Rail icon moves on

HYDRAULIC jacks and trolleys are being used to transport the historic Hornsby signal box to a new location in an operation hailed as an Australian first.

The brick and fibreboard signal box, a landmark on Sydney's northern railway line, weighs 320 tonnes, the equivalent of two jumbo jets.

Authorities have had to move the signal box to a new location just 150m away as it is listed on the State Rail Heritage and Conservation Register.

Hydraulic jacks yesterday successfully lifted the building ahead of its relocation over the next 24 hours.

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