

## **Market Street Catacombs**

Beneath the bustling Indianapolis City Market are the catacombs of Tomlinson Hall - a complex of passageways, tunnels, and arches made of brick and limestone, originally built in 1886 beneath the hall. Tomlinson Hall was a massive building and centerpiece of the city market. It could hold over 3,500 people! The catacombs were used by workers of the City Market to transport and store goods to be sold in the market. The underground spaces allowed refrigerated goods to stay cooler than they would above ground, thus preserving them longer. Tomlinson Hall burned down in January of 1958. City workers cleared out the debris, leaving the limestone and brick structures in place. The catacombs were never utilized again and Tomlinson Hall would never be rebuilt.

The Market Street Catacombs span twenty-thousand square feet, and remain mostly intact more than one hundred years after they were built. These catacombs are one of a dozen catacomb sites in the United States. Though they are not open directly to the public, visitors can schedule appointments with tour guides. The site is becoming increasingly well-known in Indianapolis.

- 1. What was the primary use of the catacombs before they were abandoned?**
  - A. To hide items and goods to be sold later
  - B. To store and preserve food items
  - C. To preserve the limestone arches and tunnels
  - D. To showcase the history of Indianapolis
  
- 2. What happened after Tomlinson Hall burned down?**
  - A. The catacombs were cleared away
  - B. The city market closed down
  - C. The catacombs were left in place
  - D. Tomlinson Hall was rebuilt

**3. What word could replace “intact” in the following sentence?**

The Market Street Catacombs span twenty thousand square feet, and remain mostly intact more than one hundred years after they were built.

- A. Old
- B. Damaged
- C. Undamaged
- D. New

**4. What question is answered in the second paragraph?**

- A. How can visitors explore the catacombs?
- B. Where in the United States are other catacomb sites?
- C. What happened to Tomlinson Hall in 1886?
- D. How many people visit the catacombs?

**5. Which is NOT true about Tomlinson Hall?**

- A. It could hold 3,500 people
- B. It was the centerpiece of the Indianapolis City Market
- C. The site is becoming increasingly well-known within the city of Indianapolis
- D. It was rebuilt after the 1958 fire