ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC

Form 4

January 05, 2007

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

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OMB APPROVAL

response...

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SMITH WILLARD H JR			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ESSEX PROPERTY TRUST INC [ESS]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last) 7231 ENCE	(First) LIA DRIVE	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/03/2007			_X_ Director Officer (give below)		Owner er (specify		
(Street) 4. It			4. If Ame	4. If Amendment, Date Original				6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
LA JOLLA, CA 92037			Filed(Month/Day/Year)					Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tabl	e I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Day/Yea	r) Execution	emed on Date, if Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi on(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	spose 4 and (A) or	d of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	01/03/2007			M	2,500	A	\$ 29.25	3,500	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of **SEC 1474** information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number on f Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Director Stock Option (right to purchase)	\$ 29.25	01/03/2007		M	2,500	05/29/1998	05/29/2007	Common Stock	2,500

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
SMITH WILLARD H JR 7231 ENCELIA DRIVE LA JOLLA, CA 92037	X						

Signatures

Michael T. Dance (Attorney-in-fact) 01/05/2007

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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