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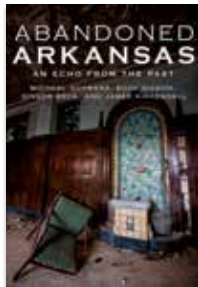
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Arkansas' Forgotten History Documented in New Book

While most people scurry past old, untouched places that may seem as though they have lost value, photographers Michael Schwartz, Eddy Sisson, Ginger Beck and James Kirkendall find these historic, forgotten buildings throughout the state of Arkansas to be their most cherished treasures.

The group's admiration has resulted in their recent book release, *Abandoned Arkansas: An Echo from the Past*. From run-down theaters to hotels and theme parks, the authors have been able to bring a greater respect to the places that are much overlooked. By sharing the authors' excursions throughout Arkansas, they hope to reveal the beauty of the abandoned places. "Abandoned Arkansas impacts the state as a whole," Kirkendall said. "As storytellers, we are combining creativity and history together. I believe that most historic organizations and people in general pass by too many historic locations because they're not 'labeled' historic. We want to capture everything."



With vivid illustrations and in-depth descriptions of some of the state's most deteriorated areas, the authors have been able to promote their discoveries throughout the pages of their book. "As a voice for these buildings, it's important to spread historic preservation in a new way," Kirkendall said. "The book not only includes facts and pictures, it also includes what we do and adds a personal connection. I strongly believe that readers will respond well to this feature of the book as all of the co-authors bring something new to the table." ■

Abandoned Arkansas is available online. To see photos from abandoned places around the state, visit abandonedar.com or find them on social media.



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