# Glossary

**Active High**—A signal is considered active high when the true state of the signal is high.

**Active Low**—A signal is considered active low when the true state of the signal is low.

**CAS**—Column Address Strobe—Used to inform VRAM that the address on the bus is the column of the matrix.

**CPU**—Central Processing Unit

**CSR**—Chip Select Read—The VDP sends data onto the data bus when CSR is active (low).

**CSW**—Chip Select Write—The VDP writes data from the data bus into internal registers when CSW is active (low).

**CS1-CS4**—Chip Select 1-4—Used to select separate IC's inside the cartridge.

**Data Address Bus**—a wire or group of wires used to carry data to or from a number of different locations.

**I.C.**—Integrated Circuit— a combination of interconnected circuit elements inseparably associated on or within a continuous substrate.

**Memory Bus**—the CPU register in a computer, which holds the address of the memory location being accessed.

**Mode A∅**—A control signal used by the VDP to select data entry or exit point. If high, the data will be stored or retrieved from internal registers. If low, data will be stored into or retrieved from VRAM.

**NMI**—Non Maskable Interrupt—The VDP sends an NMI signal to the CPU every 1/60 second (refresh rate of TV).

**NOP**—No Operation—An instruction for a computer to do nothing but process the next instruction in sequence.

**Pixel**—The smallest point on the television screen that can be independently controlled.

**Planes**—Same as geometric planes, provide background, borders, etc.

**RAM** — Random Access Memory — A memory that can be written into or read by locating any data address.

**RAS**—Row Address Strobe—Used to inform VRAM that the address on the bus is the row of the matrix.

**RF Modulator**—Combines video and audio information into a carrier wave to transport it to television receiver.

**Sprite**—An object whose pattern is relative to a specified X, Y coordinate and whose position can therefore be controlled by that coordinate with a positional resolution of one pixel.

**Tri-State**—Logic systems utilizing three conditions on one line: a definitely applied high voltage (logic 1); a definite low voltage (logic ∅); and an open circuit of undefined state, permitting another part of the circuit to determine whether the line will be high or low.

**VRAM**—Video RAM—refers to the dynamic RAMs that connect to the VDP and whose contents define the TV image.