



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
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**(Georgia Plat Map & Seal) [Warrant for 200 acres of land granted to William Evans in
Liberty County, Georgia, with manuscript plat map and original wax and embossed
paper seal of the State of Georgia]**

Stock#: 80565
Map Maker: Sturges
Date: 1816 1st November
Place: Georgia
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 8 x 13.5 inches
Price: \$ 7,500.00



Description:

Manuscript Plat Map of Georgia Lands in Liberty County

***With the Original Wax and Paper Seal of Georgia Designed by Daniel Sturges - who has also
signed the document***



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An original Georgia land warrant or grant for 200 acres in Liberty County. The main grant document, which has a decorative printed border, and still has the original paper-encased wax seal, includes a manuscript plat map, measuring approximately 5 x 7 inches, illustrating the location of the 200 acres.

The text of the document, with manuscript content here transcribed within brackets, reads largely as follows:

[Entd. Jas. Bozeman, Compr; Genl.]

Georgia, [Liberty County]. Warrant dated [1st January 1816] and surveyed the [1st November 1816] for [William Evans] who resides in this State, a tract of [Two Hundred] acres of land bounded [North by James Elders land; N.W. by land of the Est:e of Jas: Smart; S.E. by Knights land, and on all other sides by vacant vacant land.] Advertised [18th Novr. 1816. Surv:d by Rob: Hendry, CS, Dan:l Sturges Sur: Genl.]

The attached printed document on a slightly smaller sheet reads as follows:

State of Georgia. By his Honor William Rabun, President and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of this State, and of the Militia thereof ... Know ye, that in pursuance of the Act for opening the Land Office, and by virtue of the powers in me vested, I have given and granted, and by these presents, in the name and behalf of the said State, Do give and grant unto William Evans, his heirs and assigns forever, all that Tract of Land containing ... Acres ... lying and being in the County of Liberty in the said State; and butting and bounding North by James Elders Land. N.W. by land of the Est. of Jas. Smart. S.E. by Knights Land and on all other sides by Vacant Land.

The main document is signed by the following people:

- Daniel Sturges, Georgia Surveyor General (see below on his importance as a mapmaker)
- James Bozeman, Georgia Comptroller General
- Robert Hendry, surveyor
- George R. Clayton
- Will Johnson
- Elias Knight

The plat map



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The manuscript plat map is quite detailed and indicates the relative location of various features, including lakes or ponds and the Riceboro Road. Riceboro was the county seat of Liberty County at the time. Also noted are stands of pine and cypress trees, and the names of neighboring landowners.

Scale of [20] chains to an inch.

The Mapmaker

Daniel Sturges was a very important mapmaker in early Georgia. As Surveyor General he played an important role in various land development schemes coinciding with the settlement of Georgia in the early 19th-century. His 1818 *Map of the State Georgia* can be styled the Holy Grail of Georgia maps. It was a large and elaborate production that also showed adjoining parts of South Carolina. The map was notable as the first systematic survey of Georgia, being based on Sturges's wide experience surveying lands for private owners, such as in the present plat.

The Great Seal of the State of Georgia

The original wax and embossed paper seal attached to the present document was designed by Daniel Sturges, who has also signed the document as Surveyor General of Georgia. Sturges submitted his winning seal design in a competition held in 1799. On February 8, 1799 an act of the Georgia Legislature official adopted Sturges' design:

On the one side a view of the seashore with a ship bearing the flag of the United States, riding near a wharf, receiving aboard hogsheads of tobacco and bales of cotton, emblematic of the exports of this State; at a small distance a boat landing from the interior of the State with hogsheads etc., on board representing her internal traffic; in the back part of the same side, a man in the act of ploughing; and at a small distance a flock of sheep in different postures shaded by a flourishing tree, the motto on this side agriculture and commerce, 1799. That the other side contain three pillars supporting an arch, with the word Constitution, engraven within the same, emblematic of the Constitution supported by three departments of the government, viz.: the legislative, judicial and executive, the first pillar to have engraven on its base, wisdom; the second justice; and the third, moderation; on the right of the last pillar a man standing with a drawn sword, representing the aid of the military in defense of the Constitution; the motto, State of Georgia, 1799.

Originally the dates listed on the obverse and reverse of the seal were 1799 (as in the present example). The dates were changed to 1776 by the Georgia state legislature in 1914 to reflect the date of the signing



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of the Declaration of Independence.

Detailed Condition:

Folio sheet. Printed document, completed in manuscript. With attached smaller printed document sheet. Medallion-style embossed wax seal encased in paper attached with white linen ribbon. Some foxing and soiling on the sheets. Fold split on smaller sheet (not affecting map sheet). The images and text on the wax and paper seal are still quite clear, and while showing its age, the seal is in remarkably nice condition for 200+ years. Docketed on verso of smaller sheet: Grant to William Evans for 200 acres Land Liberty, dated 24th March 1817, Georgia Secretary's Office, Registered in Book L5, Page 111.