

**Boalch No:** 33

**Signature:** Thomas Hitchcock Londini Fecit N<sup>o</sup> 1007

**Compass:** GG-g''' chromatic

**Case:** Walnut, double bentside

**Stand:** Trestle, four turned legs

**Hinges:** Pierced and chased brass

**Angle to left of keyboard:** Spine to cheek 45 degrees

**Dimensions:**

|                                     |      |     |
|-------------------------------------|------|-----|
| Length                              | 1772 |     |
| Widest point not including keyboard |      | 540 |
| Case height                         | 165  |     |
| 3 octave span                       | 486  |     |

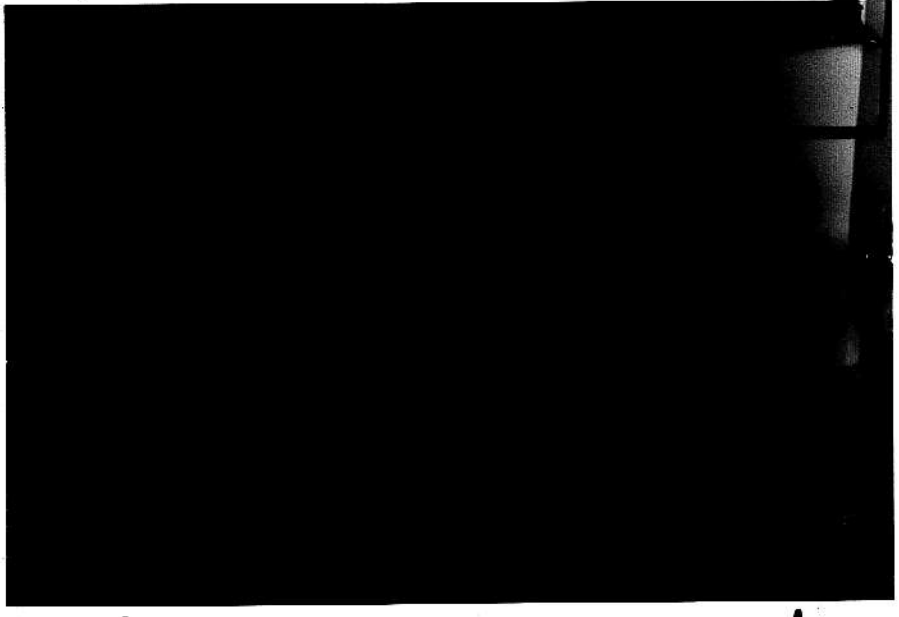
| Note | String length | Plucking point | Relative scale     |
|------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| GG   | 1503          | 195            |                    |
| C    | 1417          | 217            | 7"                 |
| c    | 995           | 168            | 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ "  |
| c'   | 549           | 134            | 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " |
| c''  | 270           | 99             | 10 $\frac{3}{8}$ " |
| c''' | 137           | 66             | 10 $\frac{3}{8}$ " |
| g''' | 97            | 57             |                    |

**Detailed description:**

The pine keyboard has ivory naturals with turned ivory arcades and skunktailed sharps. The bentside is very severe, ending in a right angle at the front corner. The jacks are guided in a box register made in the traditional way. The soundboard grain runs parallel to the wrestplank. Boalch states that this instrument has c.1800 paintwork on the keywell. This was removed to expose the original decoration when the spinet was restored by Martin Robertson, who says that there is the date 1722 written inside the case. The keywell is decorated in holly or sycamore veneer with double black stringing. The signature is written in ink and surrounded by fine scrollwork.

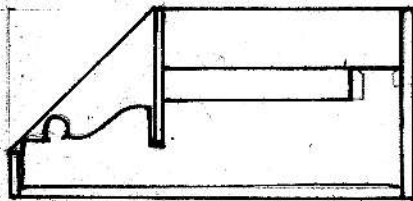
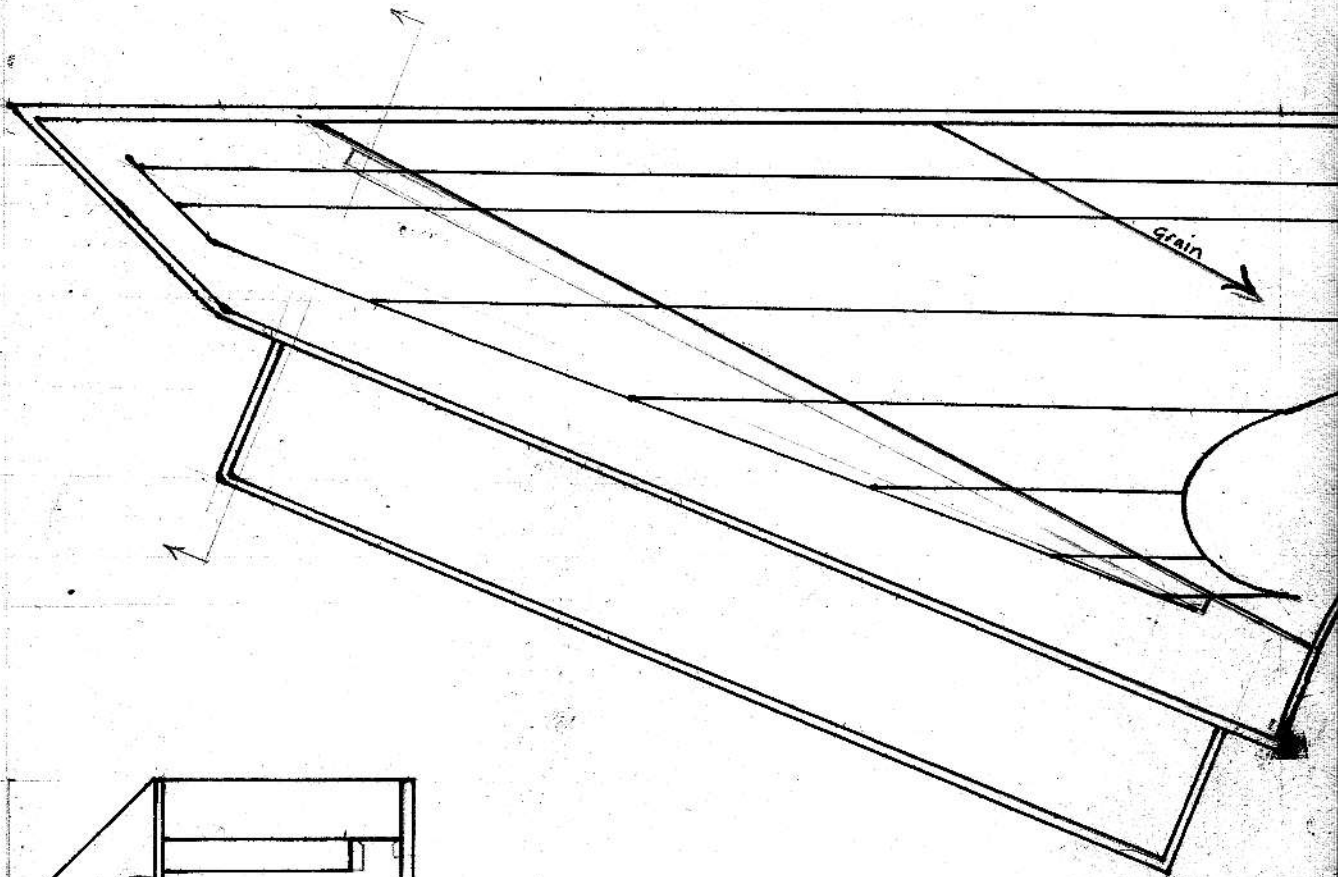
*Present owner: Peter Davies*

PHOTO BY KIND PERMISSION OF PETER DAVIES

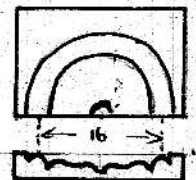
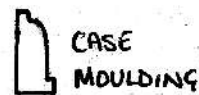
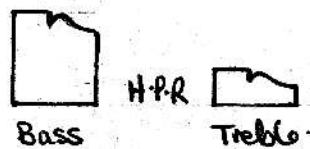
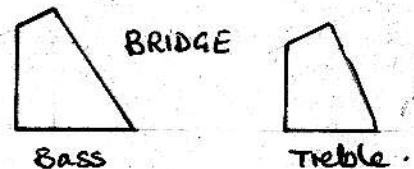
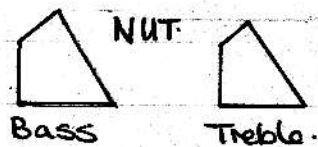


AH / 2

Thomas Hitchcock No 1007. Restored.



Scale 4mm = 1inch



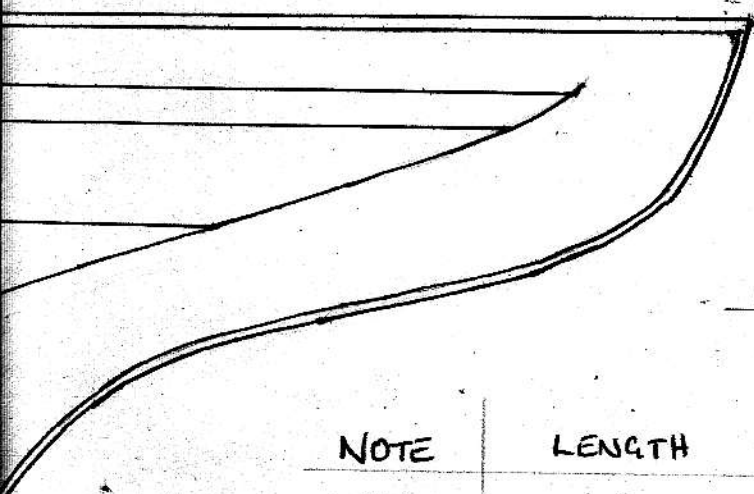
Arcade.

Sections Full size

|  |            |                             |       |
|--|------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Jacks                                    | Pear       |                             |       |
| Nut + Bridge.                            | Beech.     | Arcades + Naturals.         | Ivor  |
| Wrest plank, Register.                   |            |                             |       |
| Spine, baseboards, key levers, Nameboard | Pine       | Accidentals.                | ebon  |
| Case sides + lid end blocks              | Walnut     | Strings                     | Bra   |
| Sound board                              | Spruce/fir | Nameboard + Internal Veneer | Holly |

Date 1722

Boalch No 33



Compass GG - g'''

| NOTE | LENGTH | PLUCK POINT | INCH SCALE = C"   |
|------|--------|-------------|-------------------|
| GG   | 1503   | 195         | <del>7 1/4"</del> |
| C    | 1417   | 217         | 7"                |
| c    | 995    | 168         | 9 3/4"            |
| c'   | 549    | 134         | 10 3/4"           |
| c''  | 270    | 99          | 10 3/8"           |
| c''' | 137    | 66          | 10 3/4"           |
| g''' | 97     | 57          | <del>7"</del>     |

SHARP TOP

Keyboard Details.

Total width 816

3 Octave Span 486

|        | Length. |     | Balance to back |     | Naturals. |      |
|--------|---------|-----|-----------------|-----|-----------|------|
|        | N       | S   | N               | S   | Head      | tail |
| Bass   | 325     | 289 | 200             | 190 | 37        | 76   |
| treble | 307     | 276 | 184             | 177 |           |      |

+Ivory

SS

Sycamore

**Boalch No:** 5b

**Signature:** Thomas Hitchcock Londini Fecit N<sup>o</sup>. 1075

**Compass:** GG-g''' chromatic

**Case:** Walnut, straight tail

**Stand:** Trestle, four turned legs

**Hinges:**

**Angle to left of keyboard:** Spine to cheek 45 degrees

**Dimensions:**

**Length** According to Boalch 7'2", but must be a misreading of 72" (1830 mm)

**Widest point not including keyboard**

**Case height**

**3 octave span**

| Note | String length | Plucking point | Relative scale |
|------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
|------|---------------|----------------|----------------|

**Detailed description:**

The pine keyboard has ivory naturals with turned ivory arcades and skunktailed sharps. The bottom key is signed "James is 9". The keywell is decorated in holly or sycamore veneer with double black stringing and the inside of the case is done the same way. Was the property of Sir Eldred Hitchcock who was possibly a descendant of Thomas. It was recently sold at Sotheby's (1985).

**Present owner:** John Black.

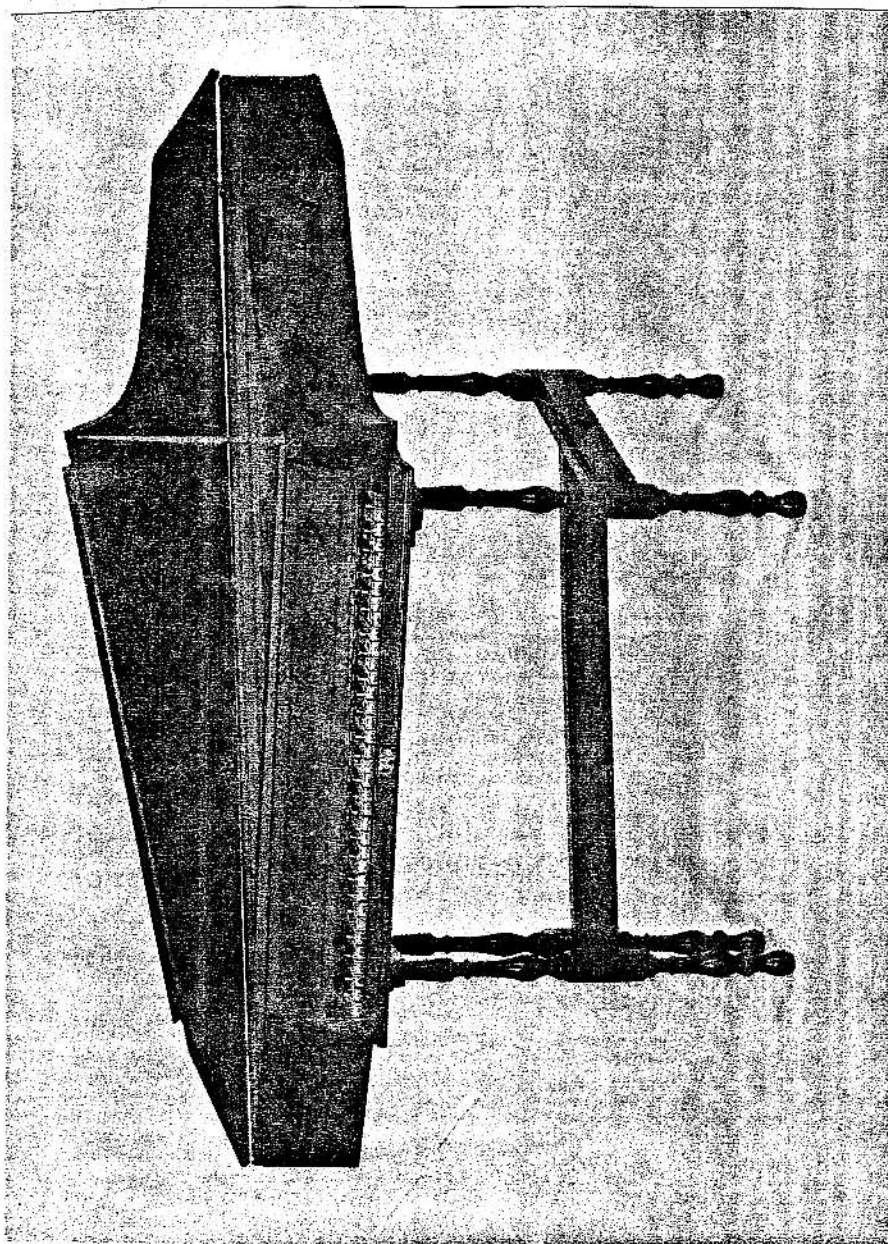


PHOTO FROM SOTHEBY'S CATALOGUE 21-12-85

Thomas Hitchcock No 1075 Formerly Mrs Hitchcock.

**Boalch No:** 8a

**Signature:** Thomas Hitchcock Londini Fecit N<sup>o</sup>. 1241

**Compass:** GG-g''' chromatic

**Case:** Walnut, double bentside

**Stand:** Trestle, four turned legs with carved feet.

**Hinges:**

**Angle to left of keyboard:** Spine to cheek 45 degrees

**Dimensions:**

Length 1778  
 Widest point not including keyboard  
 Case height 170  
 3 octave span 483

| Note | String length | Plucking point | Relative scale     |
|------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| GG   | 1510          | 178            |                    |
| c''  | 276           |                | 10 $\frac{7}{8}$ " |
| g''' | 95            | 51             |                    |

**Detailed description:**

As normal the pine keyboard has ivory naturals with turned ivory arcades and skunktailed sharps. The bentside is very severe, ending in less than a right angle at the front corner and almost a right angle at the spine joint. The soundboard grain runs parallel to the wrestplank. The veneer on the jackrail, keywell and inside the case is figured walnut with herringbone banding. The spinet has been signed in several places as follows:-

- "Will Hilliar Haris No 7" on top key
- "7 Hilliar" on bottom jack
- "H7" on the wrestplank
- "1241T (7)" on the back of the nameboard
- "54" on the header brace and
- "H W 88" on the lowest key (in pencil)

**Present owner:** Russell Collection

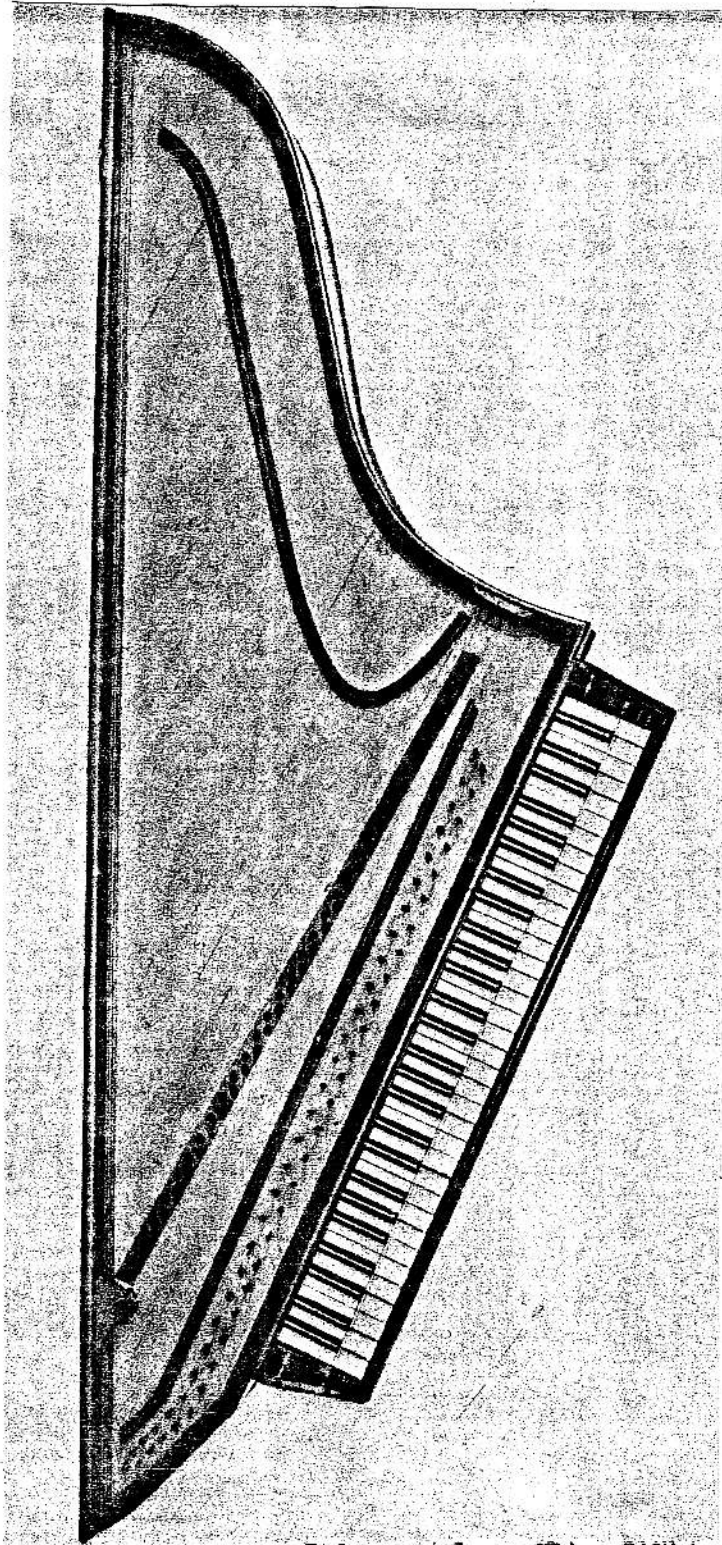


PHOTO FROM CATALOGUE

Russell Collection

Thomas Hitchcock No 1241

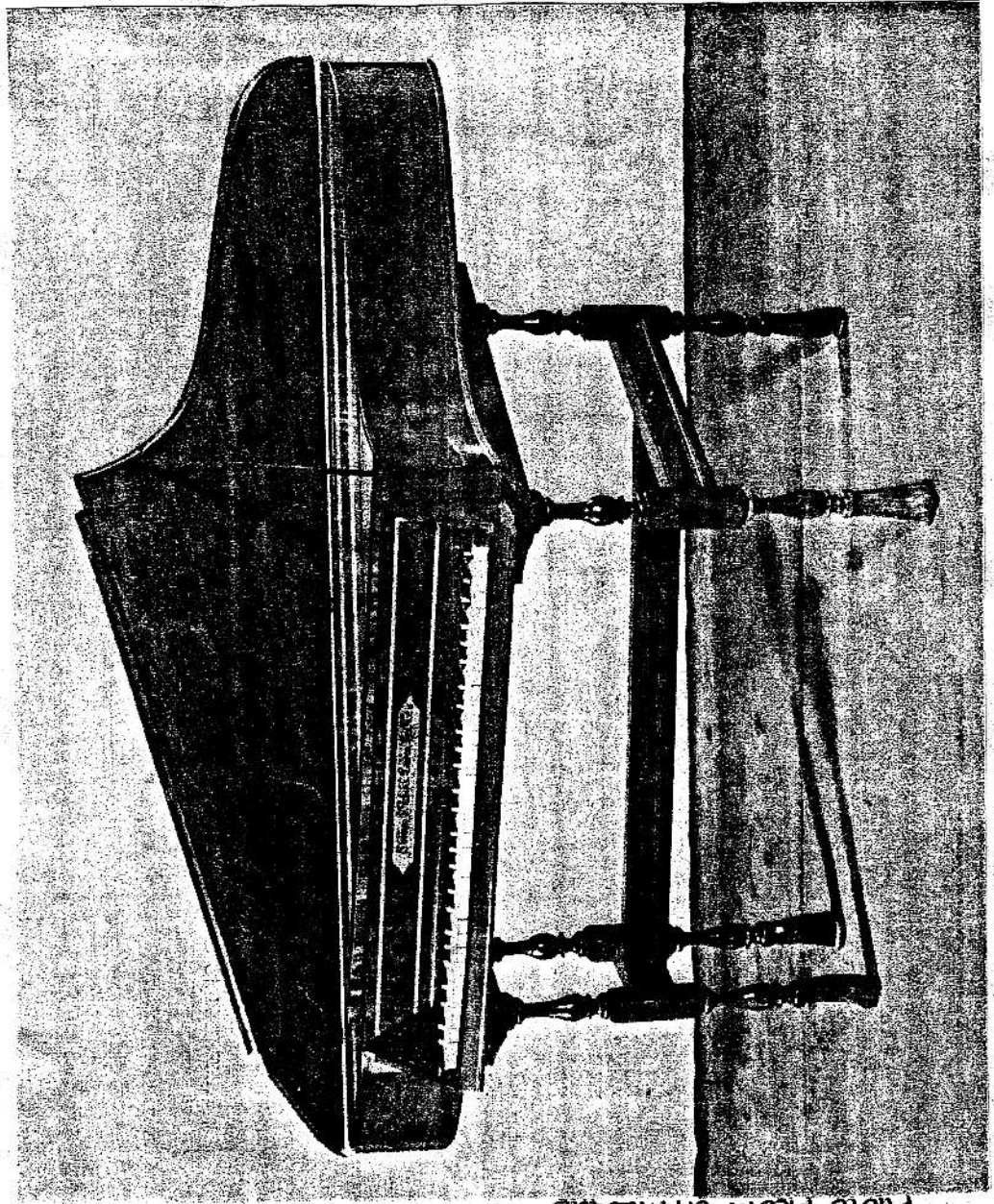


PHOTO FROM CATALOGUE

Thomas Hitchcock No 1241 Russell Collection

**Boalch No:** 20a

**Signature:** Thomas Hitchcock Londini Fecit

**Compass:** GG-g''' chromatic

**Case:** Walnut, straight tail

**Stand:** Trestle, four turned legs

**Hinges:** Pierced and chased brass

**Angle to left of keyboard:** Spine to cheek 45 degrees

**Dimensions:**

Length 1803  
 Widest point not including keyboard 558  
 Case height 162  
 3 octave span 486

| Note | String length | Plucking point | Relative scale |
|------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| GG   | 1458          | 192            |                |
| C    | 1375          | 214            | 6 3/4"         |
| c    | 992           | 175            | 10 3/4"        |
| c'   | 548           | 138            | 10 3/4"        |
| c''  | 274           | 112            | 10 3/4"        |
| c''' | 137           | 75             | 10 3/4"        |
| g''' | 98            | 53             |                |

**Detailed description:**

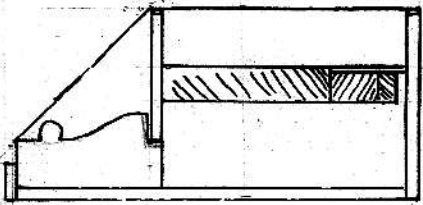
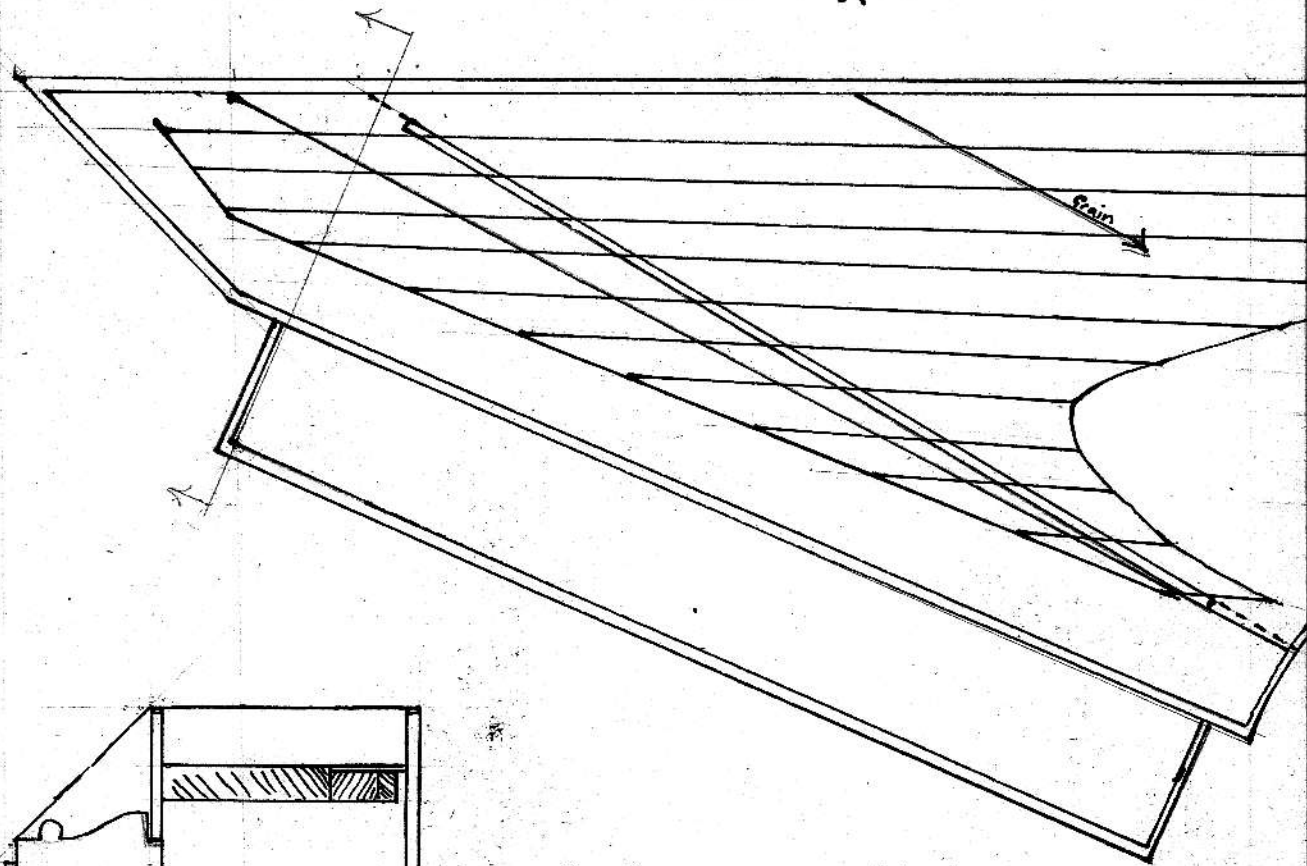
The pine keyboard has ivory naturals with turned ivory arcades and skunktailed sharps. The keywell is decorated in holly or sycamore veneer with double black stringing. The bridge is original in the bass but has been repaired in the treble, possibly twice. The base boards have split and been patched.

The soundboard has its grain (10-24 lines per inch) running parallel to the wrestplank and continues round the box guide. The wrestplank graining is continued over this as far as the box guide. The piece of soundboard wood here appears to be to cover up a wedge of wood glued to the front of the wrestplank to position the box guide. The keys have slots cut in their distal ends which guide them in a comb at the back of the keyframe, which is topped with a back touch limit.

The spinet is presently strung in steel in the treble. Most of the jacks have brass spings but were drilled for bristle. The tongues house leather plectra.

**Present owner:** *Bate Collection*

Thomas Hitchcock (Younger) Not numbered



Scale 4mm = 1 inch.



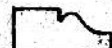
NUT



BASS



TREBLE  
(NOT ORIGINAL)



H.P.R.



CAP

Sections Full size

All case mouldings as

Jacks - Pear.  
nut + Bridge.

Wrest plank - Beech.  
Register

Case sides, lid - Walnut.  
end blocks

Spine, baseboards - Pine  
key levers, Nameboard

Soundboard - Spruce/fir  
12-24 grain/inch.

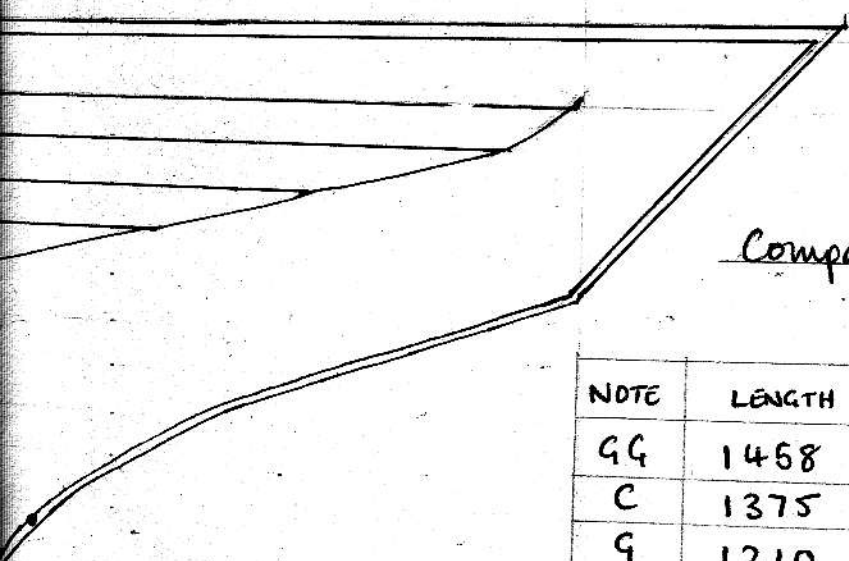
Arcades - Ivory.  
Naturals

Accidentals - Ebony + Iv

Internal veneer - Holly or

Strings - Brass  
Steel

, not dated, Boelch 20a.



Compass 49 - 9"

| NOTE | LENGTH | PLUCK | FC#<br>INCH SCALE |
|------|--------|-------|-------------------|
| GG   | 1458   | 192   |                   |
| C    | 1375   | 214   | 6 3/4"            |
| G    | 1210   | 192   |                   |
| c    | 992    | 175   | 10 3/4"           |
| g    | 740    | 150   |                   |
| c'   | 548    | 138   | 10 3/4"           |
| g'   | 374    | 122   |                   |
| c''  | 274    | 112   | 10 3/4"           |
| g''  | 192    | 88    |                   |
| c''' | 137    | 75    | 10 3/4"           |
| g''' | 98     | 53    |                   |



H.P.R.

Keyboard Details.

Total width 816

3 Octave Span 486

dry.  
Sycamore.  
treble.

|        | LENGTH               | BALANCE TO TAIL |      | NATURALS.  |      |
|--------|----------------------|-----------------|------|--|------|
|        |                      | Nat             | Acc. | Head   | Tail |
| BASS   | 312 Nat.<br>275 Acc. | 192             | 181  | 34   | 75   |
| TREBLE | 286 Nat.<br>255 Acc. | 170             | 161  | Key levers 11mm thick<br>nat key covers 3mm thick<br>Arcades 3mm thick<br>Arcade dia 16mm. |      |

Boalch No: 9b

Signature: Thomas Hitchcock Londini Fecit N<sup>o</sup>. 1287

Compass: GG-g''' chromatic

Case: Walnut

Stand: Trestle, four turned legs

Hinges: Chased brass

Angle to left of keyboard:

**Dimensions:**

Length 1859  
 Widest point including keyboard 690  
 Case height  
 3 octave span 478

| Note | String length | Plucking point | Relative scale     |
|------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| GG   | 1476          | 187            |                    |
| C    | 1395          | 200            | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "  |
| c    | 1000          | 165            | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "  |
| c'   | 540           | 133            | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " |
| c''  | 264           | 98             | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " |
| c''' | 132           | 62             | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " |
| g''' | 89            | 51             |                    |

**Detailed description:**

The pine keyboard has ivory naturals with turned ivory arcades and skunktailed sharps. The case has been refinished and the nameboard retouched. The hitchpin rail is a replacement. The bridge has been repaired in the treble by Scott O'Dell. The keywell is decorated in holly or sycamore veneer with double black stringing.

Present owner: *Smithsonian Institution*

**Boalch No:** 16

**Signature:** Thomas Hitchcock Londini Fecit N<sup>o</sup>. 1518

**Compass:** GG-g''' chromatic

**Case:** Walnut, straight tail

**Stand:** Trestle, four turned legs

**Hinges:**

**Angle to left of keyboard:** Spine to cheek 45 degrees

**Dimensions:**

Length 1861  
 Widest point including keyboard 679  
 Case height 185  
 3 octave span 475

| Note | String length | Plucking point | Relative scale     |
|------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| GG   | 1465          | 183            |                    |
| c''  | 276           | 103            | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " |
| g''' | 89            | 48             |                    |

**Detailed description:**

The keywell is decorated in holly or sycamore veneer with double black stringing. The keyboard has ebony naturals and skunktailed sharps. The keyframe was originally a two rail frame with back touch limit but a padded front key dip rail has been added. The keys have slots cut in their distal ends for the comb guide at the back of the keyframe. The jacks are of fruitwood with bristle springs and are guided in a box guide. Both jacks and keys are weighted. The soundboard grain runs parallel to the wrestplank and originally had three ribs running perpendicular to the box guide. Four other heavy ribs have been added by screwing through the soundboard; The screws are still present. The wrestplank is slightly twisted, many of the jacks are broken and the hitchpin rail is coming adrift from the bentside. Portions of the cap moulding have been replaced. The spinet is signed in various places as follows:-

"Emanuel No 2" on the wrestplank and top key

"Emanuel N2 N1518" on the back of the nameboard and

"E.a (?) /0/012" on the lowest key

**Present owner:** *Metropolitan Museum of Art*

**Boalch No:** 17  
**Signature:** Thomas Hitchcock Londini Fecit N<sup>o</sup>. 1547  
**Compass:** GG-g''' chromatic  
**Case:** Walnut, straight tail, artificially grained.  
**Stand:** Trestle, four turned legs with carved feet.  
**Hinges:** Chased brass  
**Angle to left of keyboard:** Spine to cheek 45 degrees.

**Dimensions:**

Length 1850  
 Widest point not including keyboard 572  
 Case height 172  
 3 octave span 492

| Note | String length | Plucking point | Relative scale     |
|------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| GG   | 1483          | 183            |                    |
| C    | 1400          | 191            | 6 $\frac{7}{8}$ "  |
| c    | 1005          | 153            | 9 $\frac{7}{8}$ "  |
| c'   | 550           | 123            | 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " |
| c''  | 271           | 92             | 10 $\frac{5}{8}$ " |
| c''' | 134           | 59             | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " |
| g''' | 93            | 43             |                    |

**Detailed description:**

The pine keyboard has ebony naturals with turned ivory arcades and skunktailed sharps, which have small wedges of wood glued in between the keylever and the sharp top to raise their height, with the effect that the gap underneath can be seen above the naturals when in their rest position. The keys have slots cut in their distal ends to guide them on the comb at the back of the keyframe. The keywell is decorated in holly or sycamore veneer with double black stringing. The soundboard grain (12-24 lines per inch) runs parallel to the wrestplank and continues round the box guide. The spinet is presently strung in steel in the treble. It is signed as follows:-

"Tho 1" on front of the wrestplank.

"no 1" on both top and bottom keys and scratched into the back of the nameboard.

**Present owner:** Neil Black

PHOTOGRAPHED WITH KIND PERMISSION OF NIEUW BLACK



A4/11

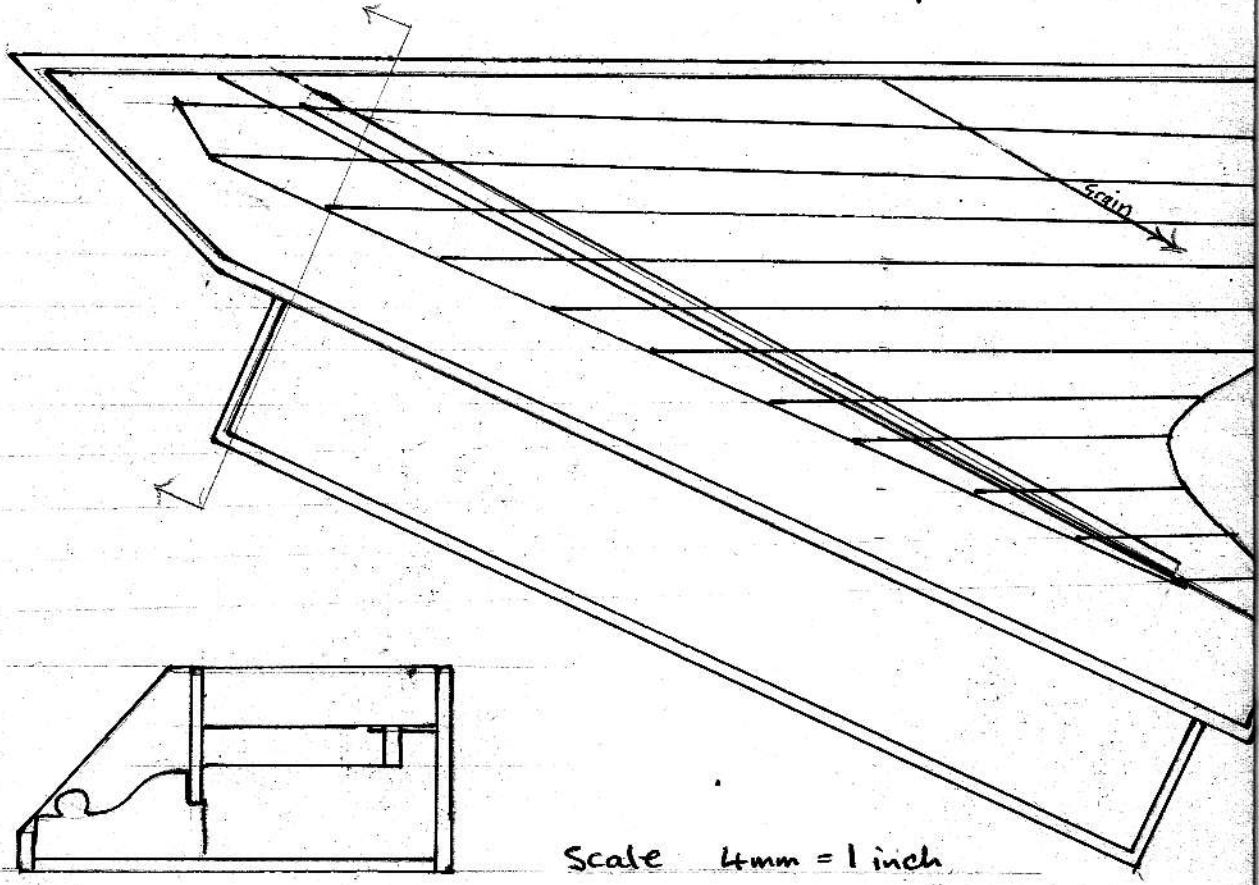
Thomas Hitchcock No 1547 . London .



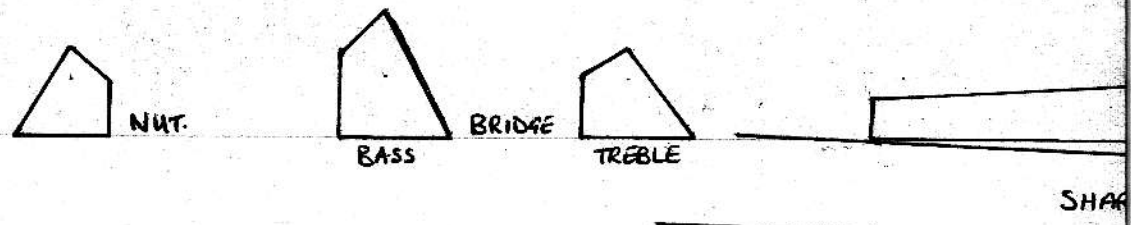
A4/17

Detail showing the standard signature .

Thomas Hitchcock (Younger) Case 1547  
 "The 1" on front of W/P.



Scale 4mm = 1 inch

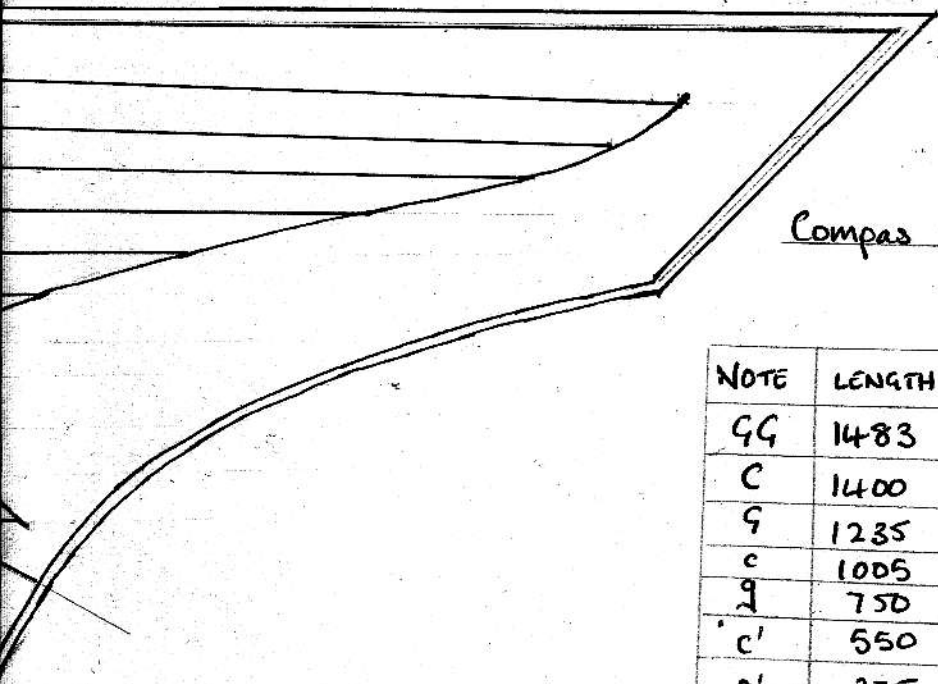


Jacks, nut + bridge - Pear  
 wrest plank + register - Beech  
 case sides, lid + endblocks. - Walnut (grained)  
 Spine, base boards, key levers - Spruce  
 Nameboard  
 Sound board - spruce / fir  
 12-24 grain/inch

Arcades - Ivory  
 Naturals - ebony  
 Accidentals - Ivory  
 Internal veneer - H  
 strings - Bra

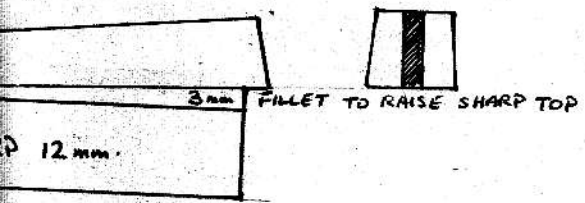
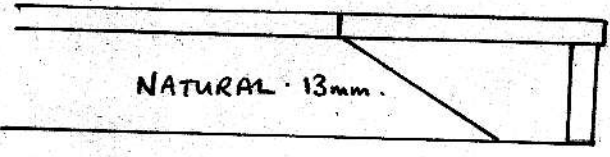
not dated Boalch No 17

No 1" on top+bottom keys and back of Nameboard.



Compass GG - 9"

| NOTE | LENGTH | PLACK | ≡ C" INCH SCALE |
|------|--------|-------|-----------------|
| GG   | 1483   | 183   |                 |
| C    | 1400   | 191   | 6 7/8"          |
| G    | 1235   | 175   |                 |
| c    | 1005   | 153   | 9 7/8"          |
| g    | 750    | 143   |                 |
| c'   | 550    | 123   | 10 3/4"         |
| g'   | 375    | 111   |                 |
| c''  | 271    | 92    | 10 5/8"         |
| g''  | 188    | 79    |                 |
| c''' | 134    | 59    | 10 1/2"         |
| g''' | 93     | 43    |                 |



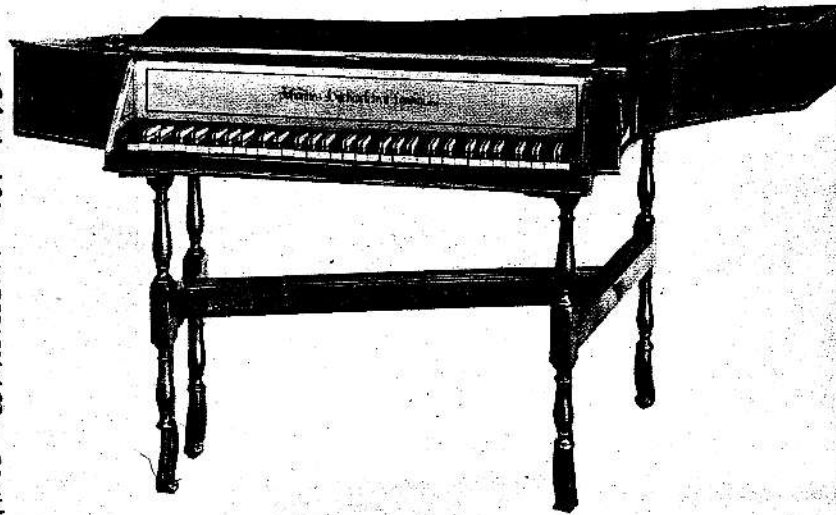
Total width 827

3 octave span 492

|        | Length |     | Balance total |     | Naturals |      |
|--------|--------|-----|---------------|-----|----------|------|
|        | Nat    | Acc | Nat           | Acc | head     | tail |
| BASS   | 336    | 300 | 205           | 196 | 35       | 77   |
| TREBLE | 323    | 287 | 202           | 194 |          |      |

+ ebony.  
silly or Syc.  
SS.

PHOTO : CONNBISSEUR 1939 P. 93.



John Hitchcock No 1630 Formerly W. Dale.

A SPINET MADE BY JOHN HITCHCOCK IN LONDON, 1630 : ONE AMONG THE RARE PIECES SHOWN AT THE 'AGE OF WALNUT' EXHIBITION, HELD RECENTLY BY FRANK PARTRIDGE

93

The misleading caption as it appeared under the above photograph.

- 1 Boalch. p. 70
- 2 See Appendix C.
- 3 Of the 2000 odd made only 40 or so survive.
- 4 Illustrated p. 86
- 5 See Keene p. 43
- 6 Boalch 20a. Detailed p. 81