

as 70 to more than 100 feet, and stated that it is composed of sand with local deposits of clay.

*Characters and thickness*—The principal component of the Wicomico formation is sand. As exposed on the weathered surface it has for the most part a dirty, drab color. Where less weathered it has a yellowish or reddish tinge. The thickness is variable, being greatest near shore. The thickness probably does not exceed 50 feet at many places, and it is commonly much less.

*Distribution*—The Wicomico formation occupies intricate bands of variable width along both sides of the peninsula and in western Florida and also irregular areas in Alachua and Marion Counties that are partly enclosed by higher land. The extent and interpretation of these must await the completion of topographic maps. A band 15 miles wide lies east of Trail Ridge and St. Marys River in Clay, Duval, and Nassau Counties.

*Stratigraphic relations*—The Wicomico formation is the oldest of the deposits laid down in the seas and estuaries during a high-level stage supposed to correspond to the Sangamon interglacial stage. During this interglacial stage the sea invaded the land to a height of 100 feet above its present level, then it fell to 70 feet, then to 42 feet, and afterwards withdrew below its present level during the Wisconsin glacial stage. The Wicomico formation was deposited during the highest, 100-foot stage; the Penholoway during the intermediate, 70-foot stage; and the Talbot during the final, 42-foot stage. Hence, it follows that the Wicomico lies unconformably on all older deposits but is conformable with the Penholoway formation, though most of the exposed part of the Wicomico stands higher than the Penholoway. The limits of altitude of the Wicomico terrace, which forms the exposed surface of the Wicomico formation, are 100 to 70 feet above sea level.

*Paleogeography*—The generalized location of the shore line during Wicomico time is shown in figure 44. It extends eastward at increasing distances from the present coast from Pensacola to White Springs, where it turned southward and rounded a short peninsula ending in Putnam County, thence