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Researcher Paul Meissner is shown in 1966 using a "light pen" with MAGIC (Machine for Automatic Graphics Interface to a Computer), a system developed by the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) in cooperation with NASA. MAGIC was built to research improvements to the human-computer interface. In the mid-1960s, working with computers required input of data and instructions using a highly formalized language. MAGIC was used to test a way computers could accept data in a less restricted form in order to make them more useful. To see more historic NIST images visit [www.nist.gov/digitalarchives](http://www.nist.gov/digitalarchives).

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During World War I the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) intensified research into optical glass to address the needs of the military and the lack of a high-grade optical glass supply in the U.S. This image shows a group of five large pieces of glass created at NBS, averaging nearly 1,000 lbs. each. Although the glass was two feet thick, it was possible to see through it clearly. NBS contributions to the technique of glass manufacture proved to be one of the Bureau's most notable accomplishments in the war. To see more historic NIST images visit [www.nist.gov/digitalarchives](http://www.nist.gov/digitalarchives).

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