Edinburgh Vaults, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Beneath the streets of Scotland's capital lies a dark and damp world, dating back to the 18th century. The Edinburgh Vaults, also known as The South Bridge Vaults, are a series of chambers formed within the 19 arches of South Bridge.

Opened in 1788, a period of great expansion and growth, the vaults date back to a time when Edinburgh was a superstitious place. Today, they still exude a feel of gore and ghastliness. Originally built to house cobblers, cutlers, smelters, and other tradesmen, and to store illicit materials, rumors have it that criminals Burke and Hare also stored various bodies down here, which they sold for medical experiments. Later, when the businesses moved out, the vaults became home to the city's poorest souls. A place so grim it would make any of today's red-light districts seem nice and snug.

Delve down beneath Edinburgh's graceful surface and listen to the guide's shivering stories of the ghosts still lingering around.

A. Read the text and write True or False.

1. The vaults date back to the 19th century. _____
2. It is also known as the South Bridge Vaults. _____
3. It is used as a house. _____
4. The place was scary. _____
5. There are some stories about the vaults. _____

B. Answer the questions according to the text.

1. When were the vaults opened? _____
2. In which country are the vaults of Edinburgh? _____
3. Why did people use the vaults? _____
4. What happened to the vaults after the business moved out? _____
5. What are the stories about the vaults? _____

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