

Part 1

*Modelling Iron Age and
Romano-British Settlement*

In this first section two articles deal with a variety of theoretical approaches and models for understanding late prehistoric settlement and the transition to being part of the Roman Empire. In the first paper Michael Nevell uses eco-deterministic models to show that large parts of the region were agriculturally marginal at different times. These models also suggest a rise in settlement activity beginning a century before the arrival of the Roman army, but markedly increasing thereafter. In the second paper Keith Matthews uses anthropological parallels and models to suggest a hierarchical pattern of settlement in the Roman period of a type familiar from many parts of Britain and the Empire. He also argues against the region being marginal, at least in the economic sense.