Note that DOS will not allow the directory to be removed unless it is empty (with the exception of the . and .. entries). The current directory cannot be removed until the CD command is used to make another directory active. The ROOT directory cannot be removed at all.

2.1.7   Three Other Good DOS Commands

2.1.7.1   PATH - Set Program Search Paths

For hard disk users, this command is a great time and keystroke saver. This is a command that should be put into your AUTOEXEC.BAT file.

NOTE: Do not confuse the PATH command with the word "path". A "path" is the complete name of a subdirectory, the PATH command specifies paths to be searched.

    Command: **PATH**
       Syntax: PATH [*d:*] path ; [*d:*] path ; ...
     Purpose: *Causes DOS to search the specified directories for programs (.EXE, .COM, and .BAT) not found in the current directory*
         Type: *Internal*

Examples:

  PATH .. ; C:\123 ; C:\DBASE ; C:\WP ; C:\DOS
If DOS cannot find a program in the current directory, it will look first in the parent, then in the directories 123, DBASE, WP, and DOS (in that order) to find the program. Note the first path in the list is .., this represents the parent of the current directory.
The semi-colons separating each directory are ESSENTIAL.

  PATH;
Resets the search path to NULL (no paths). Note the use of the semi-colon.

  PATH
Displays the current set of paths.

2.1.7.2   PROMPT - Personalize the System Prompt

This is another command that makes life with hard disks much easier and should also be put into your AUTOEXEC.BAT file.

Note that if you input a PATH command, it will replace any currently operating paths. If your AUTOEXEC.BAT file has set the PATH command, some standard operations that depend on that setting may not work after you input another PATH command.

    Command: **PROMPT**
       Syntax: PROMPT [*prompt-text*]
     Purpose: *Sets a new DOS system prompt.*
         Type: *Internal*

The *prompt-text* may be contain regular characters and/or special character sequences called meta-strings. A meta-string is composed of the $ sign and one of the following characters:

$ The $ sign
t   The time