

ABSTRACT

From Wickham to Wickham : The Evolution of the Barbadian Short Story, 1930 - 1965

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This Thesis attempts a very broad-based description of the Barbadian short story between 1930 and 1965. The general aim is to give a sense of the evolution of the short story in terms of its language, structure and themes. Other related aims include the description of the social context in which the stories were produced, the highlighting of contributions made by significant writers and the provision of a basic **critical** history of three important, but not widely known, periodicals of the 1930's and 1940's - **The Outlook**, **The Forum** and **The Weymouth**.

A sample of over two hundred stories has been used, with detailed reference made to approximately half of them. The general trends identified (for instance the growth in social consciousness, the widening of the limits of the short story and the increasing authenticity in the use of the dialect) are common to the other islands over the same period. It is hoped that this work fills a small gap in the on-going documentation and critical review of the history of the West Indian short story.