OT: DOS programming EPP

Source: http://sci.tech−archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2006−01/msg03841.html

- *From*: Robert Baer <robertbaer@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
- *Date*: Sun, 22 Jan 2006 03:14:06 GMT

I have done a websearch, and there is nothing available that eXplicitly shows how to program a parallel port in the EPP mode, and how to *safely* interface with it.
The best (incomplete) source i found was on the beyondlogic.org site.
However, no matter what i do, the nominally input printer pins (pin 1 = strobe, pin 13 = select and pin 15 = error bar) act like outputs.
Data lines when low safely sink 2mA (did not try more as i did not want to zap the MB) R=45 ohms, and when high safely source 1mA (did not try more R=2.2K).
"Strobe" line pin 1 was always high and safely sink 1.5mA R=730 ohms.
"Select" line pin 13 was always high and safely sink 1.0mA R=2.2K.

There seems to be *no* specifications or equivalent circuits for the parallel port as implemented on the ASICs used in modern PCs.
Therefore, it is completely unknown as to the maximum safe sink current to a logic low pin or the maximum source current from a logic high pin.
It is not wise to force a pin that is acting as an output, into the opposite state; so the info is necessary for safety.

I want and need to program this in DOS.

** as an aside, it was interesting to see that when Windoz booted after my fiddling, that i saw "detecting new hardware" etc.
.