

# Pacific Stadium, Santa Monica CA

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**Q:** In this age of disposable stadia and geographically fluid sports "enterprises" how should we, as designers of the built environment respond to this, one of the most exemplary conditions of the rootlessness of American culture?

**A:** The longest standing paradigm for stadia, The Coliseum in Rome, is touted for its changeability of program. It's been a facility for naval battles, Christian martyrdom, gladiator clashes, a feline incubator, historical re-enactments, traffic circle, equestrian events, and tourist icon. The first great stadium might be that because it has been one of the most malleable over time.

**Four Premises:**

a) What the stadium "is" is less important than how it can change to meet programmatic varieties and magnitudes.

- b) The stadium will facilitate the broadest range of uses. (Not just football).
- c) In addition to its changeability, the stadium should be able to exchange sites as easily as the teams that play there do.
- d) The maximum mutability will insure it's maximum longevity and success.

**We have chosen to:**

- 1) Float the stadium on the water to induce a fluid condition of siting.
- 2) Consider the stadium as a interchangeable set of components rather than as a fixed object in a landscape.

**ref:** "Continuous project altered daily." – Robert Morris

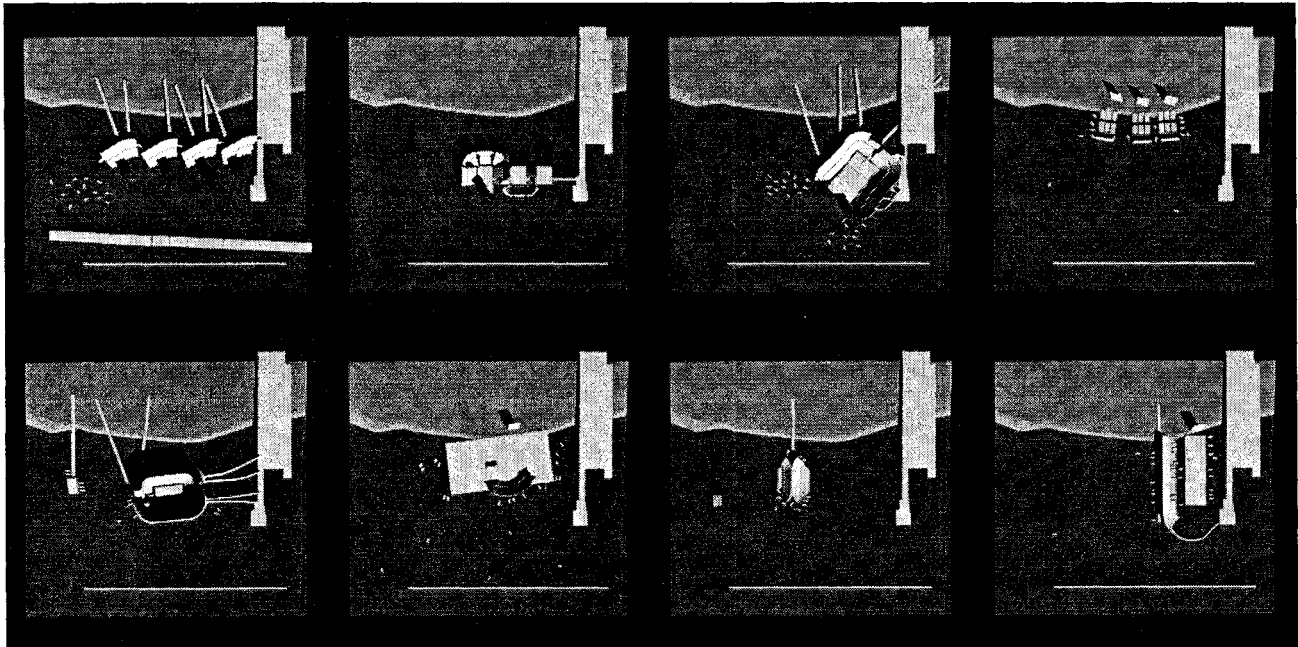


Fig. 1. Stadium permutations.

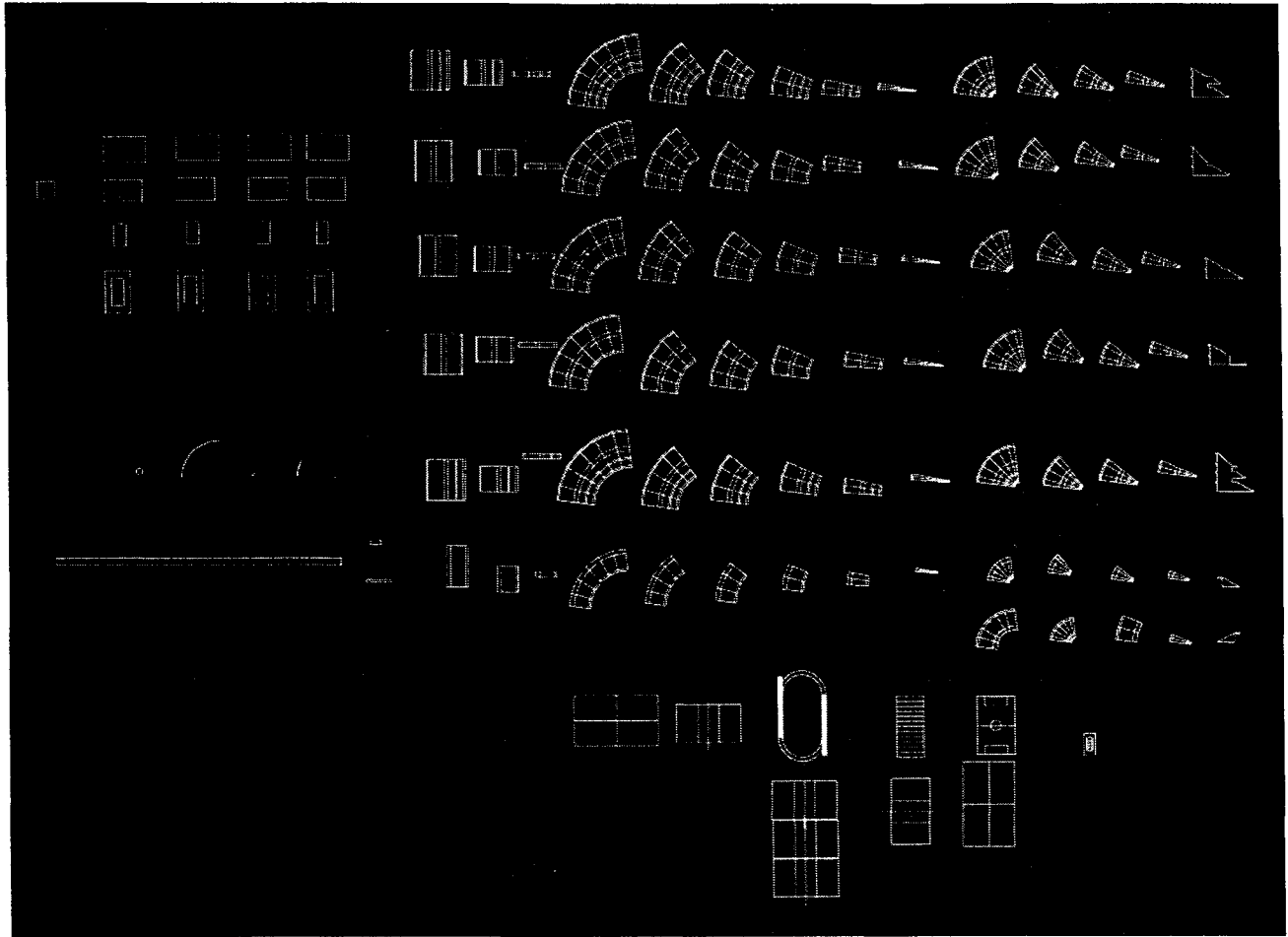
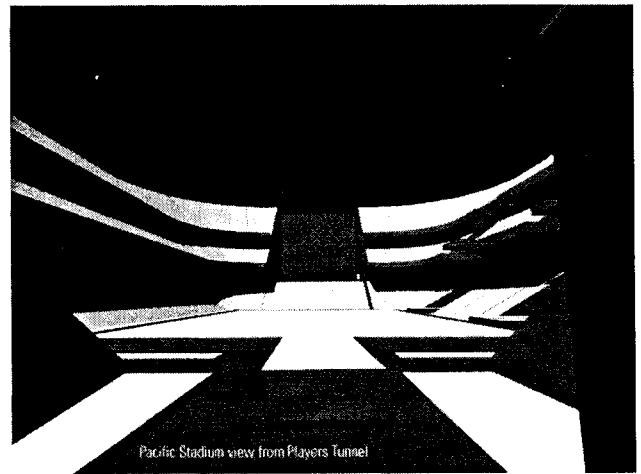


Fig. 2. Plan diagram of football configuration.



Figs. 3-4. Experiential view from drag racing and football permutations.