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HOVNANIAN ENTERPRISES INC

Form 3

April 13, 2006

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement HOVNANIAN ENTERPRISES INC [HOV] GENDELL JEFFREY LET (Month/Day/Year) 04/11/2006 AL (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 55 RAILROAD AVENUE, 3RD (Check all applicable) **FLOOR** (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group __X__ 10% Owner Director Officer Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person GREENWICH. CTÂ 06830 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities 3. 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Beneficially Owned Ownership (Instr. 4) Ownership (Instr. 4) Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Common Stock, No par value 4,706,491 Ι See Footnotes (1) (2)Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not

information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

currently valid OMB control number.

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

2. Date Exercisable and 3. Title and Amount of 6. Nature of Indirect 1. Title of Derivative Security 4. 5. **Expiration Date** Securities Underlying Ownership Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Derivative Security or Exercise Form of (Instr. 5) (Instr. 4) Price of Derivative Derivative Security:

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Date Expiration Title Amount or Security Direct (D)

Exercisable Date Number of or Indirect

Shares (I)

(Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

GENDELL JEFFREY L ET AL 55 RAILROAD AVENUE, 3RD FLOOR Â Â X Â Â GREENWICH, CTÂ 06830

Signatures

By: Jeffrey L. Gendell, /s/Jeffrey L. Gendell

04/13/2006

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- The Reporting Person is the managing member of Tontine Management, L.L.C. ("TM"), a Delaware limited liability company, the general partner of Tontine Partners, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("TP"). The Reporting Person is also the managing member of Tontine Overseas Associates, L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company ("TOA"), the investment adviser to Tontine Overseas Fund, Ltd., a Cayman Islands corporation ("TOF").
 - The Reporting Person directly owns 120,000 shares of Common Stock. TP directly owns 2,604,112 shares of Common Stock. TOF directly owns 1,982,379 shares of Common Stock. All of the foregoing shares of Common Stock may be deemed to be beneficially
- (2) owned by the Reporting Person. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of the Issuer's securities reported herein for purposes of Section 16(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise, except as to securities directly owned by the Reporting Person or representing the Reporting Person's pro rata interest in, and interest in the profits of, TP, TM, TOA and TOF.

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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