NASA computing group circa 1955 using Friden mechanical calculators.

At Los Alamos and elsewhere, the first computers were humans who did calculations by hand, sometimes with the help of a desktop calculator.

Most of these human computers were women. Although not always recognized, their work propelled science and engineering forward for decades.
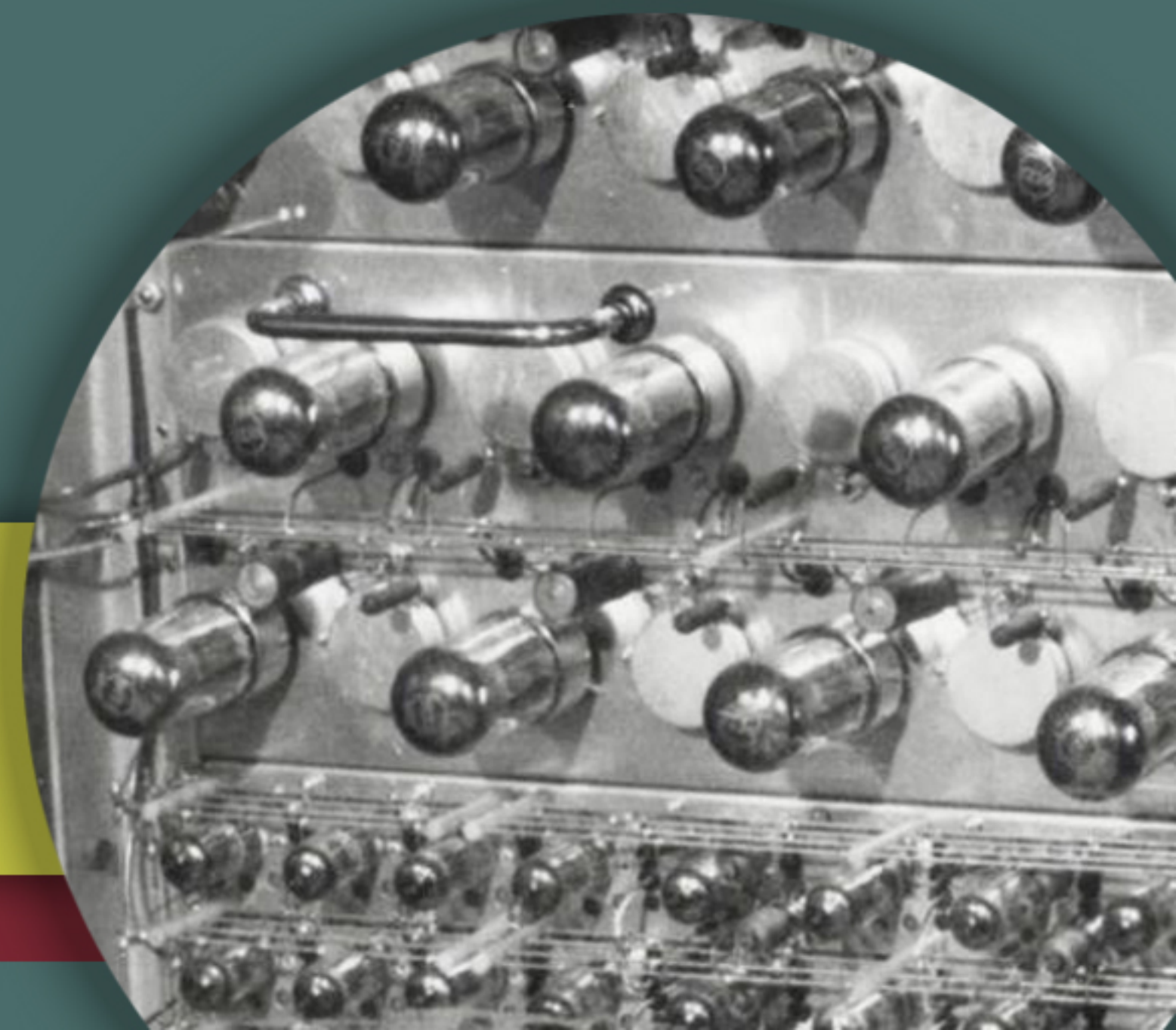
Women in Los Alamos Computing

When electronic computers were introduced, women were often the first programmers and computer operators.

Their pioneering application of the new machines to scientific and national security challenges made possible the rapid technical advances in the years that followed.

Women
in Los Alamos Computing

The legacy of women building the future through computing continues at Los Alamos today.

Discover more about the legacy and ongoing contributions of women in computing at Los Alamos.

Women
in Los Alamos Computing