

Barnett's Park from Terrace Hill

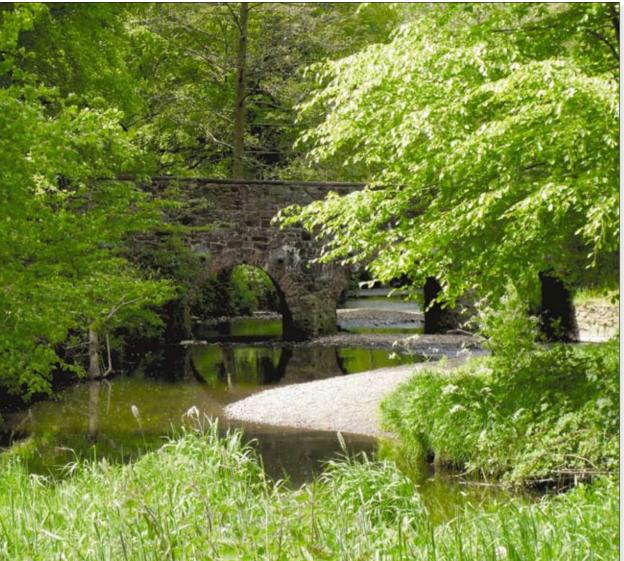
built; when there were several rings probably of wooden posts, around it. Other finds nearby indicate the area, Ballynahatty townland, was a centre for ritual activity at that time. You can walk round the top of the ring and get an impressive panorama of the Belfast Hills and surrounding countryside, possibly following in the footsteps of stone age people as they gathered to watch whatever took place below.

There is another gap at the far side of the Ring bringing you out through the car park; when you come to the road cross and walk to the left a bit looking

out for a stile into a field, known as the Sandpit Field. I think the trail route just goes this way to take you off the road, the main feature is a big scoop in the land made by glaciation. You circle round the dips near the hedge, locating the next stile in the mud to come back out onto the same road a bit further along. On the other side of the road proceed through two gates and up an old tarmac drive on to Terrace Hill for a look at the rose gardens and the view over to grand Malone House, it's worth it even in winter. At one time Edward Robinson of Robinson and Cleaver owned Terrace Hill House, which is not open to the public, and the garden was part of his estate.

There are lots of carved wooden sculptures around this area, backtrack slightly and take the path near the one like a totem pole, down through the woods. The path forks and the right-hand branch leads near a pond with more sculptures (including one which to my eye looks like a bear





Minnowburn bridge