

Historic Photography - Dr Jan Sigvartsen

INSTRUCTOR

Jan Sigvartsen PhD

Leanne Sigvartsen MCouns

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Tarragindi.org

AGE

8 -18

FORMAT

In-person

HOURS

17 hours (more
hours available)

CLASS OVERVIEW

This Historic Photography class will take place at different historical locations in Berrien Springs. We will learn how to take professional-looking historic photos – all from a Fall perspective. You will also photograph artifacts discovered at the Tarragindi Archaeological Dig (see Tarragindi.org) and create a very important historic photographic record of the *Fall 2025 Dig Season* for Berrien County. We will also learn about some of the fascinating history and stories of Berrien Springs that will inform and inspire our photography.

A special archive of our best photographs will be given to the Berrien Springs History Center for posterity so that future generations - decades or even centuries from now - can see the photos you have taken in this 2025 class. Our best photos will also be submitted to the Journal Era, the Berrien Springs newspaper, and the oldest business in town.

CLASS GOALS

This is your time to learn new techniques, be creative, try different angles and perspectives, learn from others, share ideas, and try to capture amazing and unique photos of Berrien Springs and its history in the Fall.

A parent, grandparent, or guardian over 18 is welcome to accompany you, but is not required. Friends and siblings must be registered for this class with the parent partnership to participate, or be a fee-paying student.

CLASS TIMES

Saturday 2pm – 4pm (8x 2 hour classes)

or

Sunday 10am – 12pm (8x 2 hour classes)

Except for:

Week 1 – Orientation - August 26 or 28 at 6pm – 8pm

Week 3 – Rose Hill Cemetery Tour – September 14 at 1pm – 3.30pm

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- a camera, or phone/tablet camera (it doesn't have to be fancy)
- a good pair of cold-weather walking shoes
- and warm clothes suitable for being outdoors during late September and October

AGES

8-18 YEARS

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1, August 26 or 28	ORIENTATION – OLD COURTHOUSE – August 26 <u>or</u> 28
Berrien Springs History Center – 313 N Cass St, Berrien Springs August 26, 2025 - 6-8 pm <u>or</u> August 28, 2025 – 6-8 pm	All students undertaking Dr Jan Sigvartsen's five Parent Partnership classes this semester are required to attend orientation. There are two scheduled orientation times – you only have to attend <u>one</u> of these scheduled orientations
WEEK 2, September 6 or 7	HISTORY CENTER TOUR – at your preferred class time
Berrien Springs History Center – 313 N Cass St, Berrien Springs	This week, we will photograph the Berrien Springs History Center and learn about the fascinating and often surprising history of multicultural Berrien Springs, its indigenous people and its early pioneers. This class will be held at your preferred class time.
WEEK 3, September 14 only	ROSE HILL CEMETERY TOUR – September 14 only at 1pm - 3.30pm
Rose Hill Cemetery 9905 Rose Hill Road, Berrien Springs	This is a special tour of the Rose Hill Cemetery, hosted by the Berrien County History Museum's Executive Director, Rhiannon Cizon.
WEEK 4, September 20 or 21	PHOTOGRAPHING DOWNTOWN – at your preferred class time
Journal Era Building 101 W Ferry Street, Berrien Springs	This week, we will photograph the historic downtown area.
WEEK 5 September 27 or 28	THE HISTORIC "POOR" FARM – at your preferred class time
Love Creek Nature Reserve 9292 Huckleberry Rd, Berrien Center	This class will be held at Love Creek Nature Reserve, which was the site of the Berrien County "poor" farm where those in the 1800's down on their luck could live and farm.
WEEK 6, October 4 or 5	TARRAGINDI ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG – at your preferred class time
Fernwood Botanical Gardens 6161 Pheasant Court, Berrien Springs	This week we will photograph the Tarragindi Archaeological Dig and Archaeology Plus sites, along with artifacts found there.
WEEK 7 October 11 or 12	PHOTOGRAPHING HISTORIC HOMES – at your preferred class time
Journal Era Building 101 W Ferry Street, Berrien Springs	This week we will photograph some of Berrien Springs's oldest Historical Homes.
WEEK 8 October 18 or 19	FERNWOOD BOTANIC GARDENS – at your preferred class time
Fernwood Botanical Gardens 13988 Range Line Road, Berrien Springs	This week we will visit Fernwood Botanical Gardens to tour this historic garden, hear some of its fascinating stories and see its spectacular fall display.

YOUR PROJECT

Talk to your instructor for project ideas – there are plenty in photography!

ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Jan Sigvartsen PhD has taught Archaeology and Ancient Religion classes at Andrews University, Michigan, and the Theologische Hochschule Friedensau, Germany, where he was also their PhD Programs Coordinator and Associate Director of their Institute of Biblical Studies and Archaeology. He has participated in archeological digs in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the United States. A lot of archaeology involves carefully photographing artifacts and building remains for posterity and historical records.

Dr Jan has traveled to every continent, except Antarctica (it's on his bucket list), photographing historical sites, cultural sites, and the modern people who inhabit the areas in and around them. He exceeds the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Archaeology*, as stipulated in the Code of Federal Regulations, 36 CFR Part 61 (see: <https://www.nps.gov/articles/sec-standards-prof-quals.htm>).

Leanne Sigvartsen trained as a psychologist in Australia and spent many years as a counselor and academic advisor for teens and young adults. She currently works with the Chicago-based *Center for Collaborative Study for Trauma, Health Equity, and Neurobiology*. She is a triple citizen of the United States, Australia, and Malta, and has lived in the United States, Australia, and Germany. She has a passion for photographing castles, cathedrals, and cottages – not just to capture their beauty, but also the historic and fascinating lives of the people who lived in them.