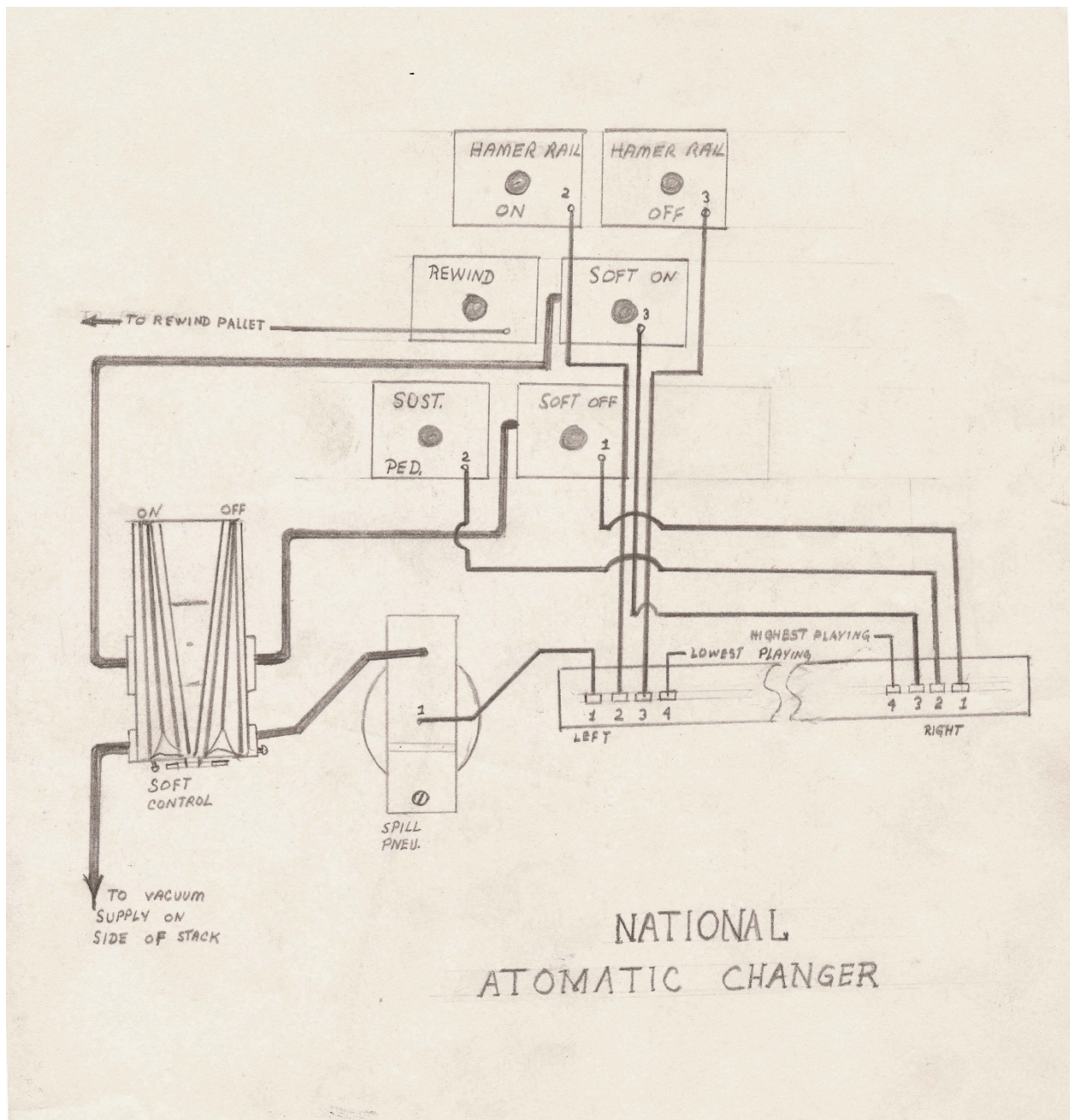


Dana Johnson's National Tubing Diagram

For National pianos with the National built stack and expression controls.



Please note: The tracker bar connections shown in the above diagram do not coincide with the tracker bar scale published by Art Reblitz and that is generally recognized to be accurate.

Approximately 1968-1970, I repaired a National automatic piano for Chester H Johnson, who was quite a diverse and interesting fellow. He owned a psychedelic poster and novelty store called *Maudie's Flea Market* (among other names as time passed), located in the Denver, Colorado, Historic district of Larimer Square. Not a real flea market, but more of a weird novelty shop geared toward the 19 to 24 year old college crowd.

An Sign advertisement stated:

Odds & Ends picked up from remote cubbyholes & civilization's wide domain!

Curious - Nick-Nacks - Antiques – Oddities

Useful & Useless Objects of special interest to collectors of all kinds!

I had a Mills Violano on location there from 1969-1975. Chester Johnson also owned an early Pre-Link Automatic Musical Company piano converted to play A rolls, by me, and a ClearTone Calliope (made in Denver, which I helped build) installed in a Step-Van truck. His store was always busy.

The National tubing diagram was the result of my efforts to repair his National automatic piano. In the course of the repair I fabricated new coin funnel parts to replace broken pot metal parts, as well as other minor repairs, such as replacing some tubing and fixing the loud soft control. At that point in time there were no collectors known to me in the Denver area. I would draw diagrams for entertainment. The only other coin pianos on locations were in Central City, Georgetown, and Canyon City, Colorado, but nothing near where I lived.

During that time period I operated 6 coin pianos around Larimer Square and downtown Denver.

- 3 Violanos - located at The Denver train station, Maudie's, and the Frontier Hotel.
- Coinola Cupid at the Rattscellar Sandwich Store in Larimer Square.
- Seeburg L at the Broker restaurant, 16th street downtown.
- Seeburg Greyhound at another downtown restaurant location.

Most of these coin pianos remained in the same location, unless the venue closed. The Frontier hotel closed and that Violano went to the Criterion (a tourist trap in Larimer Square); The Broker restaurant closed and the Seeburg L went to the Hungry Farmer Restaurant.

The Violanos took in quarters, the pianos a dime. In a good month the pianos might bring in \$100 in dimes. All this helped me pay my way through college.

Dana Johnson
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