Contents

Preface	vii
Introduction (H. S. M. Coxeter)	xiii
Chapter 1 First Things	1
The Origin of Deductive Geometry	1
Material Axiomatic Systems	5
Logic	7
Proofs	12
A Simple Example of a Material Axiomatic System	15
Exercises	19
Notes	19
Chapter 2 Euclidean Geometry	22
How Big Is a Point?	23
Euclid's Primitive Terms	30
Euclid's Defined Terms (Part 1)	33
"Sufficient for Each Day Is the Rigor Thereof"	35
Euclid's Defined Terms (Part 2)	38
Euclid's Axioms	39
Theorems Proven Without Postulate 5	44
Theorems Proven With Postulate 5	86
Index to Euclidean Geometry	97
Exercises	99
Notes	102
Chapter 3 Geometry and the Diamond Theory of Truth	106
Kant's Distinctions	107
Synthetic A Priori Statements	110
Geometry as Synthetic A Priori	111
Kant's Doctrine of Space	113
The Diamond Theory of Truth	114
Notes	116

Chapter 4 The Problem With Postulate 5 118
Poseidonios 119
Proof of Postulate 5, After Poseidonios 121
Metageometry 122
Evaluation of Poseidonios' Reorganization 123
Overview of Later Attempts 126
So Near 131
An Experimental Test of Postulate 5 147
Exercises 150
Notes 153

Chapter 5 The Possibility of Non-Euclidean Geometry 154
The Logical Possibility of Non-Euclidean Geometry 155
The Founders of Non-Euclidean Geometry 157
The Psychological Impossibility of Non-Euclidean Geometry 159
Formal Axiomatic Systems 162
A Simple Example of a Formal Axiomatic System 164
How to Not Let the Pictures Bother You 168
Exercise 172
Notes 172

Chapter 6 Hyperbolic Geometry 173
Hyperbolic Geometry (Part 1) 177
Reconciliation With Common Sense 207
Hyperbolic Geometry (Part 2) 209
Glimpses 218
Exercises 229
Notes 230

Chapter 7 Consistency 232
Models 233
Poincaré's Model 235
Can We Be Sure Euclidean Geometry Is Consistent? 244
Notes 247

Chapter 8 Geometry and the Story Theory of Truth 248
Kant Revisited 248
The Luneburg–Blank Theory of Visual Space 251
The Diamond Theory in Decline 255
The Story Theory of Truth 256
Notes 259

Bibliography 261
Index 263