

Tudor Place Historic House and Gardens contributes these pictures of their 6 octave John Broadwood and Son, dated 1804, with a compass of DD-d4, remarkable for this year and for end points on D, which is rare for any keyboard and unheard of in English pianos. While not a restoration report, this picture set documents the more interesting parts of this piano. A damper pedal was originally fitted that was used for only a few years by Broadwood to lift the older style under dampers for sustain. Since the touch weight is a combination of the damper resistance and key balance/action resistance, raising the dampers suddenly reduces the touch weight, contributing to an uneven “feel” for the keyboardist. It was swiftly replaced with Southwell style dolly dampers where the damper weight is negligible, an action already in use by 1804. Things never happened serially in the shop, and both types of damping were apparently made at the same time.



### **Square Piano**

Made by John Broadwood & Son (1794-1808), London, England, 1804.

Purchased by Major George Peter, and thence by descent to Armistead Peter 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mahogany (primary wood), oak (secondary wood), mahogany, satinwood, and rosewood veneers, limewood, ivory (naturals), ebony (accidentals), wool, silk, brass, iron. OH: 813 mm; OW: 666 mm; OL: 1274 mm.

*Courtesy, Tudor Place Historic House & Garden. Bequest of Armistead Peter 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4037.*









The three lowest hinges were previously repaired, probably around 1929, using leather applied directly over the original goatskin hinge. During a condition assessment, hinge number 1 broke on inspection.

But note that the hinges started numbering note four (FF) with (1), indicating that the hinges and hammers were numbered ahead of time.



Opening for damper lift actuator.



David Hackett sends along a sister piano where the damper lift mechanism is able to be understood in this restoration.







