distributions to Preferred Stockholders	(5,990,000)	(11,980,000)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	96,114,342	(106,010,939)
DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income Net realized gain on investments Quarterly distributions*	- - (29,375,135)	(2,981,664) (58,496,049)
Total distributions to Common Stockholders	(29,375,135)	(61,477,713)
CAPITAL STOCK TRANSACTIONS: Proceeds from rights offering Reinvestment of distributions to Common Stockholders	54,505,909 17,200,457	- 39 , 123 , 307
Total capital stock transactions	71,706,366	39,123,307
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLERS NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS:	138,445,573	(128, 365, 345)
Beginning of period	560,775,623 	689,140,968
End of period (including accumulated net of \$895,291 in 2003)	investment loss \$699,221,196	\$ 560,775,623
*To be allocated to net investment income and	capital gains at	year-end.

'To be allocated to net investment income and capital gains at year-end.

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

This table is presented to show selected data for a share of Common Stock outstanding throughout each period, and to assist stockholders in evaluating the Fund's performance for the periods presented.

ended Years ended December 31, June 30, 2003 -----_____ _____ (unaudited) 2002 2001 2000 1999 1998 ----_____ _____ _____ _____ NET ASSET VALUE, BEGINNING OF PERIOD \$13.22 \$17.31 \$16.56 \$15.77 \$15.72 \$16.91 -----_____ _____ _____ _____ -----INVESTMENT OPERATIONS: Net investment income (loss) (0.02) (0.02)0.05 0.18 0.26 0.17 Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments 1.97 (2.25) 2.58 2.58 1.65 0.67 -----_____

_____ ----- Total investment operations 1.95 (2.27) 2.63 2.76 1.91 0.84 -----_____ _____ DISTRIBUTIONS TO PREFERRED STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income -(0.01) (0.01)(0.03) (0.04)(0.03) Net realized gain on investments - (0.28) (0.30) (0.30)(0.32) (0.26)Quarterly distributions* (0.13) - - - -- -----_____ --------- Total distributions to Preferred Stockholders (0.13) (0.29)(0.31) (0.33)(0.36) (0.29)

_____ -- NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS RESULTING FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS 1.82 (2.56) 2.32 2.43 1.55 0.55 -----_____ DISTRIBUTIONS TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Net investment income -(0.07) (0.05)(0.13) (0.15)(0.16) Net realized gain on investments - (1.44) (1.44) (1.35)(1.22) (1.38)Quarterly distributions* (0.65) - - - ----- Total distributions to Common Stockholders (0.65) (1.51)(1.49) (1.48)

(1.37) (1.54)
CAPITAL STOCK
TRANSACTIONS:
Effect of reinvestment
of distributions
by Common
Stockholders (0.00)
(0.08) (0.16) (0.13) (0.09)
Effect of
rights offering or
Preferred Stock offering
(0.07) (0.11)
(0.11)
Total capital
Total capital stock
transactions (0.07)
(0.08) (0.16) (0.13) (0.20)
NET ASSET
VALUE, END OF PERIOD \$14.32

\$13.22 \$17.31 \$16.56 \$15.77 \$15.72 -----_____ _____ MARKET VALUE, END OF PERIOD \$14.94 \$13.25 \$15.72 \$14.438 \$13.063 \$13.75 _____ ------- TOTAL RETURN (a): Market Value 18.4%*** (6.9)% 20.0% 22.7% 5.7% 1.5% Net Asset Value 13.8%*** (15.6)% 15.2% 16.6% 11.7% 3.3% RATIOS BASED ON AVERAGE NET ASSETS APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS: Total expenses (b,c) 1.47%** 1.72% 1.61% 1.43% 1.39% 1.31% Management fee expense 1.30%** 1.56% 1.45% 1.25% 1.18% 1.10% Other

operating expenses 0.17%** 0.16% 0.16% 0.18% 0.21% 0.21% Net investment income (loss) (0.30)%** (0.09)% 0.35% 1.18% 1.47% 1.11% SUPPLEMENTAL DATA: Net Assets Applicable to Common Stockholders, End of Period (in thousands) \$699,221 \$560,776 \$689,141 \$623,262 \$552,928 \$516,963 Liquidation Value of Preferred Stock, End of Period (in thousands) \$160,000 \$160,000 \$160,000 \$160,000 \$160,000 \$160,000 Portfolio Turnover Rate 12% 35% 30% 36% 41% 43% PREFERRED STOCK: Total shares outstanding 6,400,000 6,400,000 6,400,000 6,400,000 6,400,000

```
6,400,000
Asset coverage
  per share
   $134.25
   $112.62
   $132.68
   $122.38
   $111.40
   $105.78
 Liquidation
preference per
share $25.00
$25.00 $25.00
$25.00 $25.00
$25.00 Average
market value
  per share:
    7.80%
Cumulative (d)
$26.09 $26.37
$25.70 $23.44
$24.98 $25.91
  7.30% Tax-
 Advantaged
Cumulative (d)
$25.60 $25.82
$25.37 $22.35
$24.24 $25.43
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- (a) The Market Value Total Return is calculated assuming a purchase of Common Stock on the opening of the first business day and a sale on the closing of the last business day of each period reported. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed for the purposes of this calculation to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund's Distribution Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan. Net Asset Value Total Return is calculated on the same basis, except that the Fund's net asset value is used on the purchase and sale dates instead of market value.
- (b) Expense ratios based on total average net assets including liquidation value of Preferred Stock were 1.16%, 1.38%, 1.30%, 1.12%, 1.06% and 1.06% for the periods ended June 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively.
- (c) Expense ratios based on average net assets applicable to Common Stockholders

before waiver of fees by the investment adviser would have been 1.67%, 1.82%, 1.65%, 1.51%, 1.48% and 1.34% for the periods ended June 30, 2003 and December 31, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999 and 1998, respectively.

- (d) The average of month-end market values during the period.
 - * To be allocated to net investment income and capital gains at year-end.
- ** Annualized.
- *** Not annualized.

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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Royce Value Trust, Inc. ("the Fund") was incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland on July 1, 1986 as a diversified closed-end investment company. The Fund commenced operations on November 26, 1986.

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

VALUATION OF INVESTMENTS:

Securities are valued as of the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (generally 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on the valuation date. Securities listed on an exchange or on the Nasdaq National Market System (NMS) are valued on the basis of the last reported sale prior to the time the valuation is made or, if no sale is reported for such day, at their bid price for exchange-listed securities and at the average of their bid and asked prices for Nasdaq NMS securities. Other over-the-counter securities for which market quotations are readily available are valued at their bid price. Securities for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at their fair value under procedures established by the Fund's Board of Directors. Bonds and other fixed income securities may be valued by reference to other securities with comparable ratings, interest rates and maturities, using established independent pricing services.

INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS AND RELATED INVESTMENT INCOME:

Investment transactions are accounted for on the trade date. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date and any non-cash dividend income is recorded at the fair market value of the securities received. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Realized gains and losses from investment

transactions are determined on the basis of identified cost for book and tax purposes.

EXPENSES:

The Fund incurs direct and indirect expenses. Expenses directly attributable to the Fund are charged to the Fund's operations, while expenses applicable to more than one of the Royce Funds are allocated in an equitable manner. Allocated personnel and occupancy costs related to The Royce Funds are included in administrative and office facilities expenses. The Fund has adopted a deferred fee agreement that allows the Fund's Directors to defer the receipt of all or a portion of Directors' Fees otherwise payable. The deferred fees are invested in certain Royce Funds until distributed in accordance with the agreement.

TAXES:

As a qualified regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code, the Fund is not subject to income taxes to the extent that it distributes substantially all of its taxable income for its fiscal year. The Schedule of Investments includes information regarding income taxes under the caption "Income Tax Information".

DISTRIBUTIONS:

The Fund currently has a policy of paying quarterly distributions on the Fund's Common Stock. Distributions are currently being made at the annual rate of 9% of the rolling average of the prior four calendar quarter-end NAVs of the Fund's Common Stock, with the fourth quarter distribution being the greater of 2.25% of the rolling average or the distribution required by IRS regulations. Distributions to Preferred Stockholders are recorded on an accrual basis and paid quarterly. Distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations that may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Permanent book and tax basis differences relating to stockholder distributions will result in reclassifications within the capital accounts. Undistributed net investment income may include temporary book and tax basis differences, which will reverse in a subsequent period. Any taxable income or gain remaining undistributed at fiscal year end is distributed in the following year.

REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS:

The Fund enters into repurchase agreements with respect to its portfolio securities solely with State Street Bank and Trust Company ("SSB&T"), the custodian of its assets. The Fund restricts repurchase agreements to maturities of no more than seven days. Securities pledged as collateral for repurchase agreements, which are held by SSB&T until maturity of the repurchase agreements, are marked-to-market daily and maintained at a value at least equal to the principal amount of the repurchase agreement (including accrued interest). Repurchase agreements could involve certain risks in the event of default or insolvency of SSB&T, including possible delays or restrictions upon the ability of the Fund to dispose of the underlying securities.

SECURITIES LENDING:

The Fund loans securities to qualified institutional investors for the purpose of realizing additional income. This income is included in interest income. Collateral on all securities loaned for the Fund is accepted in cash and is invested temporarily, typically, and specifically at June 30, 2003, in a registered money market fund, by the custodian. The collateral is equal to at least 100% of the current market value of the loaned securities.

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ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

CAPITAL STOCK:

The Fund currently has two issues of Preferred Stock outstanding: 7.80% Cumulative Preferred Stock and 7.30% Tax-Advantaged Cumulative Preferred Stock. Both issues of Preferred Stock have a liquidation preference of \$25.00 per share.

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Fund is required to maintain an asset coverage of at least 200% for the Preferred Stock. In addition, pursuant to the Rating Agency Guidelines established by Moody's, the Fund is required to maintain a certain discounted asset coverage. The Fund has met these requirements since issuing Preferred Stock.

The Fund is required to allocate long-term capital gain distributions and other types of income proportionately to distributions made to holders of shares of Common Stock and Preferred Stock. To the extent that distributions are not paid from long-term capital gains, net investment income or net short-term capital gains, they will represent a return of capital.

The Fund issued 1,313,310 and 2,615,641 shares of Common Stock as reinvestment of distributions by Common Stockholders for the six months ended June 30, 2003 and the year ended December 31, 2002, respectively.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2003, the Fund completed a rights offering of 5,090,083 shares to its stockholders at the rate of one share for each 10 rights held by the stockholders of record on January 28, 2003. These shares were priced at \$10.77, which was \$0.50 below the last reported sale price on the New York Stock Exchange on March 11, 2003. 34.5% of the offering was subscribed for through primary subscription. The remaining shares were purchased by those stockholders who subscribed with their primary rights and who also elected to purchase additional shares using over-subscription rights.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT:

As compensation for its services under the Investment Advisory Agreement, Royce & Associates, LLC ("Royce") receives a fee comprised of a Basic Fee ("Basic Fee") and an adjustment to the Basic Fee based on the investment performance of the Fund in relation to the investment record of the S&P 600

SmallCap Index ("S&P 600").

The Basic Fee is a monthly fee equal to 1/12 of 1% (1% on an annualized basis) of the average of the Fund's month-end net assets applicable to Common Stockholders plus the liquidation value of Preferred Stock for the rolling 60-month period ending with such month. The Basic Fee for each month is increased or decreased at the rate of 1/12 of .05% for each percentage point that the investment performance of the Fund exceeds, or is exceeded by, the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 for the performance period by more than two percentage points. The maximum increase or decrease in the Basic Fee for any month may not exceed 1/12 of .5%. Accordingly, for each month, the maximum monthly fee rate as adjusted for performance is 1/12 of 1.5% and is payable if the investment performance of the Fund exceeds the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 by 12 or more percentage points for the performance period, and the minimum monthly fee rate as adjusted for performance is 1/12 of .5% and is payable if the percentage change in the investment record of the S&P 600 exceeds the investment performance of the Fund by 12 or more percentage points for the performance period.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Royce is not entitled to receive any fee for any month when the investment performance of the Fund for the rolling 36-month period ending with such month is negative. In the event that the Fund's investment performance for such a performance period is less than zero, Royce will not be required to refund to the Fund any fee earned in respect of any prior performance period.

Royce has voluntarily committed to waive the portion of its investment advisory fee attributable to an issue of the Fund's Preferred Stock for any month in which the Fund's average annual NAV total return since issuance of the Preferred Stock fails to exceed the applicable Preferred Stock dividend rate

For the six months ended June 30, 2003, the Fund accrued and paid Royce advisory fees totaling \$3,865,860, which is net of \$616,667 voluntarily waived by Royce.

PURCHASES AND SALES OF INVESTMENT SECURITIES:

For the six months ended June 30, 2003, the cost of purchases and proceeds from sales of investment securities, other than short-term securities, amounted to \$87,757,204 and \$87,320,273, respectively.

TRANSACTIONS IN SHARES OF AFFILIATED COMPANIES:

An "Affiliated Company", as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, is a company in which a Fund owns 5% or more of the company's outstanding voting securities. The Fund effected the following transactions in shares of such companies during the six months ended June 30, 2003:

-----___ Purchases Sales ----_____ -----Affiliated Company Shares Cost Shares Cost Realized Gain (Loss) Dividend Income ------- --------_____ Falcon Products 405,600 \$1,635,894 -- -- -- --McLeodUSA -- -- -- ---- --Peerless Mfg. -- ---- -- -- --Synalloy Corporation 345,000 1,797,450 -_____ -----___

ROYCE VALUE TRUST, INC.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

PREFERRED STOCK PRESENTATION:

To reflect recent accounting guidance from the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Statement of Assets and Liabilities has been modified to present the liquidation value of Preferred Stock below Liabilities and above Net Assets Applicable to Common Stockholders. As revised, Preferred Stock is no longer included as a net asset of the Fund. Likewise, the Statement of Operations, the Statement of Changes in Net Assets, and the Financial Highlights have been revised to show distributions to Preferred Stockholders as a component of the net decrease in net assets applicable to Common Stockholders resulting from investment operations. These modifications do not change the amount of net assets applicable to Common Stockholders, the net asset value per share of Common Stock, or the total return per share of Common Stock.