1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) has been mapped by many workers. Maps have been produced at scales which depict individual reefs (Stoddart, 1969, 1978; Flood, 1977); reef regions (Stoddart et al., 1978); and the whole Great Barrier Reef province (Maxwell, 1968; GBRMPA, 1983). During recent mapping projects (Jupp et al., 1985; Kuchler, 1984) it became evident that these maps were not compatible because the labels used to represent reefal cover and zonal units were not standard. For this reason, the information could not be easily integrated into a GBR data base.

Since a standardised labelling procedure is required for mapping geomorphological features in GBR remote sensing projects and for GBR mapping in general, a method was devised. The method has three components: a standardised geomorphological nomenclature of the GBR; a classification system which categorises and attributes labels to the nomenclature; and, a classified data recording system. Each component has been presented in a separate GBRMPA Technical Memorandum.

In one paper (Kuchler, 1986b), a nomenclature for geomorphological features on reefs within the GBR is presented. There is presently insufficient ground data by which to verify terms, so the nomenclature adopts the most frequently used terms in the literature.

The other paper (Kuchler, 1986a) categorises the nomenclature, attributes labels, and forms it into a classification system for use in the mapping process. The classification system was designed for labelling reef covers on maps, for labelling interpreted reef covers on aerial and orbital remotely sensed GBR images, and for recording ground data. Since the classification system has already been presented, this third paper describes and illustrates the classified data recording method. A handbook and data recording card format which facilitate easy recording are presented in the appendices of this paper.