

1086-F5-1030      **Peggy Aldrich Kidwell\*** (kidwellp@si.edu), MRC671, NMAH, Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 37012, Washington, DC 20013-7012. *Pleasure, Pedagogy and Performance for an American High School Geometry Teacher – The Dissected Polyhedra and Polygons of A. Harry Wheeler*. Preliminary report.

In the first half of the twentieth century, the American high school mathematics teacher Albert Harry Wheeler (1873-1950) designed and built a collection of hundreds of geometric models. His models embodied earlier developments in the study of polygons and polyhedra, and represented novel advances in this area. He met and corresponded with eminent figures. However, in choosing what models he designed, made and used, Wheeler was more interested in pursuing his own notion of aesthetics and mathematical correctness, and in issues of pedagogy and in public performance, than in following the demands of the larger mathematical profession. David Lindsay Roberts has examined his career as it illuminates the structure of the American mathematical community in the early twentieth century. Here I consider his work in one area – the dissection of polygons and polyhedra – as it reflects contemporary geometry and geometry teaching, Wheeler’s personal concerns, and popular recreations of the day. (Received September 18, 2012)