

Choosing the right contractor for your home reno

Homeowners today are busier than ever. From work to family life, things can become overwhelming – not to mention the added stress of going through a renovation. Hiring a general contractor is a great way to help relieve some added stress during the process.

Home building expert Mike Holmes Jr. and the Electrical Safety Authority share tips to ensure you're hiring the right professional for the job.

Know what questions to ask

Working with a contractor can streamline

your renovation. They can help you build out a plan, understand what's within your budget and assemble the best team to tackle the project. To make sure you're hiring the appropriate person for the job, there are some important questions to ask:

- Have you completed a project like this before?
- Could you provide references for similar projects you've completed?
- Can you provide a written estimate for the project?
- Who will do the electrical work?

Do you and your team have valid insurance, and an ECRA/ESA Electrical Contractor Licence?

Do your homework

If your contractor is assembling the team, make sure they are all licensed or certified to work on your home. If you don't think your renovation requires a general contractor and includes electrical work, you need to hire a licensed electrical contractor.

In Ontario, only a licensed electrical contractor with an ECRA/ESA licence number can legally do electrical work for hire. They

understand the Ontario Electrical Safety Code and ensure all electrical components are considered.

Ask for copies of permits and inspections

When the work is complete, make sure you receive all documentation of the permits taken out and an ESA certificate of inspection for the electrical work. You'll need this information for insurance and resale purposes.

Find or verify a licensed electrical contractor at findacontractor.esasafe.com. (NC)

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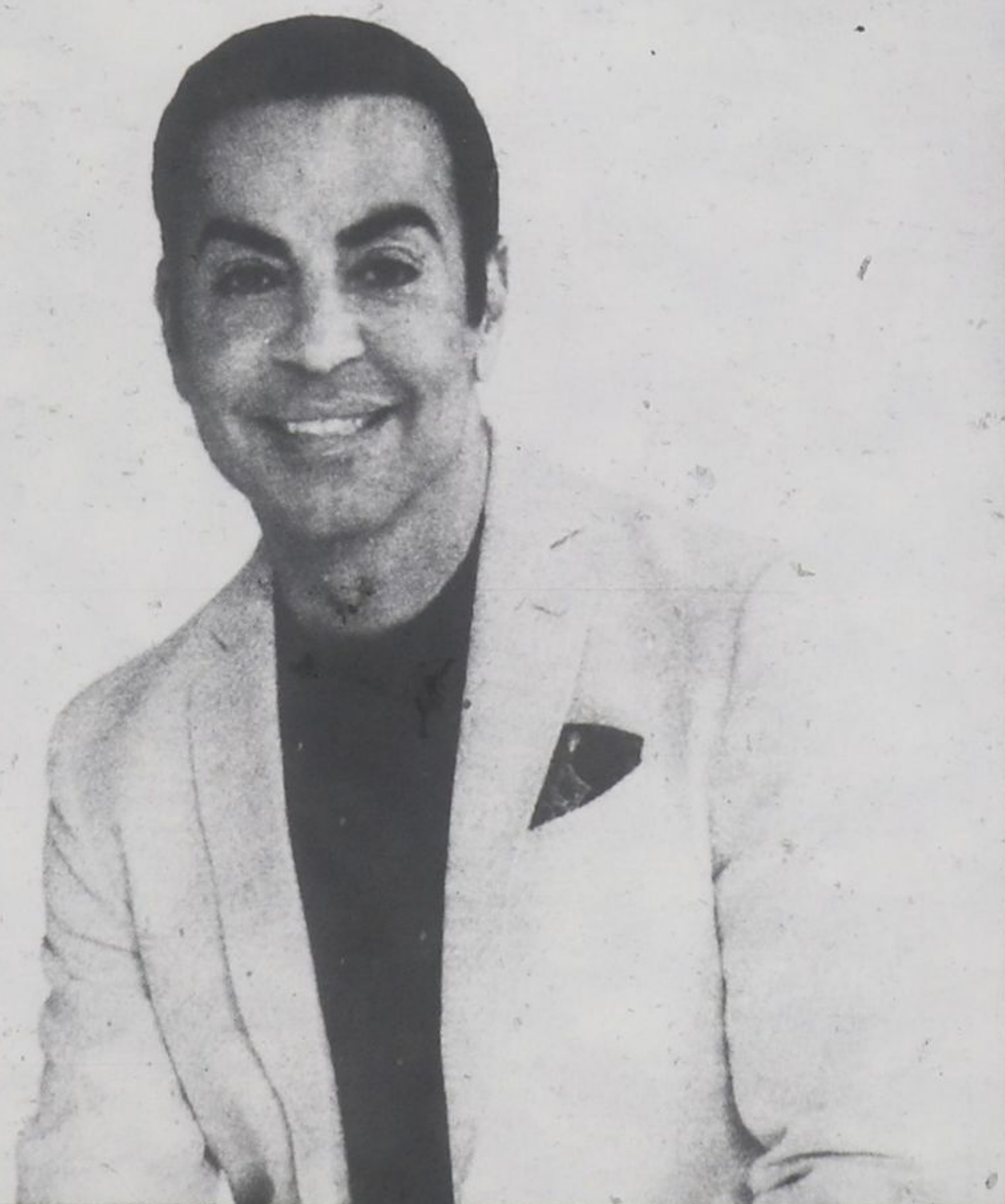
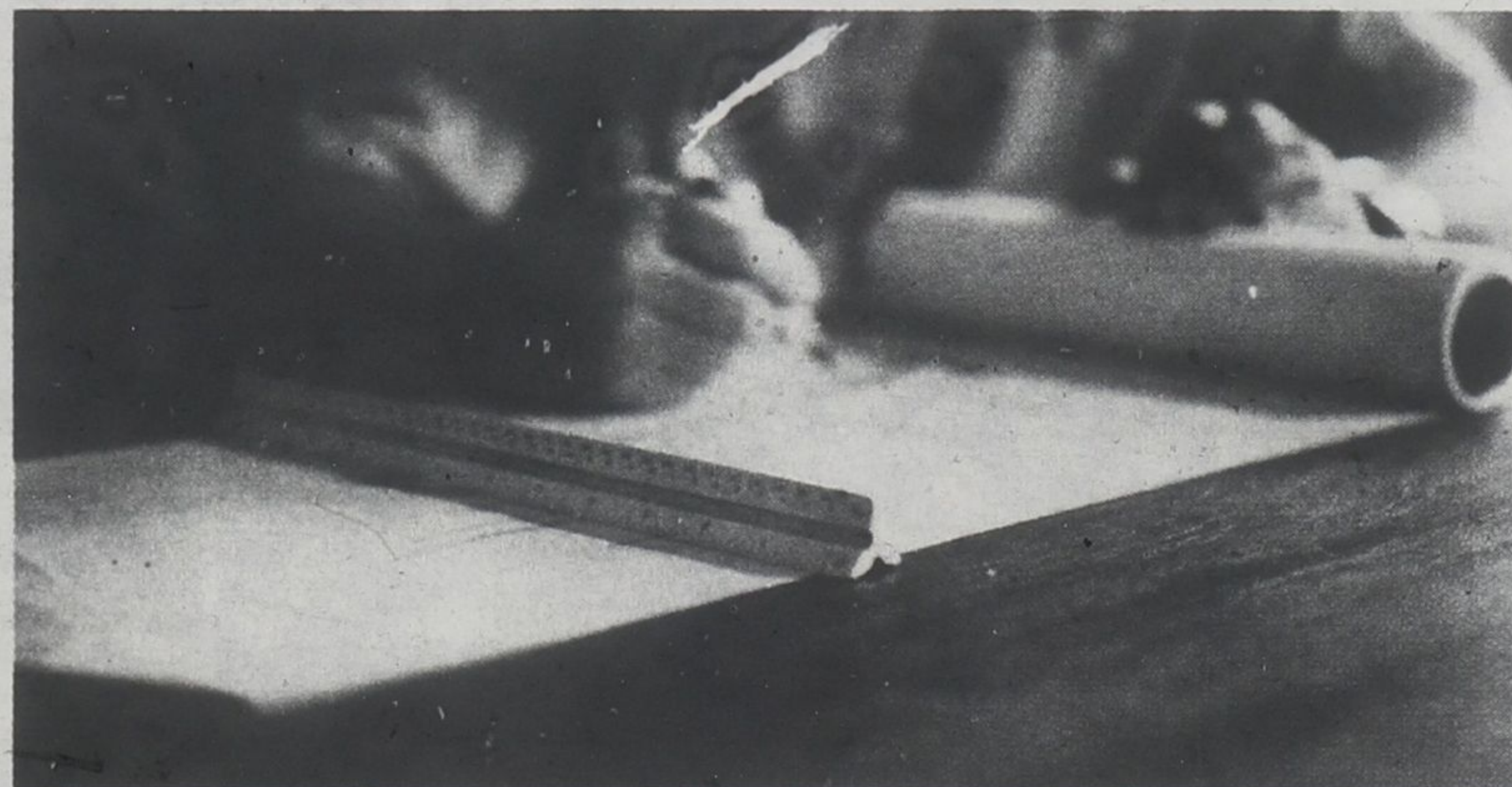
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