WHERE ARE THE ELMS OF ELM SWAMP?

Gone, but not forgotten.
Historic photos show us that there was once a healthy stand of elm trees in this marsh. In the middle of the 20th century, Dutch Elm Disease swept through the United States killing off most of the stately American Elms. The trees in Elm Swamp were no exception.

The spread of Dutch Elm Disease made its way across the United States beginning in the 1930's. The disease is caused by a fungus, called Ophiostoma, which is carried by a bark beetle. This fungus eats away at the leaves of the tree and slowly kills it. Native American Elms are now a rare sight because they have been devastated by this outbreak. In 1979, Derick Webb had to cut down the last of these beautiful trees in Elm Swamp.

Golf Anyone?
Historic photos also show us that this area was once managed for hay between the elm trees. A golf course, used by the Webb family, was once a feature that bordered the swamp. In fact, part of this site was excavated to create a golf green, altering the landscape and creating the distinct circular wet area that you may see to this day.