

Optical RAM
The photosensitive medium in the Snap camera is a dynamic RAM chip with the cover removed. Light striking the surface turns individual bits on or off

Controller Chips

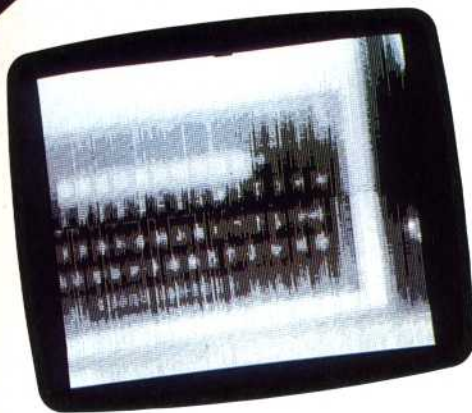
Circuit Board

SNAP/EV1 VIDEO

Price: £130
Dimensions: 70 mm x 50 mm x 25 mm
Lenses: 24 mm or 18 mm lens
Interfaces: 20-way connector
Manuals: Snap camera user guide
Advantages: Enables users to save pictures either to screen or to disk
Disadvantages: The resolution is poor, which sometimes makes controlling the camera difficult

Vertical Resolution

Pictures generated by the Snap camera are formed entirely from vertical lines, with gaps to show variations in brightness. The resolution of the images is acceptable, but far from outstanding, even considering the £130 price



Lighter Shades Of Pale

Snap camera pictures are normally displayed in two colours, black and white. A grey-scale program called 'Grey' lets you display a picture over the whole screen in eight levels of brightness. The increased ability to show contrasts in shading improves the realism of the displayed image

well thought out, it covers a limited range of applications. The grey-scale picture program, for example, may be used in Mode 0 only. An option to use Mode 2, using the different colours available in that mode as grey tones, would have been more useful. A large amount of information about the machine code routines used by the software is provided in the manual, but to make

use of this a reasonable knowledge of machine code is needed. The BASIC-only user is restricted to the software provided. It would have been preferable to have some all-purpose machine code modules that the user could string together to meet any particular requirements. However, this would no doubt have detracted from the most attractive feature of the Snap system — its price.