

AVALONBAY COMMUNITIES INC  
Form SC 13G/A  
February 17, 2004

OMB APPROVAL  
OMB Number 3235-0145  
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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. 5) \*

AvalonBay Communities Inc.

-----  
(Name of Issuer)

Common  
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(Title of Class of Securities)

053484101  
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(CUSIP Number)

Check the following box if a fee is being paid with this statement [ ] (A fee is not required only if the person: (1) has a previous statement on file reporting beneficial ownership of more than five percent of the class of securities described in Item 1; and (2) has filed no amendment subsequent thereto reporting beneficial ownership of five percent or less of such class.)  
(See Rule 13d-7).

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in prior coverage.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

SEC 1745 (2/92)

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SCHEDULE 13G

CUSIP No. 053484101

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1) NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc.  
13-335336

2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

(a) [ ]  
(b) [ ]

3) SEC USE ONLY

4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

New York

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH

5) SOLE VOTING POWER
5,869,765

6) SHARED VOTING POWER
------------------------

7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
6,685,265

8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
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9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,685,265

10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES

[ ]

11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

9.45%

12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

IA

\*SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

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SCHEDULE 13G

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Item 1(a) Name of Issuer

AvalonBay Communities Inc.

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Office

2900 Eisenhower Avenue  
St. 300  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Item 2(a) Name of Person Filing

Cohen & Steers Capital Management, Inc.

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office

757 Third Avenue  
New York, New York 10017

Item 2(c) Citizenship

USA

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities

Common

Item 2(e) CUSIP Number

053484101

Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b), check whether the person filing is a

- (a)  Broker or Dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act
- (b)  Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act
- (c)  Insurance Company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act
- (d)  Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act
- (e)  Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940
- (f)  Employee Benefit Plan, Pension Fund which is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 or Endowment Fund; see Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F)
- (g)  Parent Holding Company, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(ii)(G) (Note: See Item 7)
- (h)  Group, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(H)

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Item 4 Ownership

- (a) Amount of Shares Beneficially Owned 6,685,265
- (b) Percent of Class 9.45%
- (c) Number of Shares as to which such person has:
  - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote 5,869,765
  - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote
  - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 6,685,265
  - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of

Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following. [ ]

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person

NA

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company

NA

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

NA

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of the Group

NA

Item 10 Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

Signature

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After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

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February 17, 2004

/s/Robert Steers

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Signature

Robert H. Steers, Chairman

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Name and Title