

HISTORIAN RESTORES A MARKER

*Florence Mills
1895-1927
One of the great
entertainers of
the Harlem
Renaissance
buried in the
Arbutus
Plot.*

James Hanson, a historian from Columbus, Ohio, contacted the Friends of Woodlawn to obtain information about Fred Nye, a journalist who was struck by a streetcar in Harlem in 1907. Nye was in pursuit of a story about Harlem's first race riot when he was killed. He was the editor of Joseph Pulitzer's Sunday World, and at the height of his career as a newspaper editor.

Nye was buried in the Hillside Plot of the cemetery and his grave was marked by a granite cross. The cross had toppled over and Nye's widow Minnie (who is buried beside him) made no provisions for care of the lot and monument. Hanson, concerned about the condition of the gravesite, donated the funds to reset and clean the marker. Woodlawn's workers restored the marker and cleaned the lot.

After the work was finished, Hanson was not completely satisfied with the site because there is no headstone for one of the main subjects of his book on the history of the Nye Family. Mr. Hanson is contributing the funds to put a marker on the

grave of Fred Nye that matches the memorial to his wife Minnie. The new marker will be set in the spring and thanks to James Hanson, those who visit the Hillside Plot will be able to pay their respects to newspaper editor Fred Nye.

Symphony Society in 1878 and introduced German opera at the Metropolitan.

Her search for information took her to the special collections of different libraries and resulted in her finding information about the dedication of the Damrosch memorial and the symbolism behind the statue.

Ms. Coriano's research will help us to develop our Great Entertainers Walking Tour and also provide us with documentation to support our grant applications.

The Friends of Woodlawn needs more researchers like Katherine Coriano because volunteers can really make a difference.

