



## **The history of research in the Breuil Valley (Valaisan and Subbriançonnais Units) and its bearing on the comprehension of the Western Alps**

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The Valaisan and Subbriançonnais Units crop out in the external part of the metamorphic domain of the Western Alps. The history of the geological research in the Breuil Valley (Aosta, Italy) is rich of groundbreaking discoveries that contributed to shape our interpretation of lithostratigraphy and structures of the whole Western Alps.

In this poster, I use famous outcrops to illustrate the progress of the geological research in the region. First, I describe Mesozoic high-pressure fossils, discovered by Franchi (1899). Then, I illustrate the debate for the definition of the lithostratigraphy, through the studies of Antoine (1971) and Masson et al. (2008). These works have been the basis for all subsequent structural studies (Fügenshuh et al., 1999, Beltrando et al., 2012) of the high-pressure rocks of the region (Loubat, 1968, Cannic et al., 1996). Finally, I will recall historical comparisons with Apennines analogues and with modern environments (Elter & Elter, 1965 and Loubat, 1984) and I will conclude with their bearing on the modern interpretation of the Western Alps "nappe" stack (Beltrando et al., 2012).

This poster is dedicated to the memory of Marco Beltrando.

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