The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Victoria purchased a plot in the Swan Lake area in 1891 and could not use it as a cemetery because of opposition from nearby farmers. The precise location was unknown until Dr. David Chuanyan Lai, Professor of Geography at the University of Victoria, developed an auspicious Feng Shui model to locate the site on the southern slope of Christmas Hill (formerly Lake Hill).

The site is flanked on the east by Lake Hill (the Green Dragon) and on the west by a lower ridge (the White Tiger). It is a vitalizing spot backed by Christmas Hill (the Pillow Mountain) and faces a hillock (the Desk Mountain) and an expansive plain (the Grand Hall). Swan Creek and Blenkinsop Creek form a symbolic belt of wealth linked by Swan Lake (the Luminous Pearl). Tolmie Peak (the Worshipping Mountain) in the distance completes the circle of hills around the site.

This location is a significant historical site in Saanich because it is the first auspicious Feng Shui site identified by the Chinese in Canada.

Feng Shui, literally “Wind and Water,” is an ancient Chinese belief of living in harmony with Nature.