

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Schedule 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. )\*

H&R BLOCK, INC.

-----  
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

-----  
(Title of Class of Securities)

093671105

-----  
(CUSIP Number)

Check the following box if a fee is being paid with this statement \_\_\_\_\_. (A fee is not required only if the filing 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 a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 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).

(Continued on following page(s))

Page 1 of 5 Pages

CUSIP NO. 093671105

13G

Page 2 of 5 Pages

- 1 Name of Reporting Person  
S.S. or I.R.S. Identification No. of Above Person

T. ROWE PRICE ASSOCIATES, INC.  
52-0556948

- 2 Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group\*

NOT APPLICABLE

(a) \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_

- 3 SEC Use Only  
  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 4 Citizenship or Place of Organization

MARYLAND

Number of 5 Sole Voting Power

\*\*

Shares 654,550  
Beneficially 6 Shared Voting Power  
\*\*  
Owned By Each -0-  
Reporting 7 Sole Dispositive Power  
\*\*  
Person 5,340,536  
With 8 Shared Dispositive Power

-0-

9 Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person  
5,340,536

10 Check Box if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain  
Shares\*

NOT APPLICABLE

11 Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row 9  
5.1%

12 Type of Reporting Person\*

IA

\*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

\*\*Any shares reported in Items 5 and 6 are also  
reported in Item 7.

SCHEDULE 13G  
PAGE 3 OF 5

Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:

Reference is made to page 1 of this Schedule 13G

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

4410 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Item 2(a) Name of Person(s) Filing:

(1) T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. ("Price  
Associates")

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Attached as Exhibit A is a copy of an agreement between  
the Persons Filing (as specified hereinabove) that this  
Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of each of them.

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office:

100 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Item 2(c) Citizenship or Place of Organization:

(1) Maryland

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:

Reference is made to page 1 of this Schedule 13G

Item 2(e) CUSIP Number: 093671105

Item 3 The person filing this Schedule 13G is an:

X Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the

Investment Advisers Act of 1940

\_\_\_\_\_ Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the  
Investment Company Act of 1940

Item 4 Reference is made to Items 5-11 on page 2 of this  
Schedule 13G.

SCHEDULE 13G  
PAGE 4 OF 5

Item 5 Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

X Not Applicable.

\_\_\_\_\_ This statement is being filed to report the fact that, as  
of the date of this report, the reporting person(s) has  
(have) ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five  
percent of the class of securities.

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

- (1) Price Associates does not serve as custodian of the  
assets of any of its clients; accordingly, in each  
instance only the client or the client's custodian or  
trustee bank has the right to receive dividends paid  
with respect to, and proceeds from the sale of, such  
securities.

The ultimate power to direct the receipt of dividends  
paid with respect to, and the proceeds from the sale  
of, such securities, is vested in the individual and  
institutional clients which Price Associates serves as  
investment adviser. Any and all discretionary  
authority which has been delegated to Price Associates  
may be revoked in whole or in part at any time.

Except as may be indicated if this is a joint filing  
with one of the registered investment companies  
sponsored by Price Associates which it also serves as  
investment adviser ("T. Rowe Price Funds"), not more  
than 5% of the class of such securities is owned by  
any one client subject to the investment advice of  
Price Associates.

- (2) With respect to securities owned by any one of the T.  
Rowe Price Funds, only State Street Bank and Trust  
Company, as custodian for each of such Funds, has the  
right to receive dividends paid with respect to, and  
proceeds from the sale of, such securities. No other  
person is known to have such right, except that the  
shareholders of each such Fund participate  
proportionately in any dividends and distributions so  
paid.

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

Not Applicable.

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

Not Applicable.

SCHEDULE 13G  
PAGE 5 OF 5

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not Applicable.

Item 10 Certification.

By signing below I (we) certify that, to the best of my (our) 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 purpose or effect. T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. hereby declares and affirms that the filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that Price Associates is the beneficial owner of the securities referred to, which beneficial ownership is expressly denied.

Signature.

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

Dated: February 14, 1997

T. ROWE PRICE ASSOCIATES, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Henry H. Hopkins, Managing Director

Note: This Schedule 13G, including all exhibits, must be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and a copy hereof must be sent to the issuer by registered or certified mail and to the principal national securities exchange on which the security is listed not later than February 14th following the calendar year covered by the statement or within the time specified in Rule 13d-1(b)(2), if applicable.

12/31/96