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| How a One and a Zero Changed the World |
| The Advent of Computers |
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| **Clare Miller** |
| **Process Paper** |

**US History Research Project**

**Process Paper**

The topic I chose is the history of computers. I chose this topic due to my interest in computer sciences, as well as the fact that the world is practically operated by computers from the stop lights on the road to missiles guided towards a target. The development of computers in the United States has had and continues to have an enormous impact in nearly every facet of our existence. Throughout history, computers made daily life easier and more enjoyable, tedious tasks became quick and simple, and eventually all kinds of information could be found and sent across the world with ease. Of course, as the popularity and applications of computers grew, so did the potential threat. Not only did it lead to more dangerous weapons of destruction, but secret and important information could be hacked into and stolen.

I found my resources first by searching vague terms, and then going further in depth by searching terms mentioned within the information. Wikipedia, while not a truly trustworthy resource, does mention many of its own sources on the subject which led to a wide pool of information. I used a letter between Peirce and Marquand as well as George Boole's An Investigation of the Laws of Thought. There are few primary sources that are not letters or detailing in depth detail of how many computers work. There were a multitude of articles that detailed a historical figures life, and a fair amount of encyclopedias.

The website format was the most fitting available considering that there would be no websites, including the one currently being browsed, were it not for the recent progress in computers. Of course power points wouldn't have been created either, but they lack the amount of options available in a website. A power point limits the user to a static flow of information, whereas using a website allows the reader to choose how much and which information they wish to read. Through using a website, users can even follow links or watch videos to research on their own when reading topic that piques their interests. There are also other advantages to using a website such as using a computer program to have the user simulate a concept, as well as another wide variety of options.