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BANK OF NEW YORK CO INC

Form 424B3

January 31, 2005

The Bank of New York Company, Inc. [LOGO]

The Bank of New York Company, Inc.

\$529,297,000

The Bank of New York Company, Inc. CoreNotes (Registered Service Mark)

Filed under Rule 424 (b)(3), Registration Statement No. 333-103003, 333-103003-01, 333-103003-02, and 333-103003-03 Pricing Supplement No. 72 - dated January 28, 2005 (To prospectus dated August 10, 2004 and prospectus supplement dated August 10, 2004)

_____ Purchasing Proceeds Aggregate CUSIP Principal Price to Agent's Before
Number Amount Public(1) Discount(1) Expenses(1) ______ 0640P1BL6 \$4,696,000 100% 2.00% ______ Interest Interest Stated
Rate Per Payment Maturity
Annum Frequency Date Survivor's Option ______ 5.15% Semiannual 02/18/2020 YES Senior Subordinated Medium-Term Notes Series F

Interest Payment Dates: The 15th day of February and August of each year

commencing 08/15/2005.

Redemption Information: Redeemable at the option of The Bank of New York

Company, Inc. on 02/15/2008 and each Interest Payment

Date thereafter, at a price equal to 100% on 30

calendar days notice.

______ Purchasing Proceeds Aggregate Principal Price to Agent's Before
Amount Public(1) Discount(1) Expenses(1) CUSIP Principal Price to ______ 0640P1BM4 \$2,154,000 100% 2.50% ______

Interest Interest Stated
Rate Per Payment Maturity Survivor's
Annum Frequency Date Option ______

5.30% Semiannual 02/15/2030 YES

Senior Subordinated Medium-Term Notes Series ${\tt F}$

Interest Payment Dates: The 15th day of February and August of each year commencing 08/15/2005.

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Redemption Information: Redeemable at the option of The Bank of New York

Company, Inc. on 02/15/2010 and each Interest Payment

Date thereafter, at a price equal to 100% on $30\,$

calendar days notice.

The Bank of New York Company, Inc.

One Wall Street

New York, New York 10286

Trade Date: 01/28/2005 Issue Date: 02/02/2005

Minimum Denominations/Increments: \$1,000/\$1,000

Original Issue Discount: No

All trades settle without accrued interest and clear SDFS: DTC Book-Entry only

Merrill Lynch DTC Participant Number: 161

The defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions of the Senior Indenture and the Senior Subordinated Indenture described under "Description of Senior Debt Securities and Senior Subordinated Debt Securities - Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance" in the Prospectus will apply to the Senior and Senior Subordinated Notes respectively.

(1) Expressed as a percentage of the aggregate principal amount "CoreNotes(Registered Service Mark)" is a registered service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

Merrill Lynch & Co. Purchasing Agent Acting as Principal