

Early day trading posts in the Inola country were the Chambers Store to the northwest on the Verdigris River, Walkley Store and Inn up on Panther Creek, and a store to the west on the other side of the river at Foxtail Ford.

When the Missouri-Pacific Railroad came through in 1888 the little prairie towns of Inola, Neodesha, and Tiawah had their beginnings in this part of the Coo-wee-scoo-wee District, which later became the southern part of Rogers County. This was almost all cattle country, and very little farming was done up on the prairie. When hay baling came into practice, the Inola country was foremost in the production of baled hay, and shipment of hay from the Inola rail yard was a big activity in the summer. Hay production is still a big factor in the Inola country economy.

The first store to be established in Inola was by W. W. Hubbard in 1889. The Inola, Ind. Terr. post office was established late in 1889. About the same time John Crutchfield established his country store in town. From then on the little town grew to its present size and importance. During the town's history they have experienced depressions, hard times, droughts, prairie fires, and storms, but they have taken these things in stride and continued their way of life.

The famous Texas Trail, the first main road north-south across Indian Territory, came from the northeast and passed by Inola on its way to the Foxtail Ford on the Verdigris River, and on toward Texas.

Although Inola was just inside the Creek Nation boundary, there does not seem to be any record of any Creek Indian having lived in that immediate area. However, just a few miles to the west and southwest many Creeks have lived on the Verdigris and some can still be found making their homes there. Perhaps the nearest Creek settlements of early days were those at Springtown and Oxbow on the west side of the River. Some of those early day Creek Indian families that lived there included