



VIGNETTES OF COASTAL PLAIN GEOLOGY

BURNETT SMITH

1877-1958

Burnett Smith was descended from a long line of central New York settlers, dating back to the earliest Dutch inhabitants. In 1907 he became instructor and later Professor of Paleontology at Syracuse University. Upon his retirement in 1928, he worked as a geologist for the New York State Museum and was a charter member of the Paleontological Research Institute in Ithaca, serving as its President in 1937-1939. Although many of his publications reflect his interest in the geology of New York, it is for his work on marine gastropods, fossil and Recent, that he is best remembered, especially his pioneering studies on the taxonomic value of their protoconchs. (*From* K. V. W. Palmer, 1960, Geological Society of America, Proceedings for 1959)