

A simple experiment showing you how you can make use of the interrupt line is given in chapter 14.

NMI Non-maskable interrupt — input operated on the negative going edge of the interrupting signal. The NMI is always accepted by the CPU at the end of its current instruction. It forces the CPU to run the program in memory starting at address 102 decimal (66 Hex). See chapter 14 for a simple example of its use.

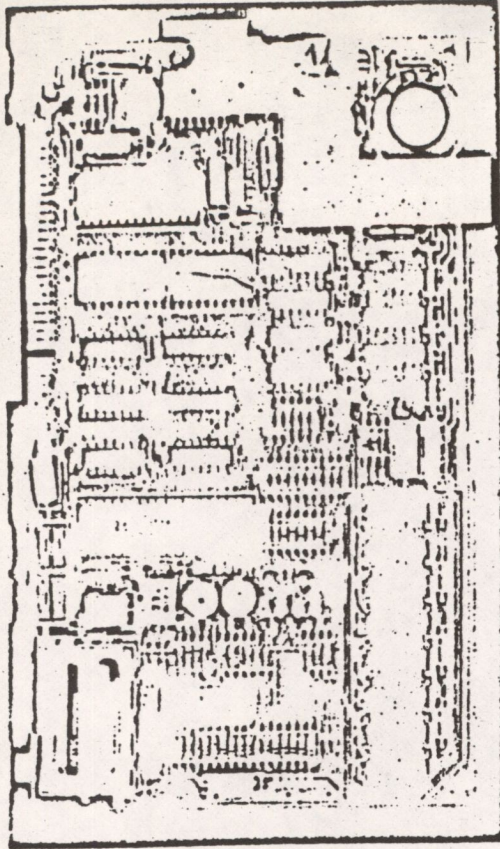
RESET input active low. This signal forces the CPU to the reset state. In the Spectrum, when power is applied, C27 holds the reset pin low until it has charged up via R31. This allows the rest of the computer to reach an operational state before the CPU starts to run the program in memory from address zero. Details of adding a push button to reset the Spectrum are given in chapter 14.

BUSREQ Bus request — input, active low. Used by an external device to request the CPU address bus, data bus and tristate output control signals for its own use. The CPU will hand over control of all its buses as soon as the current machine cycle is terminated. To indicate to the requesting device that control can now be taken, the CPU sets its BUSACK output low.

BUSACK Bus acknowledge — output, active low. Indicates to the requesting device that it can now take full control of all the CPU buses.

More information about some of these Z80 signals and how they can be used is included in other chapters. In particular you are referred to chapters 8, 12 and 14.

ISSUE 2 BOARD



ISSUE 1 BOARD

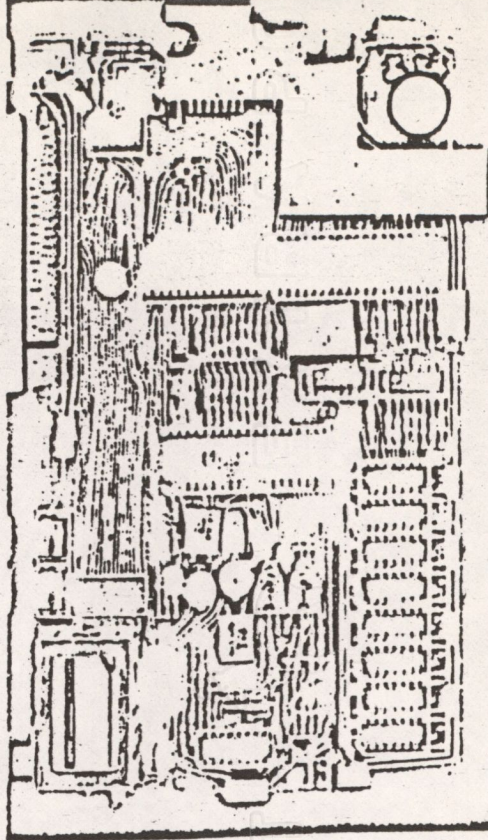


PLATE 4 — PHOTO OF MAIN SPECTRUM BOARD
WITH RAM OUTLINED