


<p>Chapter 4</p> <p>Political Nature of Exploration</p> <p>Public Relations</p> <p>Nature of Prior Explorations</p> <p>Bingham's Theory of Incan Criminals</p> <p>Route</p>	<p>Elihu Root appointed Bingham an official delegate to the Pan American Scientific Conference. The President of Peru was interested in Bingham's trip to Choquequirao.</p> <p>Rains, the Apurímac river, and the steepness of the mountains prevented many gold diggers from visiting Choquequirao. Prefect Núñez used Bingham's visit as an excuse to push for further exploration. He even provided a military escort and as the group moved toward Choquequirao arranged accommodations, banquets, and used the telegraph so others could track the groups' progress.</p> <p>Prior explorations: Count de Sartiges (1834), José María Tejada (1861) ; Pio Mogrovejo (1885)</p> <p>"The only metal articles that had been found were several ancient bronze shawl-pins and a small crowbar." (Kindle Locations 1992-1993).</p> <p>Like guano and stones, bridge construction depended upon Incan access to jungle liana vines.</p> <p>Bingham was not professionally trained as an anthropologist; he read the Royal Geographical Society's manual which guided him in careful measurements.</p> <p>"On the north side of the plaza is a curious little structure built with the utmost care and containing many niches and nooks. It may possibly have been the place in which <b>criminals</b>, destined to be thrown over the precipice, according to the laws of the Incas, awaited their doom." (Kindle Locations 2231-2233).</p> <p>Route: Sacsayhuamán, Plains of Anta, Limatambo, Tablachaca, Curahuasi,</p>	 <p>Elihu Root (1845-1937) was the Secretary of State and an American lawyer and statesman awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1912. He held high-level appointed government positions and ran a private-sector legal practice.</p> <p>The First Pan-American Scientific Congress was held in 1908; it was the first scientific congress in which representatives from all of the American Republics were present and suggested the possibility of an All-American Congress to the United States.</p> <p>Choquequirao seemed to offer little to gold diggers.</p> <p>In that day, the equivalent of PR campaign.</p> <p>This contrasts with the value his measurements in archiving the ruins.</p>
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Bingham's trip to Choquequirao was not planned by the historian, but rather motivated by local and international politics that at the time were favoring multi-national scientific exploration. His trek highlighted the importance of Incan bridges, public relations, and careful scientific measurement.