

A SILVER SHOVEL AND TOFFEE HAMMER IN THE UEA COLLECTION



Frank Thistlethwaite using a silver shovel at the Library's "Topping-Out" Ceremony, February 1968.

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Two sub-collections within the UEA Collection bring together the sweet story of the beginning of UEA Library.

The silver shovel was lent by Richard Costain & Co. Ltd. A toffee-hammer was used to knock in the silver nails. This was one of two museum pieces owned by John Mackintosh and Sons Ltd. These hammers were used until the early 1920s by shopkeepers for breaking up slabs of toffee.

The UEA Collection holds papers relating to the appointment of the first Chancellor of the University, Viscount Mackintosh of Halifax (1891–1964). Included are pamphlets on the history of the international toffee factory started by his father with factories in Halifax and Norwich. Papers have also been deposited by the University's first Vice-Chancellor, Frank Thistlethwaite (1915–2003). Included are many more photographs capturing UEA's beginnings and a very active V-C.

Listing of the UEA Collection: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/is/archives/uea>