The Past:The science of computing

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The science of computing

The computers of today are vastly different from the first-generation computers that filled a room. Kansas State University's first computer, built by engineering professors W.R. Ford and J.E. Wolfe from 1954-1956, helped researchers solve complex calculations in minutes instead of months. In the top photo from 1975, Linda Shapiro, assistant professor of computer science, and Earl Harris, hardware analyst, work on computers in the department's hardware room. The bottom photo from the 1980s shows the Nichols Hall computer machine room, which held large computers that connected to terminals in a nearby computer lab. See page 28 to learn how K-State computer scientists continue to improve cybersecurity and keep our data safe.

Photos courtesy of the K-State computer science department.