

HEERY AND HEERY · FINCH, ALEXANDER, BARNES, ROTHSCHILD, AND PASCHAL

Associated Architects

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April 10, 1967

The Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr.
Mayor of Atlanta
City Hall
Atlanta, Georgia

Re: Atlanta Stadium Dome

Dear Ivan:

As you requested, we have over the past few months made an extensive study of the possibilities for a removable roof for Atlanta Stadium.

Working with Birdair Structures, Inc., we have now developed a design for an air-supported "umbrella" roof dome that Birdair believes can be put up or taken down in only three hours.

This roof would be lifted into place by a 300-ft. high telescoping mast in the center of the field, which would then retract into a missile-type "silo," leaving the stadium covered and ready for use. We submit herewith slides and drawings illustrating the system.

Rough preliminary estimates indicate that the roof system and mast, including the air-support equipment and a ventilation system, would probably cost between \$1½ and \$2 million. However, the present field lighting system would have to be modified, thereby making the total cost of the roof, its support systems, lighting modifications, and other work on portal vestibules, etc., possibly as high as \$4 or \$5 million. However, a side benefit of the lighting modifications could be the raising of light levels to new requirements for night color television for football.

As you will recall, all other types of dome structures and mechanical systems proposed in the past have been estimated at \$15 to \$18 million.

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The Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr.
April 10, 1967
Page 2

This new approach would not only be less objectionable aesthetically, but could be utilized as a permanent-type roof, should the Authority subsequently find it desirable to install a heating and air conditioning system and plan to leave the roof in place for extended periods of time or permanently. The probable cost for a heating and air conditioning system for the stadium would run between \$5 and \$6 million, which would still give Atlanta a far better bargain than the Houston stadium, which cost some \$38 million and is substantially smaller in both seating capacity and dimension than the Atlanta Stadium.

We believe that this design may be an answer to your desire to assure fans traveling to Atlanta Stadium from cities throughout the Southeast that scheduled events will be played on the scheduled dates.

Sincerely yours,

HEERY AND HEERY - FINCH ALEXANDER BARNES ROTHSCHILD & PASCHAL

By


George W. Heery

By


James H. Finch

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cc: Mr. Arthur L. Montgomery
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