



VIGNETTES OF COASTAL PLAIN GEOLOGY

JOSEPH AUGUSTINE CUSHMAN
(1881-1949)

Joseph Augustine Cushman joined the United States Geological Survey, in 1912, to work on Foraminifera in the Coastal Plain Section; the first employment of a specialist on Foraminifera to work as a stratigraphic paleontologist and marking the beginning of a new era in Gulf Coast geology. His conviction that the smaller foraminifers were valuable for stratigraphic correlation led to the present day field of Stratigraphic Micropaleontology. (From L. G. Henbest, 1952, Geological Society of America, Proceedings)