



James Kirkendall, Eddy Sisson, Michael Schwarz, Lana Yates, Steve Thompson. Groupshots by non-abandoned ar member Sarah Covey

# ABANDONED ARKANSAS

By Rachel Clifton

Over the years Arkansas has put quite a bit of effort into preserving its historically significant sites across the state but one group feels that we can all do a little better.

Micheal Schwartz founder of the website Abandoned Arkansas, leads a group of photographers and writers committed to documenting some of Arkansas most iconic forgotten spaces. Their hope is to help immortalize the stories of the places they visit beyond the buildings finite lifespan.

“In general another reason we take pictures of these places is that most individuals and communities that own these buildings do not have the funds to restore them. We try to spread the word, that way developers and investors may find interest.” says photog-

rapher James Kirkendall.

“If a building cannot be saved we at least have documentation encase something were to happen to a location.”

We got together with Abandoned Arkansas recently and asked them to give us their list of some of their favorite finds in Arkansas.

Fair warning: the stories behind some of these abandoned sites, are rich in both history and tradition but are also heartbreaking for those of us with fond memories of their glory days and the nostalgia of their passing.

You can find out more about these stories and man MANY more at their website [abandonedar.com](http://abandonedar.com) and be sure to look them on Facebook as well!