The Joseph C. Brown Memorial Dedication was a Public Relations project that The Missouri Society of Professional Surveyors (MSPS), The Saint Louis Chapter of MSPS and The Friends of Bellefontaine Cemetery in the early parts of 2015 with monthly planning meetings starting in February and ending with the Dedication Ceremony on October 17th of 2015.

Here are a couple of YouTube links that will show the program highlights and the monument itself. Please view both links for each link portrays a little something different that the public will be able to enjoy for a long time.  https://youtu.be/Umr2tB2KJxc  https://youtu.be/PX2MW2P0Ykc

Our target audience was the Citizens of Missouri, the Engineering and Land Surveying Community in Missouri and nearly anyone whose property is affected by the running of the Fifth Principal Meriden, namely the States of Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota and part of South Dakota. We rose over $30,000.00 dollars to purchase the monument and provide a dedication ceremony and reception after with refreshments. As a result of the dedication Joseph C. Brown will be added to a Who’s Who of St. Louis tour of the Cemetery offered by Bellefontaine year around. He will join the likes of William Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition west of the Mississippi and the family of Robert Myers, Missouri’s first State Land Surveyor.

Surveying Content of this project starts with the History of the running of the Fifth Principal Meridian. Joseph C. Brown ran the Baseline for the Fifth Principal Meridian and November 10th marked the 200th anniversary of the setting of the initial point of the Fifth Principal Meridian. There was tons of research performed on Joseph C. Brown the Surveyor, which included many of his surveys in the area of St. Louis as well as the running of the southern boundary, western boundary and the beginning of the northern boundary of Missouri. The Osage Treaty and the Santa Fe Trail are among some of the other surveys researched for this project.

Creativity involves putting together a cast of re-enactors to portray William Clark, and a survey crew using tools of the times to reenact the running of the Baseline while William Clark talked about the man Joseph C. Brown (See the YouTube Links).

I hope you find the videos as entertaining as the original program was.

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