# Amstrad Notepa COMPUTER I/O SPECIFICATION

# Introduction

The following notes describe the low-level operation of the Amstrad Notepad computers. They are intended for third-party developers who want to program the Notepad in machine code.

As always, I will try to help out if anyone has questions about this but I cannot give an absolute guarantee to be able to provide support on the low-level operation of the machine.

It is our intention that these firmware routines and system variables should be maintained in future issues of the software but we cannot give an absolute quarantee about this.

Cliff Lawson Notepad project manager Amstrad Plc 169 Kings Road Brentwood Essex CM14 4EF ENGLAND CIS: 75300,1517

email: cliffl@amstrad.com amstrad@cix.compulink.co.uk Phone: (+44) 277 208341 Fax: (+44) 277 208065

# I/O Specification for Amstrad NC100

All numbers are in hexadecimal unless suffixed with a "b" for binary or "d" for decimal. Address line numbers A19, A18, etc are in decimal.

#### **SUMARY**

Address	Comment	R/W
E0-FF	Not Used	
D0-DF	RTC (TC8521)	R/W
C0-C1	UART (uPD71051)	R/W
B0-B9	Key data in	Ŕ
A0	Card Status etc.	R
90	IRQ request status	R/W
80-8F	Not Used	
70	Power on/off control	W
60	IRQ Mask	W
50-53	Speaker frequency	W
40	Parallel port data	W
30	Baud rate etc.	W
20	Card wiat control	W
10-13	Memory management	R/W
00	Display memory start	W

#### IN DETAIL

Address = 00 Start address of display memory Write only

bit 7	A15
bit 6	A14
bit 5	A13
bit 4	A12
bits 3-0	Not Used

On reset this is set to 0.

The display memory for the eight-line NC computers consists of a block of 4096 bytes where the first byte defines the state of the pixels in the top left-hand corner of the screen. A single bit set means the pixel is set to black. The first byte controls the first eight dots with bit 7 controlling the bit on the left. The next 59 bytes complete the first raster line of 480 dots. The bytes which define the second raster line start at byte 64 to make the hardware simpler so bytes 60, 61, 62 and 63 are wasted. There are then another 64 bytes (with the last four unused) which defines the second raster line and so on straight down the screen. That is (all numbers decimal):

Byte Bit Number	0 76543210	1 76543210	2 76543210	 59 76543210	60 76543210		63 76543210
Pixel Number (read bottom to top decimal)	01234567 00000000 00000000	89012345 00111111 00000000	67890123 11112222 00000000	 23456789 7777777 44444444	wasted	••	wasted

....and so on for subsequent lines. (Second line = bytes 64..127 etc.)

 10
 controls 0000-3FFF

 11
 controls 4000-7FFF

 12
 controls 8000-BFFF

 13
 controls C000-FFFF

On reset all are set to 0.

For each address the byte written has the following meaning:

bit 7-6 Together they select ROM, internal RAM, card RAM 00b = ROM 01b = internal RAM 10b = card RAM bits 5-0 Determine address lines 19 to 14.

Therefore, 00 is the first 16K of ROM, 01 is the second 16K, etc. 40 is the first 16K of internal RAM, 41=second 16K, etc. 80 is the first 16K of card RAM, 81=second 16K, etc.

So, for example, if you want to switch the third 16K of internal RAM so the processor sees it at 4000-7FFF you would output the value 42 to I/O address 11. 42 has bits 7,6=01b and bits 5-0 are 000010b which is the third 16K of internal RAM.

\_\_\_\_\_

Address = 20 Memory card wait state control Write only

card wart state control

bit 7 1 for wait states, 0 for no wait

On reset this is set to 1. The bit should be set if the card RAM/ROM is 200nS or slower.

\_\_\_\_\_

Address = 30 Port baud rate etc. Write only

```
Select card register, 1=common, 0=attribute
bit 7
bit 6
                               Parallel interface Strobe signal
                               Not Used
bit 5
                              uPD4711 line driver, 1=off, 0=on UART clock and reset, 1=off, 0=on Set the baud rate as follows:
bit 4
bit 3
bits 2-0
                               000 = 150
                               001 = 300
                               010 = 600
                               011 = 1200
                               100 = 2400
                               101 = 4800
                               110 = 9600
```

On reset all data is set to 1.

If programming the UART directly ensure that TxD clock is operating x16.

111 = 19200

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address = 40 Parallel interface data Write only

The byte written here is latched into the parallel port output register. To print it you must then take the Strobe signal (I/O address 30 bit 6) low and then high again. If the printer sends ACK this may generate an IRQ if the mask bit is set in I/O address 60 (IRQ mask).

Address = 50..53 Sound channels period control Write only

50 51	Channel A po	
52 53	Channel B po	

On reset all data is set to FF. The top bit in the high byte (51 and 53) switches the resepective sound generator on or off - 1=off, 0=on.

The frequency generated is determined as:

So if the data word programmed into 50 and 51 was 7800 (ie 50=0, 51=78) then the frequency generated would be:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address = 60 Write only Interrupt request mask

bits 7-4
bit 3
Key Scan interrupt (every 10mS)
bit 2
ACK from parallel interface
bit 1
Tx Ready from UART
bit 0
Rx Ready from UART

On reset all bits are  $\emptyset$ . For each bit, 1 =allow that interrupt source to produce IRQs,  $\emptyset =$ interrupt source is masked.

\_\_\_\_\_

Address = 70 Write only Power off control

bits 7-1 Not Used bit 0 1 = no effect, 0 = power off

On reset this is set to 1.

\_\_\_\_\_

Address = 90 Read/Write IRQ status

bits 7-4
bit 3
key scan
bit 2
ACK from parallel interface
bit 1
Tx Ready interrupt
bit 0
Rx Ready interrupt

When an interrupt occurs this port should be read to determine the source of the interrupt. The bit will be set to 1 to identify the interrupting device. The interrupt can then be cleared by writing  $\emptyset$  to that bit.

bit	7	Memory card present. 0 = yes, 1 = no
bit	6	Card write protected. 1 = yes, 0 = no
bit	5	<pre>Input voltage. 1 if &gt;= to 4 Volts</pre>
bit	4	Memory card battery. 0 = battery is low
bit	3	Alkaline batteries. 0 if >= 3.2 Volts
bit	2	Lithium battery. 0 if >= 2.7 Volts
bit	1	Parallel interface BUSY. 0 if busy
bit	0	Parallel interface ACK. 1 if ACK

Address = B0 - B9Keyboard data

Read only

B0..B9

Each key of the 64 on the keyboard will set a bit in one of these bytes while pressed.

The gate array scans the keyboard every 10mS and then generates an interrupt. The program should then read these 10 I/O locations to determine which key(s) is pushed. When I/O address B9 is read the key scan interrupt is cleared automatically and the next scan cycle will start from B0.

Address = C0 UART control/data (uPD71051) Read/Write

C0

UART data register UART status/control register

The UART is the NEC uPD71051. Programmers are advised to study the data sheet for that chip for more information. The Serial interface requires that the uPD4711 line driver chip be truned on by writing a 0 to bit 4 of I/O address 30. While turned on power consumption increases so this should only be done when necessary.

Address = D0Real Time Clock chip (TM8521) Read/Write

D0..DC Data

DD Control register Control register (Write only) DE Control register (Write only) DF

See data sheet of chip for more information.

# NC100 Operating System Firmware

Notes for External Program Writers

To get external programs executed on the Notepad you could either POKE them into memory in BBC BASIC (or even use its built—in Z80 assembler) and then CALL the entry point. However, this does have the drawback of needing to transfer the code back to the machine each time it crashes (as it inevitably will).

The simplest way to develop for the Notepad is to get a PCMCIA drive for your PC and write a binary image direct to the card using that. If this isn't possible then small programs (up to 16K) can be developed by transferring the binary card image into the Notepad using Xmodem from the PC. Then use the "Make program card" feature in the File Transfer menu to write that file onto a newly formatted PCMCIA RAM card.

In either case, to run the resultant code, you just press Function—X (eXecute) and the first 16K page of the RAM card will be switched to the Z80 memory map at C000.FFFF. A Check is made that location C200 holds the ASCII text "NC100PRG" and also that locations C210..C212 contains a long jump to C220. All being well, the Z80 starts executing code at C210 so that, once you have control, you can take over completely if you wish (driving all hardware functions directly). Most people will probably want to cooperate with the in built firmware as it provides most of the routines that one would require anyway.

- \* The ASCII text "NC100PRG" must appear at C200h
- \* Program origin is C210h
- \* Program MUST start with jp C220h
- \* The program name is at C213h, max 12 characters, zero terminated

org	C200h		
db	"NC100PRG"		
org	c210h		
jp db org	start "PROGRAM NAME",0 C220h		

Available workspace is A000h to A3FFh (shared with other programs), also A800h to AFFFh (this is overwritten if selectfile is called).

The program MUST handle yellow events: either

\* Exit when Stop is pressed, or

start ...

\* Check for yellow event with kmgetyellow and return if carry set

Serious developers may be interested in contacting Ranger Computers Ltd on (+44) 604 589200 as they can produce a device that looks like RAM to a PC but ends in a PCMCIA header plug that connects directly to the Notepad's card slot and the "PC RAM" appears as card RAM to the Notepad.

The following sequence is a working(!) piece of code written for the AVMACZ80 assembler on a PC, which, when assmembled produces a binary file that can be programmed onto a PCMCIA card and executed. The program just reads keys and prints them back until "Q" is pressed.

Notice that exit from the program is just by a RET back to the operating system that called it:

```
include "nc100jmp.inc"
                                                  ;The list of firmware routine
                                                  ;addresses given later in this
                                                  ;file.
           DEFSEG
                     Fred, CLASS=CODE, START=0
           SEG
                     Fred
                                                  ;Seg will be linked to RUNSAT C000h.
                                                  ;Put a jump at the start in case this code is
           jр
                     start
                                                  ;ever programmed into a ROM page where the entry ;will almost certainly be made at the more
                                                  ;normal C000.
           ds
                     509
                                                  ;Waste first 512 bytes of card to start at C200.
 Following 16 bytes are Arnor's header for card at C200
                     "NC100PRG",0,0,0,0,0,3,0,1
  Card program must start with this long jump at C210
                                                  ;Tthis is at C210h.
           ďb
                     "CLIFFS PROG",0,0
                                                  ;Pad with zeros to C220h.
start:
           call
                     kmreadchar
           ld
                     a,c
                     "ģ"
           ср
                     z, finish
           jr
           call
                     txtoutput
           jr
                     start
finish:
           ret
           end
  Code is assembled with:
           AVMACZ80 TEST.ASM
 which produces a .OBJ file which is then linked to produce a .HEX file
 with the command
           AVLINK @TEST.LNK
 where TEST.LNK contains:
           TEST.HEX=TEST.OBJ -RUNSAT(Fred, 0C000h)
 Finally the Intel .HEX file is converted to .BIN using a HEX2BIN converter.
 The .BIN file is either written to the PCMCIA card using a PC based
 card drive or it can be Xmodemed across to the Notepad and written to
 the card using "Make program card". Finally, Function-X executes it.
```

In other assemblers you may not have "segments" and must use a direct ORG to locate code at C000 but watch out for the resultant .HEX file being padded out with 48K of "0"s from 0000 to BFFF

# Notepad Memory Map

# 16K code/data sections always mapped to C000h

video RAM		Protext  Dictionary      data	Ctrl Calc Addr Diary  BBC      book   BASIC
RAM	C000	1 & 2   6 blocks	<u>i i i i i i </u>
stack/variables	B000	<pre>&gt; common RAM (accessi</pre>	hle by all programs)
RAM 	8000	/	
RAM			PLS
     RAM	4000	OS- remaps high       Startup code	spell   checking   code

# Alphabetic List of Routine Entry Points

To use any one of these routines just load the registers as described in the following and then call the relevant address. Although the running of the routine may involve a different ROM bank being switched in, this mechanism is invisble to the caller. So, for example, to print a capital A one might use:

txtoutput

EQU B833 LD A,"A" CALL txtoutput

col1	equ	B818h
col1text	equ	B81Bh
diskservice	equ	BA5Eh
editbuf	equ	B800h
fclose	equ	B890h
fdatestamp	equ	B8C9h
ferase	equ	B893h
fgetattr	equ	B8CFh
finblock	equ	B896h
finchar	equ	B899h
findfirst	equ	B89Ch
findnext	equ	B89Fh
fnoisy	equ	B917h
fopenin	equ	B8A2h
fopenout	equ	B8A5h
fopenup	equ	B8A8h
foutblock	equ	B8ABh
foutchar	equ	B8AEh
fquiet	equ	B91Ah
frename	equ	B8B1h
fseek	equ	B8B4h
fsetattr	•	B8CCh
fsize	equ	B8B7h
fsizehandle	equ	B8BAh
ftell	equ	B8BDh
ftesteof	equ equ	B8C0h
i testeoi	equ	Восин
heapaddress	equ	B87Eh
heapalloc	equ	B881h
heapfree	equ	B884h
heaplock	equ	B887h
heapmaxfree	equ	B88Ah
heaprealloc	equ	B88Dh
kmcharreturn	equ	B803h
kmgetyellow	equ	B8D2h
kmreadkbd	equ	B806h
kmreadchar	equ	B9B3h
kmsetexpand	equ	B809h
kmsettickcount	equ	B80Ch
kmsetyellow	equ	B8D5h
kmwaitkbd	equ	B80Fh
lapcat_receive	equ	B8D8h
lapcat_send	equ	B8DBh
mcprintchar	equ	B851h
mcreadyprinter	equ	B854h
mcsetprinter	equ	B857h
padgetticker	equ	B872h
padgettime	equ	B875h
padgetversion	equ	B8DEh
padinitprinter	equ	BA4Fh
padinitserial	equ	B85Ah
padinserial	equ	B85Dh
padoutparallel	equ	B860h
padoutserial	equ	B863h
F = 300 000. 200	~ ~ ~	200311

padreadyparallel padreadyserial padresetserial padserialwaiting padsetalarm padsettime pagemodeon pagemodeoff	equ equ equ equ equ equ equ	B866h B869h B86Ch B86Fh B878h B87Bh BA49h BA4Ch
readbuf	equ	B812h
selectfile setdta	equ equ	B8C3h B8C6h
testescape textout textoutcount txtboldoff txtboldon txtclearwindow txtcuroff txtcuron txtgetcursor txtgetwindow txtinverseoff txtinverseon txtoutput txtsetcursor txtsetwindow txtunderlineoff txtunderlineon txtwrchar	equ	B815h B81Eh B821h B83Fh B842h B824h B827h B82Ah B82Dh B830h B845h B848h B833h B836h B839h B84Eh B84Eh

# Operating System Routines

#### General Notes

- \* Most routines return carry set if successful.
- \* Unless otherwise stated assume AF corrupted, other registers preserved.
- \* "All registers preserved" includes flags, but NOT alternate registers; the ALTERNATE register contents can NEVER be assumed to be preserved (they are used as scratch registers in time-critical routines).

```
_____
```

# editbuf = B800

Line editor with options.

Zero-terminated string may be passed in buffer (HL) - this will display the initial contents.

ENTRY

HL = pointer to input buffer.

B = size of buffer (excluding terminating zero).

A = flags.

b6 = 1 -> Dotty background (character 176).

b5 = 1 -> Edit unless characters entered.

b4 = 1 -> Delete trailing spaces.

b3 = 1 -> Input not echoed.

b2 = 1 -> Terminate entry.

Other bits must be set to zero.

EXIT c = 0, z = 1: ESC pressed

c = 1, z = 1: empty string input

c = 1, z = 0: at least one character entered

HL preserved

BC = last key token (or -1 if ESC used to terminate)

kmcharreturn = B803

Returns a token to the keyboard buffer

ENTRY BC = the token

EXIT All registers preserved

ктгеаакра = ввио

Gets a key token if there is one, does not wait (checks put-back character and expands macros). Returns tick event tokens if enabled.

ENTRY None

EXIT c = 1: BC = token (B = 0 for simple character).

c = 0: no key token available.

kmreadchar = B9B3

This routine is the same as kmreadkbd but macros are exapnded and one or two other "behind the scenes" tasks are performed. By using this routine you can be sure that the Ctrl+Shift+S screen dump mechanism works in your code

kmsetexpand = B809

Defines a macro string.

ENTRY BC = macro token (between 256 and 383).

HL points to new macro string (first byte is the length, followed by the string -

need not be zero terminated)

EXIT c = 1 if macro defined successfully.

c = 0 if insufficient room in buffer.
(The buffer size is user configurable)

kmsettickcount = B80C

Enables the ticker event.

There are 100 ticks per second.

When a ticker event occurs, t.tickevent is returned by kmreadkbd.

ENTRY HL = number of ticks before first event.

DE = number of ticks between events.

EXIT All registers preserved.

===========

kmwaitkbd = B80F

Waits for a key token, uses kmreadkbd (checks put-back character and expands macros).

Returns tick event tokens if enabled.

ENTRY None

EXIT c = 1: BC = token (B= 0 for simple character).

==========

readbuf = B812

Line editor. See also editbuf.

ENTRY HL = pointer to input buffer (empty).

B = size of buffer (excluding terminating zero).

EXIT c = 0, z = 1: ESC pressed.

c = 1, z = 1: Empty string input.

c = 1, z = 0: At least one character entered.

HL preserved.

BC = last key token (or -1 if ESC used to terminate).

\_\_\_\_\_

testescape = B815

Tests whether an ESC key has been pressed (STOP or FUNCTION).

Waits for a key if one is found in the keyboard buffer.

ENTRY None.

EXIT c = 1 if no ESC key in buffer.

c = 1 if ESC key in buffer but STOP not pressed. c = 0 if ESC key in buffer and STOP then pressed.

A is preserved.

========

col1 = B818

========

If cursor is at start of a line do nothing, otherwise move cursor to start of next line (within

window).

ENTRY None.

EXIT None.

===========

col1text = B81B

===========

Same as textout, but calls col1 first.

=========

textout = B81E

\_\_\_\_\_

Displays string.

ENTRY HL: pointer to zero-terminated string.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

WARNING - HL must not point into an upper ROM!

\*

EXIT None.

```
textoutcount = B821
As textout, returns character count in B.
txtclearwindow = B824
Clears current window and moves cursor to top left.
txtcuroff = B827
_____
Removes the cursor from the screen.
ENTRY
            None.
EXIT
            All registers preserved.
===========
txtcuron = B82A
==========
Displays the cursor on the screen.
FNTRY
            None.
EXIT
            All registers preserved.
_____
txtgetcursor = B82D
Returns the cursor position.
ENTRY
            None.
            H = column (between 0 and 79).
EXIT
            L = row (between 0 and 7).
txtgetwindow = B830
_____
Returns the window coordinates.
ENTRY
            None
            H = left column (between 0 and 79).
EXIT
            L = top row (between 0 and 7).
            D = right column (between 0 and 79).
            E = bottom row (between 0 and 7).
            c = 0 if window is whole screen.
c = 1 if a smaller window has been.
txtoutput = B833
Displays a character or acts on control code.
ENTRY
            A = Character.
                         A = 7 : beep
                         A = 10 : LF
                         A = 13 : CR
            All other values displayed as character (PC char. set).
EXIT
            All registers preserved.
_____
txtsetcursor = B836
_____
Moves the cursor.
            H = column (between 0 and 79).
ENTRY
            L = row (between 0 and 7).
```

None.

EXIT

```
txtsetwindow = B839
_____
Defines a new window.
ENTRY
            H = left column (between 0 and 79).
            L = top row (between 0 and 7).
            D = right column (between 0 and 79).
            E = bottom row (between 0 and 7).
EXIT
            None.
_____
txtwrchar = B83C
_____
Displays a character.
            A = character. All values displayed (PC char. set).
ENTRY
EXIT
            All registers preserved.
_____
              = B83F
txtboldoff
txtboldon
              = B842
txtinverseoff = B845
txtinverseon
             = B848
txtunderlineoff = B84B
txtunderlineon = B84E
These six routines enable or disable various display attributes. They have no entry conditions and
preserve all registers.
================
mcprintchar = B851
============
Sends a character to the printer.
ENTRY
            A = character.
EXIT
            c = 1 if successful.
            c = 0 if not sent.
            A preserved.
_____
mcreadyprinter = B854
Tests whether the printer is ready.
FNTRY
            None.
            c = 0 if busy.
c = 1 if ready.
EXIT
            A preserved.
mcsetprinter = B857
Sets the printer type to be used by mcprintchar and mcreadyprinter.
ENTRY
            A = printer type: 0 = parallel, 1 = serial
EXIT
            None.
```

Initialises the serial port using the global configured settings.

Do not call this until needed - to prolong battery life.

padinitserial = B85A

**ENTRY** 

EXIT

Turns on the UART and 4711.

None.

None.

#### padinserial = B85D \_\_\_\_\_

Reads a character from the serial port.

**ENTRY** None.

c = 1 if successful, A = character. EXIT

c = 0 if no character read.

# padoutparallel = B806

Sends a character to the parallel port.

**ENTRY** A = character.

c = 1 if successful. **EXIT** 

c = 0 if not sent.

A preserved.

#### 

## padoutserial = B863

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sends a character to the serial port.

**FNTRY** A = character.

EXIT

c = 1 if successful. c = 0 if not sent.

A preserved.

## padreadyparallel = B866

\_\_\_\_\_

Tests whether the parallel port is ready.

**ENTRY** None.

EXIT c = 0 if busy.

c = 1 if ready. A preserved.

#### \_\_\_\_\_

## padreadyserial = B869

Tests whether the serial port is ready.

**ENTRY** None.

EXIT c = 0 if busy.

c = 1 if ready. A preserved.

## padresetserial = B86C

Turns off the UART and 4711.

Call this when finished using the serial port to prolong battery life.

ENTRY None. EXIT None.

### padserialwaiting = B86F

Tests whether there is a character waiting to be read from the serial port.

**ENTRY** None.

EXIT c = 1 if character waiting.

c = 0 if no character waiting.

```
padgetticker = B872
```

Returns the address of a 4-byte 100Hz ticker.

ENTRY None.

EXIT HL is the address of the least significant byte.

padgettime = B875

Reads the time and date from the RTC.

ENTRY HL points to a 7-byte buffer to use.

EXIT HL preserved.

Data returned as above (see padsettime).

padsetalarm = B878

Sets the ALARM date and time (within next month).

ENTRY HL points to 3-byte data area:

byte 0 = date.
1 = hour.
2 = minute.

EXIT None.

Sets the RTC date and time.

ENTRY HL points to 7-byte data area:

bytes 0,1 = year (low, high).

2 = month. 3 = date. 4 = hour. 5 = minute. 6 = second.

EXIT None.

Obtains the address of a memory block for a given memory handle.

ENTRY DE = memory handle.

EXIT HL = pointer to memory block.

heapalloc = B881

Allocates a block of memory from the heap.

ENTRY DE = number of bytes to allocate.

EXIT HL = memory handle in range [1,63] if successful.

HL = 0 if failed.

Note: heapaddress must be used to get a pointer to the memory block. Unless the block is

locked with heaplock, heapaddress must be called each time the memory block is used.

IT MAY HAVE MOVED.

heapfree = B884

Frees a block of memory.

DE = memory handle, returned by heapalloc or heaprealloc. **ENTRY** 

None (preserves HL,BC). EXIT

The memory handle passed must be a valid handle returned by heapalloc or heaprealloc. Note:

This is not validated.

heaplock = B887

\_\_\_\_\_

Locks or unlocks a memory block.

**ENTRY** DE = memory handle.

BC = non zero - the block is locked. It will not be moved until unlocked so fixed

addresses can be used as pointers into the block.

BC = 0 - the block is unlocked.

\_\_\_\_\_

heapmaxfree = B88A\_\_\_\_\_

Returns the largest block size that can be allocated.

**ENTRY** 

EXIT HL = largest free block size in bytes.

heaprealloc = B88D

\_\_\_\_\_

Changes the size of an allocated memory block.

**ENTRY** DE = memory handle.

BC = new size for memory block.

HL = zero if failed to reallocate. The old block will not be freed but could have **EXIT** 

moved.

HL = non-zero if successful.

Note:

If the block is being expanded, it must be assumed that the base of the memory block will be moved (even if the block cannot actually be expanded) so heapaddress must be

called afterwards. If the block is being contracted, the base will not move.

fclose = B890 =========

Closes a file.

**ENTRY** DE = file handle.

c = 1 if successful. c = 0 if failed. **EXIT** 

=========

ferase = B893

\_\_\_\_\_ Erases a file.

HL = zero-terminated filename. **ENTRY** 

c = 1 if 0K.EXIT

c = 0 if error (file not found).

finblock = B896\_\_\_\_\_ Reads a block from a file. DE = file handle. **FNTRY** HL = buffer. BC = number of bytes to read (> 0). c = 1 if end of file not reached. c = 0 if eof (or error?). **EXIT** BC = number of bytes read. HL = address after last byte read. KNOWN BUG (1.00,1.01) finblock does not set the file position so repeated calls will always read from the start of the file. Workaround: call fseek after calling finblock to set the pointer. finchar B899 ======== Reads a byte from a file. DE = file handle. **ENTRY** c = 1 if successful, A = character**EXIT** c = 0, A corrupt if end of file reached. Other registers preserved. ============ findfirst = B89CFinds first file. setdta must have been called first. **ENTRY** HL = 0 if no files. **EXIT** HL = pointer to file info structure if file found: filename, zero-terminated (up to 12 characters long). Offset 0 is attribute byte. Offset 13 Offset 14-15 is the file size in bytes. \_\_\_\_\_ findnext = B89FFinds next file. findfirst must have been called first. **ENTRY** None. **EXIT** HL = 0 if no more files. HL as findfirst if file found. ========== fopenin = B8A2Opens a file for input. **ENTRY** HL points to zero-terminated filename. c = 1 if successful, DE = file handle. **EXIT** c = 0 if failed (file not found), DE corrupt if error. A corrupt. Other registers preserved. fopenout = B8A5 Opens a file for output.

HL points to zero-terminated filename.

Other registers preserved.

A corrupt.

**ENTRY** 

EXIT

c = 1 if successful, DE = file handle
c = 0 if failed (out of memory/too many files/file exists), DE corrupt if error.

fopenup = B8A8 \_\_\_\_\_ Opens a file for input and output. The file must exist already. **ENTRY** HL points to zero-terminated filename. **EXIT** c = 1 if successful, DE = file handle. c = 0 if file not found, DE corrupt if error. A corrupt. Other registers preserved. foutblock = B8AB \_\_\_\_\_ Writes a block to a file. **ENTRY** DE = file handle. HL = buffer. BC = number of bytes to write (> 0). **EXIT** c = 1 if 0K.c = 0 if error. BC = number of bytes written. HL = address after last byte written. \_\_\_\_\_ foutchar = B8AEWrites a byte to a file. **ENTRY** DE = file handle. A = character. **EXIT** c = 1 if successful. c = 0, A corrupt if end of file reached. A corrupt. Other registers preserved. \_\_\_\_\_ frename = B8B1Renames a file **ENTRY** HL = zero-terminated old filename. DE = zero-terminated new filename. c = 1 if 0K.**EXIT** c = 0 if error (file not found). fseek = B8B4Moves the file pointer to a position within a file. **ENTRY** DE = file handle. BC = offset from start of file. **EXIT** c = 1 if successful. c = 0 if offset past end of file (pointer not changed). KNOWN BUG (1.00,1.01) Leaves error messages enabled (fnoisy). Workaround: call fquiet after fopenout if necessary. ======== fsize = B8B7========= Finds size of file. **ENTRY** HL = zero-terminated filename. c = 1, HL = size in bytes, if found. c = 0 if not found.

**EXIT** 

```
fsizehandle = B8BA
_____
Finds size of an open file.
ENTRY
            DE = file handle.
            HL = size in bytes.
EXIT
ftell = B8BD
========
Returns the value of the file pointer.
            DE = file handle.
EXIT
            HL = current file position.
ftesteof = B8C0
_____
Tests whether end of file has been reached.
            DE = file handle.
ENTRY
EXIT
            c = 1 if not eof.
            c = 0 if eof.
===========
selectfile = B8C3
Displays the file selector (clears the screen first). Shows all files and allows a selection to be
made using the cursor keys and RETURN.
ENTRY
            c = 1 if a file selected (RETURN pressed), HL = filename.
FXTT
            c = 0 if STOP pressed.
=========
setdta = B8C6
Set memory block to be used by findfirst/findnext.
ENTRY
            DE = address of buffer (at least 35 bytes long). Buffer must be in
                 common RAM (8000-BFFF).
EXIT
            None.
===========
fdatestamp = B8C9
_____
Sets file date/time to current date/time.
            HL = zero terminated filename.
ENTRY
EXIT
            c = 1 if successful.
            c = 0 if not found.
fsetattr = B8CC
Sets the attribute byte for a file open for output.
If the file is open for input only there is no effect.
ENTRY
            DE = file handle
```

bit 0 = system file.
bit 1 = hidden file.
bit 2 = BASIC program.
bit 3 = binary file.

C = attribute byte:

c = 1 if successful. c = 0 if not found.

**EXIT** 

fgetattr = B8CF \_\_\_\_\_

Returns attribute byte of file.

**ENTRY EXIT** 

HL = zero-terminated filename. c = 1, A = attribute, if found.

c = 0, if not found.

HL preserved.

\_\_\_\_\_

kmgetyellow = B8D2

Ascertains whether a 'yellow event' is pending (so called because the FUNCTION key is coloured yellow). A yellow event occurs:

(i) When the user has pressed one of the the FUNCTION+key combinations that cause

an immediate context switch (FUNCTION+red, FUNCTION+green, FUNCTION+blue, FUNCTION+menu), or

(ii) When the machine is powered up and (because the option to

preserve context has not been set) needs to return to the main menu.

**ENTRY** EXIT

None.

c=1, BC = token if yellow event pending. An application should exit normally as quickly as possible. Any UNSAVED FILES should be SAVED AUTOMATICALLY!

c = 0, BC = 0 if no yellow event pending.

Note:

Each of the yellow event keys return the ESC token (2FCh). An application should call kmgetyellow whenever an ESC is read, this distinguishes between a yellow event and an ordinary ESC.

kmsetyellow = B8D5

Sets up a yellow event. Specialised use only.

BC = a yellow event token.

FXTT None.

\_\_\_\_\_

lapcat\_receive = B8D8

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reads a character from the parallel port using Lapcat protocol.

**ENTRY** 

None.

c = 1 if successful, A = character. EXIT

c = 0 if no character read.

 $lapcat\_send = B8DB$ 

Sends a character to the parallel port using Lapcat protocol.

**ENTRY** 

A = character.

c = 1 if successful. **EXIT** 

c = 0 if error.

padgetversion = B8DE

Gets the firmware version number.

**ENTRY** 

None.

**EXIT** HL = version number (\*100). Thus 103 indicates version 1.03. **ENTRY** 

**EXIT** 

Calls a Ranger disk routine.

```
C = number of routine to call.
A, HL, DE passed to the disk routine.
c = 1 if successful, HL may contain returned value.
c = 0 if failed, A = error code (see Ranger documentation).
C = 0
                  r_test
                  r_begin
      3
      6
                  r_change_disk
                  r_check_disk
r_get_cd
r_set_cd
      9
      Č
      F
      .
12
                  r_set_dta
                  r_{find} first
      15
                  r_find_next
r_save_file
      18
      1B
                  r_retrieve_file
      1E
      21
                  r_set_attrib
                  r_create_directory
r_remove_directory
r_delete_file
     24
27
      2A
      2D
                   r_rename_file
      30
                  r_finish
                  r_disk_space
r_install
      33
      36
      39
                  r_park_heads
                  r_format_track
r_format_done
      3C
      3F
      42
                  r_save_wordstar
      45
                  r_save_ascii
                  r_begin_program
r_load_program
      48
      4B
```

# System Variables

The following are the RAM based variables used by the operating system. It is hoped that they will always use these locations in subsequent versions of the software — but this is not guaranteed.

```
B000
                                                              ; Copy of MMU0 since it's a write-only port.
         copyofmmu0
                                      ds
                                             1
B001
        copyofmmu1
                                      ds
                                             1
                                                              ; Copy of MMU1 since it's a write-only port.
                                                              ; Copy of MMU2 since it's a write-only port.; Vopy of MMU3 since it's a write-only port.
B002
        copyofmmu2
                                      ds
                                             1
        copyofmmu3
B003
                                      ds
                                             1
R004
                                      ds
        gotcontext
                                             1
                                                              ; Extra vars needed in case we mustn't save
B005
         __savepearlmmu
                                      ds
                                             1
                                                              ; context.
        __saveaf
                                             2
B006
                                      ds
B008
         savehl
                                      ds
                                             2
B00A
        saveaf
                                             2
                                                              ; To save context, we need to save all
                                      ds
                                                              ; the registers...
B00C
                                             2
                                      ds
        savebc
B00E
                                             2
        savede
                                      ds
B010
                                             2
        savehl
                                      ds
                                             2
B012
        saveix
                                      ds
                                             2
B014
        saveiy
                                      ds
                                             2
2
B016
                                      ds
        savepc
B018
                                      ds
        savesp
        saveafdash
                                      ds
                                             2
B01A
B01C
        savebcdash
                                      ds
                                             2
                                             2
B01E
        savededash
                                      ds
B020
                                             2
        savehldash
                                      ds
B022
        savemmu0
                                      ds
                                             1
                                                              ; ...and the memory state.
B023
        savemmu1
                                      ds
                                             1
B024
        savemmu2
                                      ds
                                             1
B<sub>0</sub>25
                                      ds
                                             1
        savemmu3
                                             2
B<sub>0</sub>26
        savecritpc
                                      ds
B028
        savecritsp
                                      ds
B02A
        savingcontext
                                      ds
                                             1
B02B
        nmimagic
                                      ds
                                             4
B<sub>02</sub>F
        nmichksums
                                      ds
                                             8
                                                              ; Checksum bytes of first 8 roms.
B037
        criticalpc
                                      ds
                                             2
                                                              ; Save pc,sp for recovery from NMI
                                                              ; during IRQ.
                                             2
B039
        criticalsp
                                      ds
B03B
                                      ds
                                             80
                                                              ; A small stack which we only use
                                                              ; in initialisation.
                                                                It can't sensibly overlap with anything
                                                                in case we get an NMI requring immediate
                                                                shut down after saving context.
                                                                Subsequent power on will have to
                                                              ; restore the context.
B08B
         initstack
B08B
        diagnostics?
                                      ds
                                             1
                                                              ; Flag used in start-up,
                                                              ; non-zero to do diagnostics.
B08C
         saveprinstat
                                      ds
B08D
         kbdstate1
                                      ds
                                             10
                                                              ; 1 bit per key, 1 = down 0 = up;
                                                              ; corresponds to matrix.
B097
                                             10
        kbdstate2
                                      ds
PADKEYBUFLEN
                                             32
                                                              ; This MUST be 2^n for positive integer n.
                                      equ
                                             PADKEYBUFLEN*2
B0A1
        padkeybuf
                                      ds
        padnextin
B0E1
                                      dς
                                             1
                                                              ; Offset into padkeybuf.
B<sub>0</sub>E<sub>2</sub>
        padnextout
                                      ds
                                             1
B0E3
        padbufempty
                                      ds
                                             1
                                                              ; Non-zero if empty.
B0E4
         lastkbdstate
                                      ds
                                             2
B0E6
                                             2
        thiskbdstate
                                      ds
B0E8
        caps.state
                                      ds
                                             1
                                                              ; 0 = off FF = on.
B0F9
        savecaps
                                      ds
                                             1
BØEA
        justswitchedon?
                                      ds
; variables above here are preserved after timeout
PADSERBUFLEN
                                             32
                                                              ; This MUST be 2<sup>n</sup> for positive integer n.
                                      eau
B0EB
        padserbuf
                                      ds
                                             PADSERBUFLEN
B10B
        padsernextin
                                      ds
                                             1
B10C
        padsernextout
                                      ds
                                             1
```

ds

1

B10D

padserbufempty

```
B<sub>10</sub>E
        padserin_xoff
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                            Non-zero when XOFF has stopped inward
                                                            transmission.
B10F
        padserout xoff
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                          ; Non-zero when XOFF has stopped outward
                                                            transmission.
B110
        disablexonxoff
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                            Non-zero to disable software handshake.
B111
                                          1
                                                          ; Set non-zero when ACK interrupt occurs.
        ackirq
                                    ds
        rptdelay
                                          1
                                                          ; Centisecs.
B112
                                    ds
        rptrate
B113
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                            Centisecs.
B114
        rpttimer
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                            Countdown timer for key repeat.
B115
        keytorepeat
                                          1
                                                            Key number.
                                    ds
B116
        rptkeystates
                                                          ; Shift states.
                                    ds
                                          1
                                    ds
B117
                                          13
        rtcbuf
B124
        d.alarmday
                                                          ; Alarm day, hour, min ready for rtc chip
                                    ds
                                          6
B12A
        alarmhappened
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                          ; Non-zero when alarm has gone off,
                                                            message pending.
B12B
        alarmhappenedgotmsg
                                          1
                                                          ; Non-zero when alarm has gone off,
                                    ds
                                                          ; got message & pending.
                                                            Non-zero if we're playing a tune.
B12C
        soundcounter
                                          1
                                    ds
B12D
        soundptr
                                          2
                                                          ; Lointer to array of frequency, duration.
                                    ds
B12F
        soundrepcount
                                    ds
                                          1
B130
                                          2
        soundrepptr
                                    ds
                                          1
B132
        poweroffminutes
                                    ds
                                                          ; Configured time to power off.
B133
        minutesleft
                                    ds
                                          1
                                          2
B134
        minutecounter
                                    ds
B136
        eventhappened
                                          1
                                    ds
B137
        preservecontext
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                            0 = return to main screen at power on.
                                                          ; 1 = dont preserve (diag/batt).
B138
        dontpreservecontext
                                          1
                                    ds
B139
        mainprog
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                          ; 6 = inbasic, 128 = inexternal
                                                            (foreground program id).
                                          1
                                                            0 = parallel, 1 = serial.
B13A
        currentprinter
                                    ds
B13B
        currentmenu
                                    ds
                                          2
                                                            Pointer to current menu.
B13D
        wasmenusel
                                           1
                                                          ; After kmwaitchar this is 1 if menu used,
                                    ds
                                                            0 if not.
                                                            Need this in fsel to know whether
                                                            redraw needed.
B13E
        lastsecond
                                    ds
                                          1
                                                          ; Checked to see whether to update the time
B13F
        clockon?
                                    ds
                                                            Used in Protext,
                                          1
                                                          ; non-zero when clock is enabled.
B140
        sdumpname
                                    ds
                                          4
                                                          ; s.a, s.b, s.c etc. for screen dump name
 force d.workspace to an 8 byte boundary
                                                          ; For massaged copy of symbol data
B148
        d.workspace
                                    ds
                                                          ; (eg. inverse/underline).
B150
        d.datebuf
                                    ds
                                          9+MAXMONTHI FN
                                                          ; 27 January 1992
B162
        d.asciitime
                                    ds
                                          12
                                                          ; hh:mm:ss xm\0
B16E
                                          cfg.len
        currentcfg
                                    ds
B1BA
        g.outstream
                                    ds
                                                            bit 0 for screen,
                                                                 1 for printer,
                                                                 2 for file.
B1BB
        g.h.outfile
                                    ds
                                          2
                                                            File handle for charout if bit 2 set.
B1BD
                                                            Current column number (charout).
        g.pos
                                    ds
                                          1
B1CE
        def.fname
                                    ds
                                          MAXPNLEN+1
                                                          ; Name of current file being edited.
                                                          : First byte not zero if document open
                                                            (yellow/red goes to edit mode,
                                                          ; transfer from addrbook works).
B1DD
        def.first
                                    ds
                                          1
        ; DO NOT CHANGE THE LAYOUT OF THE FIRST 21 BYTES
        0024
                                    len.findinfo
                                                          equ 36
        000D
                                    o.findinfo.attr
                                                          equ 13
        000E
                                    o.findinfo.size
                                                          equ 14
                                                          equ 16
        0010
                                    o.findinfo.time
        0012
                                    o.findinfo.date
                                                          equ 18
        0023
                                    o.findinfo.mhandle
                                                          equ 35
```

```
B1DE
        d.findinfobuf
                                   ds len.findinfo
        0002
                                   o.file.size
                                                         equ 2
        0005
                                   o.file.mhandle
                                                         equ 5
        000D
                                   o.file.attr
                                                         equ 13
                                   o.direntry.attr
        000D
                                                         equ 13
        000E
                                   o.direntry.size
                                                         equ 14
                                   o.direntry.time
        0010
                                                         equ 16
        0012
                                   o.direntry.date
                                                         equ 18
        char name[13];
                                   /* 12 chars plus \0 (the file we found) */
        char attribute;
                                   /* Filesize can't be bigger than 64K */
        uint size;
        uint time, date;
                                   /* If we allow time & date stamping */
        char flags;
                                   /* Memory block flags */
        char handle;
                                   /* Memory block handle */
; PEARL.TXT DATA
; The following 8 bytes are saved for each stream
B202
        d.thisstream
                                   ds
                                          8-8
B202
        d.colrow
                                   ds
                                          2-2
                                                          ; Keep next 2 together.
B202
        d.row
                                                           0-based within window.
                                   ds
                                          1
B203
        d.col
                                   dς
                                          1
                                          2-2
B204
        d.winlefttop
                                   ds
                                                          ; Keep next 2 together.
B204
        d.wintop
                                   ds
                                          1
B205
        d.winleft
                                   ds
                                          1
B206
        d.winsize
                                   ds
                                          2-2
                                                          ; Keep next 2 together.
                                                         ; Height - 1.
B206
        d.winheight
                                   ds
                                          1
B207
        d.winwidth
                                                          ; Width - 1.
                                   ds
                                          1
                                                         ; Non-zero if window. ; bit 7 if inverse on.
B208
        d.winset?
                                   ds
                                          1
B209
        d.state
                                   ds
                                          1
; The following are recalculated from the above (in txtstrselect)
B20A
        d.colrowcount
                                   ds
                                          2-2
                                                          ; Keep next 2 together.
B20A
        d.rowcount
                                   ds
                                          1
B20B
        d.colcount
                                   ds
                                          1
                                                         ; How many more cols to print on this line.
        d.stream
B20C
                                                           Current stream number.
                                   ds
                                          1
B20D
        d.fastpos
                                   ds
                                          2
                                                          ; Needed for quick screen update.
B20F
                                          8*NSTREAMS
                                                         ; 8 streams of 8 bytes each.
        d.streamwsp
                                   ds
B24F
                                   dς
                                          2
                                                          ; Non null for expanding time/date.
        d.dateptr
B251
        d.kmcharret
                                          2
                                                           Returned character.
                                   ds
                                          2
B253
        d.kstate
                                                           Key locks state.
                                   ds
B255
                                                          ; Shift states set by sticky key press.
        d.caslocks
                                   ds
                                          1
B256
        d.sticky
                                   ds
                                          1
                                                           Non-zero in sticky key mode.
B257
        d.yellow
                                   ds
                                          1
                                                           Low byte of yellow/other key token
                                                           stored by p.xlattoken which then
                                                           returns ÉSĆ.
B258
        d.calcmode
                                   ds
                                          1
                                                          ; Non-zero if keyboard in calculator mode.
                                                         ; Expansion string length. ; Expansion string pointer.
B259
        d.kmexplen
                                   ds
                                          1
                                          2
B25A
        d.kmexpptr
                                   ds
B25C
                                          2
                                                          ; Address of expansion key buffer.
        d.expbuffer
                                   ds
                                          2
B<sub>2</sub>5E
        d.expbufptr
                                   ds
                                                          ; Pointer to free byte.
                                          2
B260
        d.expbufend
                                   ds
                                                          ; Last byte in buffer.
B2A1
                                   ds
                                          256
        macro_buf
; file selector variables
B3A7
                                                          ; Non-zero if CAT command, not fsel.
        fs_clicat
                                   ds
                                          1
                                                          ; Non-zero if showing file sizes (pad
B3A8
        fs_showsizes
                                   ds
                                          1
                                                          ; default = off).
B3A9
        fs_showsys
                                   ds
                                          1
                                                           Non-zero if showing system files.
                                                           Current file number offset from top left.
ВЗАА
        fs curfile
                                   ds
                                          1
взав
        fs_topleftfile
                                                          ; File number displayed top left.
                                   ds
                                          1
ВЗАС
        fs_numcols
                                   ds
                                          1
```

ds

1

B3AD

fs\_colwidth

```
B3AE
        fs_numshown
                                    ds
        fs_maxfiles
                                           1
B3AF
                                    ds
                                                          ; Max files that can be shown.
FS_NUMROWS
                                          7
                                                          ; Display rows.
                                    .equ
FS NUMCOLS
                                    • equ
                                           5
FS COLWIDTH
                                          16
                                    .equ
B3B0
        fs_handle
                                           2
                                    ds
FS_NUMSHOWN
                                    .equ
                                           FS_NUMCOLS*FS_NUMROWS
                                                          ; Number of files shown.
B3B2
        fs numfilerows
                                    ds
                                                           ; Rows of files in CAT command.
B3B3
                                           2
        fs_startlist
                                                           ; Start of file list;
                                    ds
                                                          ; zero if doing unsorted list.
                                                          ; Start of directory entries.
B3B5
                                           2
        fs startdir
                                    ds
        fs_endlist
B3B7
                                           2
                                    ds
B3B9
                                                          ; Number of files in directory.
        fs_numfiles
                                    ds
                                           1
взва
        fs_lastshown
                                    ds
                                           1
                                                          ; Last filenumber currently shown
                                                          ; s_topleft + FS_NUMSHOWN
                                                           ; 32-bit counter needed for Basic.
B3BB
                                    ds
                                           4
        tickcount
B3BF
        ticksleftuntilevent ds 2
                                           2
B3C1
        tickreloadvalue
                                    ds
        tickeventpending
B3C3
                                    ds
                                           1
B3C4
                                           2
        countdowntimer
                                    ds
                                           1
B3C6
        savestream
                                    ds
                                           5
                                                          ; Encrypted.
B3C7
        password
                                    ds
                                           5
B3CC
        pwbuf
                                                            Clear.
                                    ds
B3D1
        realpwbuf
                                    ds
                                           5
                                                           ; The real password saved for encrypting.
                                           1
B3D6
        haspassword
                                    ds
                                                           ; Non-zero if has password.
        ; passwdmsg
                                           2
                                    ds
B3D7
                                           1
        passwdlen
                                    ds
        passwordlocked
B3D8
                                    ds
                                           1
                                                          ; Non-zero if locked (disallow soft reset).
B3D9
        editingsecret
                                    ds
                                                           ; Non-zero when editing secret file
                                                           ; (can't delete it).
                                                           ; Non-zero when inside menu -
B3DA
        inmenu?
                                    ds
                                           1
                                                           ; macros disabled.
B3DB
        macro_count
                                    ds
                                           1
B3DC
        recording?
                                    ds
                                           1
B3DD
        macro_token
                                    ds
                                           2
B3DF
        printfailed
                                    ds
                                           1
                                                           ; Flag set by mccheckprinter.
                                                           ; Stops "finished printing" message.
B3E0
        wasmemoryerr
                                    ds
                                           1
        inprotext
                                                           ; Used in file selector,
B3E1
                                    ds
                                           1
                                                           ; 0 = was Fn-L,
                                                           ; non-zero = Fn-2
```

