

Stevens Street, S.W.

236 Stevens S.W. Keeler Die Cast. The Keeler family built this sister factory to Keeler Brass in 1951, and it became a nationally recognized leader in the production of zinc die casting, with more than 50 die casting machines ranging from 40 to 800 tons. For many years, the company worked on decorative hardware used by Keeler Brass, but the latter firm decided to move that work to China around 2000. For several years, Keeler Die Cast was the largest manufacturer of decorative hardware for the residential and contract office furniture industries, marketing about 15,000 hardware items. Keeler Die Cast was sold in 1979 and eventually acquired by multinational holding company FKI Group, based in the United Kingdom. On Friday, January 20, 2004, the 120 workers were told the plant would close its doors on May 27, 2004.