Term: Ground

Quote: The sign stands for something, its *object*. It stands for that object, not in all respects, but in reference to a sort of idea, which I have sometimes called the *ground* of the representamen. “Idea” is here to be understood in a sort of Platonic sense, very familiar in everyday talk; I mean in that sense in which we say that one man catches another man’s idea, in which we say that when a man recalls what he was thinking of at some previous time, he recalls the same idea, and in which when a man continues to think anything, say for a tenth of a second, in so far as the thought continues to agree with itself during that time, that is to have a *like* content, it is the same idea, and is not at each instant of the interval a new idea.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1897 [c.]). *On Signs* [*R*]. MS [*R*] 798.

References: CP 2.228

Date of Quote: 1897 [c.]

URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-signs-r-10