Abduction

Arguments are of three kinds, Deduction, Induction, and what I call Abduction
[—] If the conclusion is adopted, simply because it suggests itself as a possible
fact which, if true, would necessitate ascertained facts, the Argument is
Abductive. [—] It will be remarked that in the case of Abduction the only way in
which the facts presented in the argument are any sign of the fact inferred is
that they are an Icon [...] of it.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1902). Minute Logic: Chapter I. Intended Characters of this
Treatise. MS [R] 425.

References: MS [R] 425:120-122

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