Technical description of Carnivore2

This is the detailed technical description and documentation for the multi-functional Carnivore2 cartridge that was created by RBSC.

NOTE: The hexadecimal numbers are shown as `#90`, `90h` or `0x90`

The main components and features:

- External storage: CF card (CompactFlash)
  - Nextor is used as DOS (built-in support for FAT12/16, maximum partition size: 4 GB)
  - High read and write speeds
  - Supports SD and MicroSD card adapters
  - Nextor supports floppy disk emulation with DSK files
  - Utilities compatible with MSX-DOS versions 1 and 2
  - The cartridge can be configured as a RAM extension, IDE disk, FMPAC and SCC/SCC+ sound cards, or a combination of these devices
- RAM: 2048 Kb (2 Mb)
  - Includes:
    - 1024 Kb main RAM with mapper
    - 256 Kb for ROM shadowing
    - 720 Kb additional RAM with a mapper, similar to MegaRAM
    - 4 Kb (in the last 64 Kb–block) for the FMPAC SRAM (a backup battery is needed to save data after turning off the power)
- Flash memory (FlashROM): 8 Mb capacity, 64 Mb/s
  - The first 256 Kb are used for service information and ROM BIOSes
  - Mapper emulation:
    - Linear 64 Kb mode
    - ASCII8
    - ASCII16
    - Konami4
    - Konami5 (SCC/SCC+)
    - Custom mapper
- Sound
  - PPI and PSG emulation
  - Konami SCC and SCC+ emulation
  - OPLL emulation (YM2413, MSX – Music), BIOS IU translated to English
  - Volume setting for all emulated audio devices
  - PSG and PPI can be enabled and disabled in the user interface
- Additional 128 byte configuration EEPROM (93C46A or 93C46C), works in 8–bit mode
- User–adjustable volume for SCC and FMPAC (8 steps), saved in 93C46 EEPROM
- User–adjustable volume for PSG and Clicker (8 steps), saved in 93C46 EEPROM
- User–controlled PSG and Clicker device on/off switch
- User–adjustable VDP frequency (50/60Hz), saved in the 93C46 EEPROM

On–board BIOSes and modules:

File	Subslot	Description
BOOTCMFC.ROM	0	Boot Menu
BIDECMFC.ROM	1	IDE BIOS

File	Subslot	Description
	2	1Mb RAM
FMPCCMFC.ROM	3	FMPAC BIOS

The location of the Boot Menu, directory and BIOSes in the FlashROM chip is described below. There are logical and physical blocks and they have different numbering.

The location of blocks in FlashROM

The FlashROM chip that is used in Carnivore2 has 8 logical blocks in the first physical 64kb block and then go the rest of 64kb physical blocks. In the logical blocks there are Boot Menu and directory. The next few blocks are allocated for the BIOSes of the embedded devices.

8kb blocks

The first 8 logical 8kb blocks are grouped into the first physical block that is addressed by the AddrFr register. Logical blocks 0 and 1 contain the Boot Menu code. The next 2 blocks the directory entries and auto–start info. Then go 2 blocks that contain data for the Boot Menu. The last block is currently unused.

Address range	Block number	Description
000000h–001FFFh	0	after power on (AddrFR=#00, R1Mult=«10000101» B1AdrD = #4000) is visible in subslot 0 at address #4000–#5FFF and contains the first 8kb of boot menu (ROM «AB» header + start addresses)
002000h–003FFFh	1	after power on is visible in subslot 0 at addresses #6000-#7FFF (bits 2–0 of R1Mult = «101» are the size of the shown block (16kb)) and contain the second 8kb of boot menu
004000h–005FFFh	2	directory entries
006000h–007FFFh	3	directory entries
008000h–009FFFh	4	this block holds the auto–start table; the auto–start variable is stored at different addresses — it is «floating» within this block
00A000h–00BFFFh	5	not used
00C000h–00DFFFh	6	used for the data of the Boot Menu
00E000h–00FFFFh	7	

64kb blocks

After the first 8 logical 8kb blocks that form the first physical block, there go the physical 64kb blocks of the FlashROM.

Address range	Physical block number	Logical block number	Description
010000h–01FFFFh	8	1, AddrFR=#01	contain the IDE BIOS
020000h–02FFFFh	9	2, AddrFR=#02	contain the IDE BIOS

Address range	Physical block number	Logical block number	Description
030000h–03FFFFh	10	3, AddrFR=#03	contains FMPAC BIOS
040000h–04FFFFh	11	4, AddrFR=#03	Data blocks — these blocks are used for saving the ROM images (games, etc.)
050000h–05FFFFh	12	5, AddrFR=#03	
…	…	…	
…	…	…	
7F0000h–7FFFFFh	134	127, AddrFR=#7F	

FlashROM chip

Model: Numonix M29W640GB TSOP48
Datasheet

Block layout:

#00000	8K
#02000	8K
#04000	8K
#06000	8K
#08000	8K
#0A000	8K
#0C000	8K
#0E000	8K
#10000	64K x 127

Command addresses: #4555 and #5AAA

Commands:

AUTOSELECT	#90
WRITE	#A0
CHIP_ERASE	#10
BLOCK_ERASE	#30
RESET	#F0

FlashROM ID: #7E

- Block 0 is reserved for the directory and the boot menu: `BOOTCMFC.ROM`
- Blocks 1–2 are reserved for the IDE BIOS: `BIDECMFC.ROM`
- Block 3 is reserved for the FMPAC BIOS: `FMPCCMFC.ROM`

OPLL emulation (FMPAC)

The OPLL emulation (FMPAC) that is supported by the cartridge is mapped to ports #7C–7D.

The FMPAC SRAM is emulated by using the 8kb of the upper area of the 1st megabyte of RAM (shadow RAM) that is not shared with the memory mapper. The physical address of the 8kb area for SRAM in the shadow RAM is 0FE000h–0FFFFFh.

NOTE: The settings of SRAM will be lost after powering down unless the cartridge has the backup battery installed.

FMPAC's own control registers:

- 7FF4h: write YM-2413 register port (write only)
- 7FF5h: write YM-2413 data port (write only)
- 7FF6h: activate OPLL I/O ports (read/write)
- 7FF7h: ROM page (read/write)

To enable 8kb of SRAM at address 4000h–5FFFh, set 4Dh to 5FFEh and 69h to 5FFFh.

Additional configuration EEPROM

Model: 93C46A or 93C46C (128 bytes/1 kbit)
Datasheet

IMPORTANT! The chip is operated only in 8–bit mode!

This EEPROM is used to store additional configuration settings. Using the EEPROM prevents the important configuration settings from being lost after power goes down. The location of the settings in the EEPROM and their description can be found i the table blow.

Address	Description
01	FMPAC and SCC volume, 3 bits per value, max volume is 8, first 2 bits are used as flags
02	50 or 60 Hz VDP frequency flag, bit 1 from this byte is used — if this bit is zero then 60 Hz is used
03	PSG and clicker enable/disable flags and volumes, 3 bits per volume, max volume is 8, first 2 bits are used as enable/disable flags
04	Entry sorting (0=disabled)
05	Fade in/out effects (0=disabled)
06	Keyboard/joystick speed (this is an increment for default value)
07	Menu font palette
08	
09	Menu background palette
0A	
0B	Help font palette
0C	
0D	Help background palette
0E	
0F	Volume font palette
10	

Address	Description
11	Volume background palette
12	
13	PSG/PPI font palette
14	
15	PSG/PPI background palette
16	
17	Custom settings in use flag (must be #42)
18	Double reset on «cold boot» (1=enabled)
19	FMPAC mono (1=enabled)
1A	Last used entry

Writing to EEPROM is done via the configuration register CardMDR+#23. The commands for EEPROM are saved into this register in a sequence that is described in the chip's datasheet. Only write–enable, read and write commands are used.

Configuration registers

The configuration registers are located at addresses #0F80 or #4F80 or #8F80 or #CF80h. Their visibility and location is controlled by the main control register's first byte — at address #4F80. The main control register is called CardMDR. After power on, the registers are located at address #4F80. All registers are write–only except the pseudo–register for sending/receiving the data when accessing the FlashROM and the register for the configuration EEPROM.

Below you can find the description of configuration registers.

Register number, name	Bit number	Value	Description
00 CardMDR	Main cartridge's configuration register		
01 AddrM0	lower address register (bits 7–0) for accessing the FlashROM		
02 AddrM1	middle address register (bits 15–8) for accessing the FlashROM		
03 AddrM2	higher address register (bits 22–16) for accessing the FlashROM		
04 DatM0	pseudo–register for sending/receiving data from/to FlashROM		
05 AddrFR	register controlling the number of FlashROM's 64kb block for ROM emulation The default value of this register is 00h		
06 R1Mask	Configuration registers for bank 1		
07 R1Addr			
08 R1Reg			
09 R1Mult			
0A B1MaskR			
0C R2Mask	Configuration registers for bank 2		
0D R2Addr			
0E R2Reg			
0F R2Mult			
10 B2MaskR			
11 B2AdrD			

Register number, name	Bit number	Value	Description
12 R3Mask	Configuration registers for bank 3		
13 R3Addr			
14 R3Reg			
15 R3Mult			
16 B3MaskR			
17 B3AdrD			
18 R4Mask	Configuration registers for bank 4		
19 R4Addr			
1A R4Reg			
1B R4Mult			
1C B4MaskR	similar to B1MaskR		
1D B4AdrD	similar to B1AdrD		
1E Mconf	Expanded slot configuration register		
1F CMDRCpy	copy of the CardMDR+#00 register (to be used with LDIR command)		
20 ConfFl	FlashROM chip's configuration The default value of this register is — 010b		
	2	0	8 bit bus
		1	16 bit bus
	1	Reset/protect flag	
	0	1	enable 12V for boosted writing into FlashROM
		0	ɜdisable 12V for boosted writing into FlashROM
21 NSReg	Non standart Register The default value of this register is #00, please don't change it!		
22 SndLVL	volume level register The default value of this register is 1Bh (00011011b)		
	7, 6	10 = FMPAC mono, 00 = FMPAC stereo	
	5, 4, 3	FMPAC audio level (0–7)	
	2, 1, 0	SCC/SCC+ audio level (0–7)	
23 CfgEEPR	register for controlling additional configuration EEPROM (93C46)		
	7, 6, 5, 4	not used	
	3	EECS signal Chip Select EEPROM	
	2	EECK signal CLK (sync)	
	1	EEDI signal Data Input (data sent to EEPROM)	
	0	EEDO signal Data Output (data received from EEPROM); read–only	
24 PSGCtrl	PSG control register The default value of this register is 1Bh (00011011b)		

Register number, name	Bit number	Value	Description
	7	enable/disable PSG	
	6	enable/disable PPI Clicker	
	5, 4, 3	PSG audio level (0–7)	
	2, 1, 0	PPI Clicker audio level (0–7)	
25 V_AR_L	lower 8 bits of the interceptor code		
26 V_AR_H	chigher 8 bits of the interceptor code		
27 aV_hunt	interceptor's flag for delayed configuration		
	0	activation flag for interceptor code on system restart or read from #4000	
		1	enabled
	1	interceptor code's location	
		0	boot menu in FlashROM
		1	first shadow RAM block
28 SLM_cfg	per–device subslot assignment (master slot)		
	7	FMPAC subslot number	
	6		
	5	RAM (Mapper MMM) subslot number	
	4		
	3	IDE (CF) subslot number	
	2		
	1	FlashROM/SCC subslot number	
	0		
29 SCART_cfg	slave slot control register		
	7	1	slave slot enabled
		0	slave slot disabled
	6	1	slave slot's location assigned by user
		0	slave slot assigned as subslot of master slot
	5	1	slave slot expanded (if not used as a subslot of master slot)
		0	slave slot non–expanded (if not used as a subslot of master slot)
	4	1	master slot's location is assigned by user
		0	master slot located at the physical slot
	3	1	not used
		0	
2A SCART_SLT	slot/subslot configuration on power–on		

Register number, name	Bit number	Value	Description
	7, 6	00 = mini ROM up to 32kb without mapper, 01 = K4 mapper, 10 = K5+SCC mapper, 11 = K5 mapper without SCC	
	5, 4	master slot number	
	3, 2	expanded slave slot number	
	1, 0	slave slot number	
2B SCART_StBl	slave slot's 64kb block assignment in FlashROM		
2C, 2D, 2E FPGA_ver	FPGA firmware version (3 ASCII bytes)		
2F	MROM_offs = mini ROM offset in 64kb block (in 8kb steps)		

Registers of configuration bank

There are six bank configuration registers:

1. RnMask
2. RnAddr
3. RnReg
4. RnMult
5. BnMaskR
6. BnAdrD

n — this is the bank number.

RnMask

Bbitmask for bank's register address. This value is normally mirrored into several addresses, for example for Konami 5 cartridges those addresses for the first bank are 5000h–57FFh. Here we use only the high byte's address — F8h (11111000b).

The default value of this register is F8h

RnAddr

High byte of the bank's address register (example: 50h for address 5000h)

The default value of this register is 50h.

RnReg

Initial value for bank's number (usually 00h)

The default value of this register is 00h.

RnMult

RnMult — bank's mode and size register

Bit number	Value	Description
7	1	bank's register is enabled
	0	bank's control is disabled
6	1	mirroring is disabled
	0	mirroring is enabled
5	media type selection	
	0	FlashROM
	1	RAM
4	1	writing to bank is enabled
	0	writing to bank is disabled
3	0	bank is enabled
	1	bank is disabled
2, 1, 0	bank's size 111b = 64 kb, 110b = 32 kb, 101b = 16 kb, 100b = 8 kb, 011b = 4 kb other value — bank is disabled The default value of this register is 85h	

The default value is 00h (bank is disabled)

BnMaskR

Bitmask for bank's addressing mode into the FlashROM. This is the ROM's emulated size and the number of pages. For example for a 128kb ROM we will need 16 pages of 8kb, so we set the 0Fh (00001111b) mask.

The default value of this register is 03h

BnAdrD

High byte of the bank's address (example: 40h for address 4000h).

The default value of this register is 40h

CardMDR

00 CardMDR — main cartridge's configuration register

Bit number	Value	Description
7	1	don't show registers
	0	show registers
6	0/1/2/3	registers are located at addresses 0F80h/4F80h/8F80h/CF80h
5		
4	1	SCC enabled
	0	SCC disabled
3	1	delayed configuration
	0	configuration is changed immediately after updating the registers
2	0	delayed configuration is enabled after CPU executes at address 0000h
	1	configuration is enabled after reading from address 4000h The delayed configuration works only for AddrFR and bank control registers
1	source for BIOS of embedded devices	
	0	BIOS data (boot menu, IDE controller, FMPAC) is read from FlashROM chip
	1	BIOS data (boot menu, IDE controller, FMPAC) is read from RAM Warning! The data must be copied into DAM before setting this bit!
0	configuration registers visibility control	
	0	all configuration registers are visible at addresses 0F80h/4F80h/8F80h/CF80h depending on the values of bits 5 and 6
	1	configuration registers are not visible, 1 byte of data from the corresponding block in the FlashROM is available at those addresses

Mconf

1E Mconf — expanded slot configuration register

Bit number	Value	Description
7	1	slot is expanded
	0	slot is not expanded
6	1	MMM mapper ports FC,FD,FE,FF reading is enabled
5	1	control YM2413 (FM Pack Synt. 7Ch,7Dh)
4	1	control 3C порта (MMM mapper)
3	1	control -3 Subslot FM Pack bios ROM
2	1	control -2 Subslot MMM mapper with 1mb of RAM is enabled
1	1	control -1 Subslot CF card interface
0	1	control -0 Subslot MSCC (and this register)

Directory entry format

There are 253 user–controlled directory entries available in the cartridge. The first directory entry

can't be edited or deleted because it sets the default cartridge's configuration — all enabled. The directory is 8kb in size and is located in the 2 and 3 logical blocks of the FlashROM chip at addresses 004000h–005FFFh (block 2) and 006000h–007FFFh (block 3). The physical block number (controlled by the `AddrFr` register) is zero.

Each directory entry occupies 40h (64 bytes) and has the following format:

Register number	Name	Bit number	Value/description
#00	NUM	Record number (last one — #FF is ignored)	
#01	ACT	Active/empty record's flag (#FF — active record)	
#02	STB	Starting 64kb block for data	
#03	LNB	Data size in 64kb blocks	
#04	MAP	Mapper type symbol	
#05	NAM	Record name (30 bytes)	
#22	NAM		
#23	R1Mask	Configuration registers for bank 1	
#24	R1Addr		
#25	R1Reg		
#26	R1Mult		
#27	B1MaskR		
#28	B1AdrD		
#29	R2Mask	Configuration registers for bank 2	
#2A	R2Addr		
#2B	R2Reg		
#2C	R2Mult		
#2D	B2MaskR		
#2E	B2AdrD		
#2F	R3Mask	Configuration registers for bank 3	
#30	R3Addr		
#31	R3Reg		
#32	R3Mult		
#33	B3MaskR		
#34	B3AdrD		
#35	R4Mask	Configuration registers for bank 4	
#36	R4Addr		
#37	R4Reg		
#38	R4Mult		
#39	B4MaskR		
#3A	B4AdrD		
#3B	Mconf	expanded slot configuration register	
#3C	CardMDR	main configuration register	
#3D	PosSiz	size and position in 64kb block for mini ROMs	
#3E	RstRun	reset and start options	
#3F	Resrv	Reserved	

PosSiz

PosSiz — size and position in 64kb block for mini ROMs

<table>
<tr><th>Bit number</th><th>Value/description</th></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td>reserved</td></tr>
<tr><td>6,
5,
4</td><td>offset of mini ROM in 64kb block based on ROM's size:
<table>
<tr><th></th><th>8 kb</th><th>16 kb</th><th>32 kb</th></tr>
<tr><td>000b</td><td>0 kb</td><td>0 kb</td><td>0 kb</td></tr>
<tr><td>001b</td><td>8 kb</td><td>16 kb</td><td>32 kb</td></tr>
<tr><td>010b</td><td>16 kb</td><td>32 kb</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>011b</td><td>24 kb</td><td>48 kb</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>100b</td><td>32 kb</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>101b</td><td>40 kb</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>110b</td><td>48 kb</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>111b</td><td>56 kb</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td>non–standard ROM size:
1 — 49 kb
0 — standard ROM size</td></tr>
<tr><td>2,
1,
0</td><td>mini ROM's size:
110b = 32 kb
101b = 16 kb
100b = 8 kb
011b = 4 kb
000b = not mini ROM</td></tr>
</table>

RstRun

RstRun — reset and start options

Bit number	Value/description
3	ROM's start address: 0 — use bit 2 from this register 1 — use start address at 0002h
2	ROM's start address: 0 — use start address at 4002h 1 — use start address at 8002h
1	execution control: 0 — don't start ROM 1 — start using ROMini address (bits 3,2)
0	reset flag: 0 — do not reset MSX 1 — reset MSX

Mappers

The cartridge supports a few common mappers and the linear mode that allows first 64kb of the MiniROM to be visible in the address space. The physical addresses allocated for the mappers' operation lie in the range of 100000h–1FFFFFh. This means that only the second megabyte of RAM is used.

Mappers type values:

K	Konami5 (SCC) mapper
k	Konami4 mapper
a	ASCII8 mapper
A	ASCII16 mapper
M	mini ROM (8, 16, 32, 48 and 64kb ROM without mapper)
C	configuration entry
U	unknown mapper

ASCII8

The cartridge supports the ASCII8 mapper.

Default configuration values:

#F8	#60	#00	#84	#FF	#40	**bank 1**
#F8	#68	#01	#84	#FF	#60	**bank 2**
#F8	#70	#02	#84	#FF	#80	**bank 3**
#F8	#78	#03	#84	#FF	#A0	**bank 4**
#FF	#AC	#00	#02	#FF		**configuration registers**

ASCII16

The cartridge supports the ASCII16 mapper.

Default configuration values:

#F8	#60	#00	#85	#FF	#40	**bank 1**
#F8	#70	#01	#85	#FF	#80	**bank 2**
#F8	#70	#02	#08	#3F	#80	**bank 3**
#F8	#78	#03	#08	#3F	#A0	**bank 4**
#FF	#8C	#00	#01	#FF		**configuration registers**

Konami4

The cartridge supports the Konami4 mapper.

Default configuration values:

#E8	#50	#00	#04	#FF	#40	**bank 1**
#E8	#60	#01	#84	#FF	#60	**bank 2**
#E8	#80	#02	#84	#FF	#80	**bank 3**
#E8	#A0	#03	#84	#FF	#A0	**bank 4**
#FF	#AC	#00	#02	#FF		**configuration registers**

Konami5

The cartridge supports the Konami5 (SCC) mapper.

Default configuration values:

#F8	#50	#00	#84	#FF	#40	**bank 1**
#F8	#70	#01	#84	#FF	#60	**bank 2**
#F8	#90	#02	#84	#FF	#80	**bank 3**
#F8	#B0	#03	#84	#FF	#A0	**bank 4**
#FF	#BC	#00	#02	#FF		**configuration registers**

MiniROM

The cartridge supports MiniROM (ROM images up to 49kb) without mapper.

Default configuration values:

#F8	#60	#00	#06	#7F	#40	**bank 1**
#F8	#70	#01	#08	#7F	#80	**bank 2**
#F8	#70	#02	#08	#3F	#C0	**bank 3**
#F8	#78	#03	#08	#3F	#A0	**bank 4**
#FF	#8C	#07	#01	#FF		**configuration registers**

Linear 64kb mode

The cartridge supports the linear 64kb mode, when the first 64kb of the ROM are visible in the address space.

The default configuration values for MiniROMs are:

#F8	#60	#00	#06	#7F	#40	**bank 1**
#F8	#70	#01	#08	#7F	#80	**bank 2**
#F8	#70	#02	#08	#3F	#C0	**bank 3**
#F8	#78	#03	#08	#3F	#A0	**bank 4**
#FF	#8C	#07	#01	#FF		**configuration registers**

Bank addresses in linear mode:

#0000–#3FFF	**bank 1**
#4000–#7FFF	**bank 2**
#8000–#BFFF	**bank 3**
#C000–#FFFF	**bank 4**

Default register values

Below you can find the default values for several configuration registers.

CardMDR	CardMDR+#00	20h (but may vary because of 2 last bits)
AddrFR	CardMDR+#05	00h
R1Mult	CardMDR+#09	85h
R2Mult	CardMDR+#0F	00h
R3Mult	CardMDR+#15	00h
R4Mult	CardMDR+#1B	00h
CMDRCpy	CardMDR+#1F	20h
ConfFl	CardMDR+#20	02h

RCP file format

RCP file format description.

Address (byte)	**Description**	
#00	Mapper type	
#01	R1Mask	Configuration registers for bank 1
#02	R1Addr	
#03	R1Reg	
#04	R1Mult	
#05	B1MaskR	
#06	B1AdrD	
#07	R2Mask	Configuration registers for bank 2
#08	R2Addr	
#09	R2Reg	
#0A	R2Mult	
#0B	B2MaskR	
#0C	B2AdrD	
#0D	R3Mask	Configuration registers for bank 3
#0E	R3Addr	
#0F	R3Reg	
#10	R3Mult	
#11	B3MaskR	
#12	B3AdrD	

Address (byte)	Description	
#13	R4Mask	Configuration registers for bank 4
#14	R4Addr	
#15	R4Reg	
#16	R4Mult	
#17	B4MaskR	
#18	B4AdrD	
#19	Mconf	
#1A	CardMDR	
#1B	PosSiz	
#1C	RstRun	
#1D	Not used, always FF	