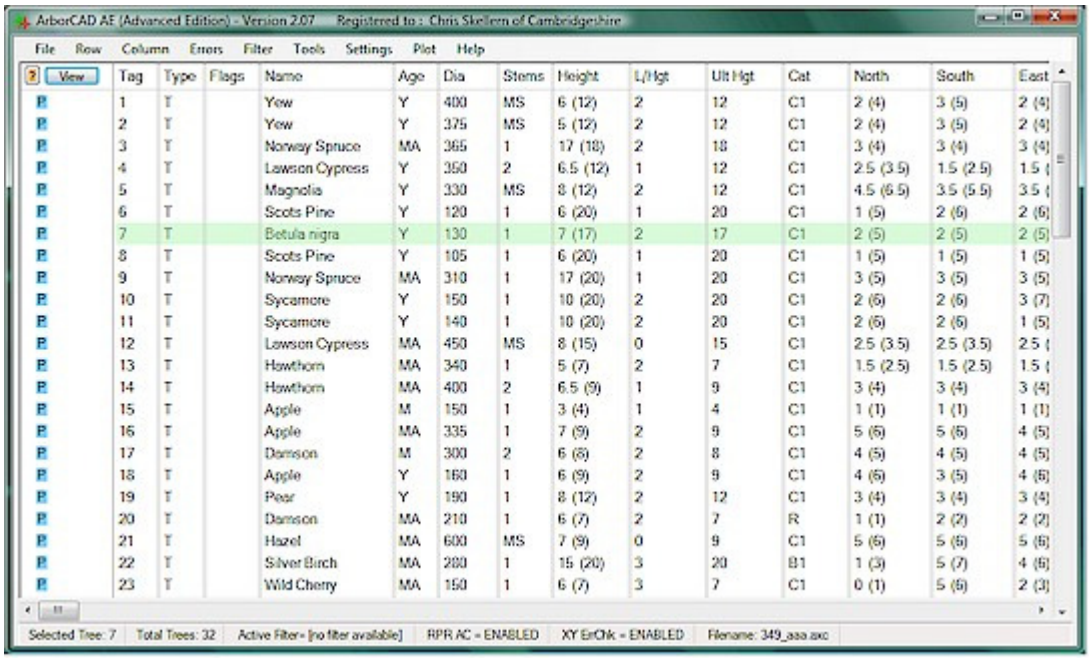
ArborCAD Software Overview

ArborCAD is rapidly becoming a very popular program for drawing tree survey data onto AutoCAD drawings. It is a time saving CAD drawing program, which will very quickly pay for itself.

ArborCAD allows you to enter tree data directly and build up a schedule but is also intended to import a complete tree survey schedule list from Excel, Word, Notepad etc. The list is then error checked, formatted and made available for drawing to AutoCAD. *It can also be exported for use in Excel, Word etc.*



Screen shot showing a typical survey listing within AE

To draw to AutoCAD is simple. First select the drawing elements that you require (such as tree tag, canopy outline, diameter circle etc). Then it's just a simple case of clicking on the AutoCAD drawing where you want each tree to be drawn. ArborCAD will then instantly draw the selected elements onto the drawing, placing each element in its own distinct layer.

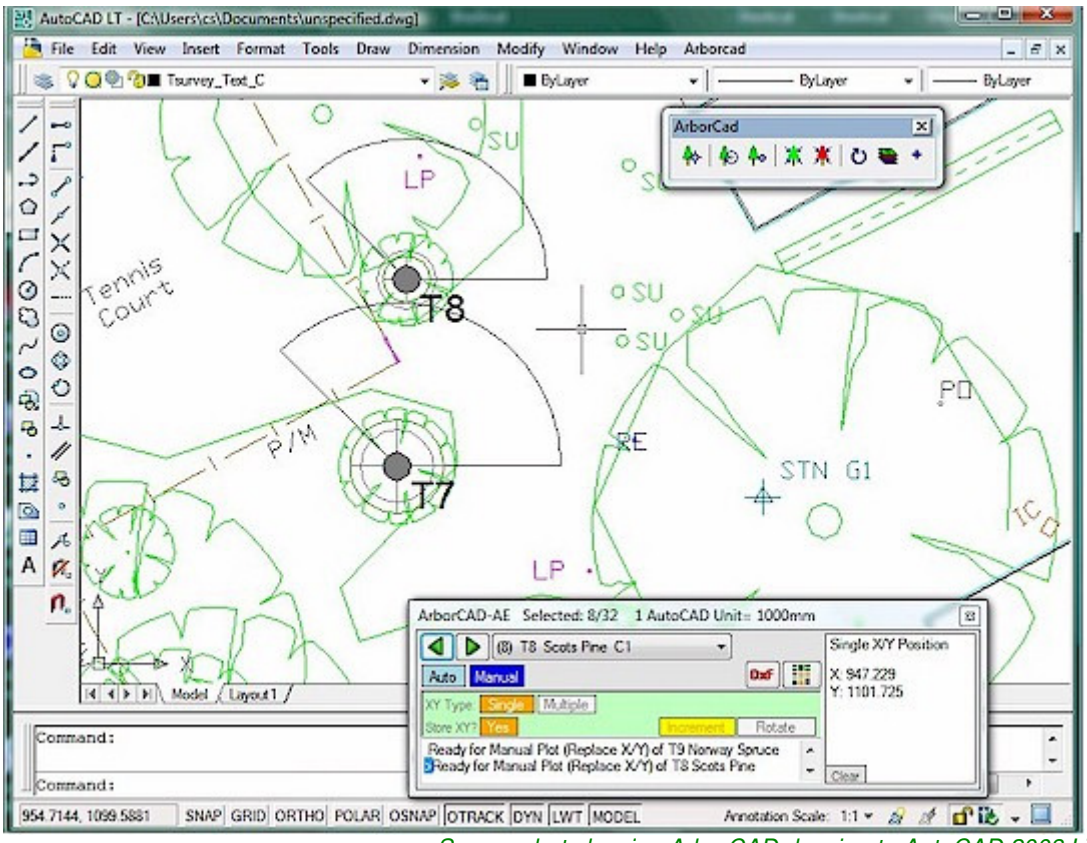
Typical elements for a BS5837 survey would include the BS5837 coloured symbol, the tree canopy, the tree Tag number and the RPA base circle. There are many more items available but the above example is typical.

Remember ArborCAD has your schedule listing so already knows the trees canopy dimensions, the trees diameter, the number of stems, etc so these items are drawn automatically. The RPA is calculated from the diameter & stem count using the BS5837 calculation (but even this can be modified).

Once a tree has been plotted, ArborCAD will read back from AutoCAD the positional co-ordinates of where it was placed. This is stored within the tree schedule against each tree and the whole schedule can be saved. So, should you need to later make changes to the drawing (i.e. increase the size of the

text, or change a colour of something) then you can simply load a fresh CAD and redraw all the trees instantly without needing to plot each one individually again.

If your original survey schedule has CAD drawing co-ordinates already known then these can be imported into ArborCAD with the rest of the data thus enabling you to save more time by again just initiating an instant plot of all trees.



Screen shot showing ArborCAD drawing to AutoCAD 2008 LT

ArborCAD was written by myself Chris Skellern to initially assist me with my own tree surveys and CAD drawing. It was later modified and made available for others to use. ArborCAD can be downloaded and tried out free of charge (see website link below).

Two versions of ArborCAD are available, the standard edition (SE) and the advanced edition (AE). The advanced version has many more features available including tree group drawing, shadow drawing and an RPA merge function.

Please visit the following website for further information, news, screen shots and prices www.chrisskellern.co.uk.