

PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING and REMOTE SENSING

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COVER PHOTO — Landsat MSS subscene of Heron Island Reef on the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Queensland, Australia, taken on 12 March 1973. No special processing methods were used, but the spectral response saturation levels used to produce the image were: Band 6, 0-28; Band 5, 6-62; and Band 4, 16-83. The red and white pixels are of significance. The very bright cluster of red pixels towards the "pointed" end of the reef is the spectral response of the vegetation growing on the coral cay. The very bright white pixels are the spectral response of the beach around the coral cay, which is the only part of the reef above the high water mark. The bright red pixels around the perimeter of the reef are the spectral response of the reef rim which is heavily covered with algae growths. Water depths across the reef top vary from approximately 0.5 metres at the edge to 5.0 metres in the center. Submitted by D. A. Kuchler of the Department of Geography, James Cook University of North Queensland, Australia.

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