



Brigantia

ANCIENT STORIES IN STONE



Read through the story below about the goddess Brigantia, and fill in the gaps with the words below.

Britannia

goddess

worshipped

tribes

Roman

protection

Latin

thank you

shield

Before the Roman conquest, Britannia was ruled by lots of different . The Brigantes were the largest tribe in . Their territory stretched across most of Northern England and the Pennines. All the information we have about the different tribes in Britannia comes from writers. The ancient Roman geographer Ptolemy describes the land belonging to the Brigantes as stretching 'from sea to sea'. The of the Brigantes was called Brigantia, a Celtic name meaning 'high'.

8 altars have been found written in to the goddess Brigantia, telling us that the Romans were new gods and goddesses from Britannia as well as those they had brought from Rome. Sometimes Brigantia is linked with Minerva, the Roman goddess of war. A statue of Brigantia shows her as a war-like goddess, with a spear, , helmet and special cloak called an aegis. Soldiers might set up an altar to ask for her or to say for helping them.

