## Construction 7: Book I, Proposition 12

To a given infinite straight line, from a given point which is not on it, to draw a perpendicular straight line.

I.12:3. Let $A B$ be the given infinite straight line, and $C$ the given point which is not on it;

## C

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A
B
I.12:9. For let a point D be taken at random on the other side of the straight line $A B$,
I.12:11. and with centre C and distance CD let the circle EFG be described; [Post. 3]

I.12:14. let the straight line EG be bisected at H, [I.10]

GOSUB I.10. Relabel EG as ab. I.10:4. Let the equilateral triangle abc be constructed on it, [I.1]

GOSUB I.1.
I.1:7. With centre a and distance ab let the circle bcd be described; [Post.3]

I.1:10. again, with centre $b$ and distance ba let the circle ace be described; [Post.3]

I.1:13. and from the point c , in which the circles cut one another, to the points $a, b$ let the straight line ea, cb be joined. [Post. 1.]


Return to I. 10 at line 4. I.10:6 and let the angle acb be bisected by the straight line cd; [I.9]

## GOSUB I.9.


I.9:8. let cf be joined.

Here, e, f are the two points in which the circles cut one another.

RETURN to I. 10.

I.10:8. I say that the line ab has been bisected at the point $d$.

This is the point at which the line in step 5 cuts the line AB . We relabel this point H . Cleanup. I.1:10. again, with centre $b$ and distance ba let the circle ace be described; [Post.3]
.12:16. and let the straight lines CG, CH, CE be joined. [Post. 1]

Actually, only CH is needed.

I.12:17. I say that CH has been drawn perpendicular to the given infinite straight line $A B$ from the given point C which is not on it.
Q.E.F.


