S-167 19th & 20th Centuries
Upper Hill Survey District
Upper Fairmount vicinity
Public

Centrally located on the Fairmount peninsula, Upper Hill is one of the few black communities in Somerset County that can trace its history to the early nineteenth century. By the time the Somerset County atlas was published in 1887, Upper Hill--originally known as Upper Freetown--included two dozen dwellings clustered around a Methodist church. The character of the community remains much the same today, with modest late nineteenth and twentieth century dwellings surrounding St. Andrew's M.E. Church.

Although a Methodist church was located near this site at least as early as 1877, the datestone on St. Andrew's reads, "St. Andrews M.E. Church, 1908, rebuilt July 30, 1923." The L-shaped frame church is supported by a rusticated concrete block foundation and is distinguished by a corner entrance tower. Pointed arch windows pierce each side.