

## TALBOT FORMATION

### GENERAL FEATURES

*Name*—The name of the Talbot formation is taken from Talbot County, Maryland, where Shattuck (1901, pp. 73-75; 1906, p. 74) found that its landward margin "where it abuts against higher land lies very constantly at an elevation of about 40 or 45 feet." The Talbot of Shattuck included all the Pleistocene deposits of Maryland younger than the Wicomico formation, as he defined it, but Cooke (1931, p. 510) restricted the Talbot by separating from it the Pamlico formation, which Stephenson (1912, p. 286) had named and recognized in North Carolina. As thus restricted, the Talbot is approximately equivalent to the Chowan formation of Stephenson (1912, p. 282), which Cooke (1931, p. 510) rejected as synonymous.

*Character and thickness*—Little is known about the detailed composition of the Talbot formation. Presumably it consists chiefly of fine sand except in former estuaries, where clay or silt may prevail. It probably exceeds 20 feet in thickness only in northwestern Florida, where there was an abundant supply of sand.

*Distribution*—The Talbot formation extends around Florida as a narrow fringe lying several miles inland, farther in the south. The terrace is well developed in Duval and St. Johns Counties, where it is separated from the higher terraces by a broad estuarine extension of the Pamlico terrace along St. Johns River.

*Stratigraphic relations*—The Talbot is the youngest of three conformable formations, of which the other two are the Penholoway and the Wicomico. It was deposited in the sea after the water level had fallen from the Penholoway stand of 70 feet above the present sea level to a height of approximately only 42 feet. At the end of Talbot time sea level fell to a location below the present, and all the sea bottom within the limits of Florida became land. Most of the Talbot formation that is now uncovered has been land ever since the withdrawal of the sea during the early part of the Wisconsin glacial stage. The buried parts are separated from the overlying Pamlico sand by an hiatus.