

## BRANDYWINE FORMATION

## GENERAL FEATURES

*Name*—The Brandywine formation was named by Clark (1915) from a village in Prince Georges County, Maryland. It was restricted and redefined by Cooke (1931, pp. 505-506)

to include only those gravels, sands, and loams that were laid down in the Brandywine sea and in the contemporaneous estuaries and rivers. As the shore of the sea and estuaries during Brandywine time appears to stand about 270 feet above the present sea level, that altitude may be assumed to represent the upper limit of the Brandywine formation.

*Characters and thickness*—The Brandywine formation in Florida is believed to be predominantly sandy. Little is known about its variations. The formation is probably thickest in western Florida, where it lies close to an abundant source of sand. There it may be 50 feet or more thick. Far away from the shore line it is doubtless thinner and locally may be wanting.

*Distribution*—Scattered remnants of the Brandywine formation probably cap the hills and flat-topped uplands along a band 6 or 8 miles wide extending eastward from Perdido River to Gadsden County. There may also be patches of it surrounding the highest parts of the Lake Region as far south as Polk County, where there appears to have been an island in the Brandywine sea. Lack of topographic maps in this region makes the recognition of the Brandywine formation difficult and uncertain.

*Stratigraphic relations*—As the Brandywine formation consists of the deposits of an advancing sea, it lies unconformably on whatever happened to be in its path. The Citronelle formation underlies it in western Florida and Alabama, the Hawthorn in eastern Florida and Georgia. At most places it lies at the surface with nothing above it but the soil. Younger Pleistocene formations may overlie it elsewhere.

The Brandywine is probably contemporaneous with the basal member of the Fort Thompson formation, which, however, represents a very different, shelly facies.

*Paleogeography*—The shore line of the Brandywine sea (fig. 43) apparently passed through Escambia and the west-