VIII. Death Notices of Colleagues Engaged in Writing the History of Archaeology

Herbert C. Kraft passed away October 31, 2000, at the age of 73. Kraft was born and died at his birthplace in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He was a champion of the so-called “Lenape” and had written many books and articles on them. He began archaeology as a boy, conducting digs as an amateur. He continued excavation after obtaining a job at Seton Hall University where “he amassed thousands of artifacts” for its museum. He graduated from Seton Hall in 1950 with a B.A.; and joined the anthropology faculty at Seton Hall in that year. He later obtained a M.A. in history from Seton Hall in 1961 and a second M.A. in anthropology from Hunter College in 1969. Among his 170 publications are his latest book “Lenape Indian Heritage: 10,000 B.C. to A.D. 2000,” to be published December 2000; “The Dutch, the Indians and the Quest for Copper: Pahaquarry and the Old Mine Road” and “The Lenape and the Delaware Indians” The Original People of New Jersey, Southeastern New York State, Eastern Pennsylvania” both published in 1996 by Seton Hall University Museum. He wrote many articles for the journal Archaeology of New Jersey including articles dealing with early archaeological practitioners who worked in New Jersey such as Charles C. Abbott and Henry C. Mercer.

James Deetz passed away on November 25, 2000, a Saturday afternoon, at the age of 70. Deetz was a leading thinker in historical archaeology and between 1960 and 2000 his influence spread far beyond our field into general archaeology, anthropology, and history. He also taught several generations of students in the field having been a faculty member at the University of California-Santa Barbara, Brown University, University of California-Berkeley and the University of Virginia. Deetz served as President of the Society for Historical Archaeology and was a recipient of the J.C. Harrington Medal for the SHA. Deetz remained a very active researcher and writer to the very end of his life as seen in the just released book The Times of Their Lives: Life, Love and Death in Plymouth Colony (2000) which he coauthored with his wife Patricia Scott Deetz. There will be a funeral service which will be open to the public on December 2, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. at Saint Bede Church, 500 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, Virginia. Notes and messages of condolence may be sent to his wife and family at: Mrs. Patricia Scott Deetz, 901 Royer Drive, Charlottesville, Virginia 22901.

We have also learned of the deaths of Ned Danson, Joffre Coe and Bill Haag. Their obituaries will appear in future issue of the BHA.