Symbol

... I had observed that the most frequently useful division of signs is by trichotomy into firstly Likenesses, or, as I prefer to say, Icons, which serve to represent their objects only in so far as they resemble them in themselves; secondly, Indices, which represent their objects independently of any resemblance to them, only by virtue of real connections with them, and thirdly Symbols, which represent their objects, independently alike of any resemblance or any real connection, because dispositions or factitious habits of their interpreters insure their being so understood.

Source: Peirce, C. S. (1911 [c.]). A Sketch of Logical Critics. MS [R] 675.
References: EP 2:460-461
Date of Quote: 1909
URL: http://www.commens.org/dictionary/entry/quote-sketch-logical-critics-6