

John Finley: Tornado Genius

John Park Finley was the first person to closely study tornadoes. At the time, most people believed tornadoes were rare. But Finley understood that they were all too common in some parts of America, and a big threat to the people living there.

He urged all people in tornado-prone areas to build "tornado caves," underground shelters to protect from tornado winds.

He also argued that weather forecasters should send out tornado warnings when violent thunderstorms were likely.

At the time, many people believed Finley was exaggerating the dangers of tornadoes. His work was ignored, and then mostly forgotten.

But guess what? He was right all along.



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John Finley was one of the first U.S. weather forecasters.

