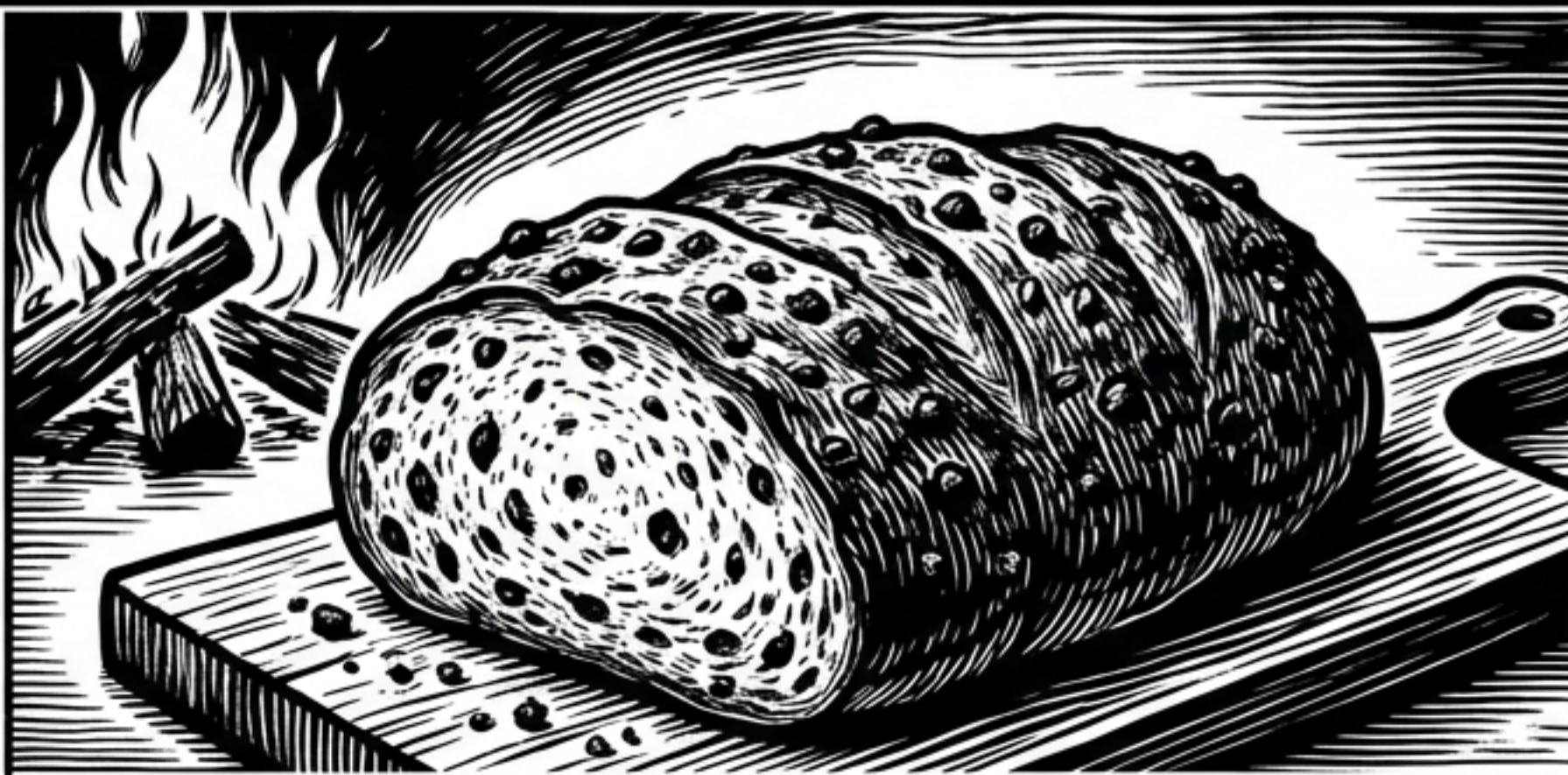




Antimicrobial surface coatings degrade quickly during heat sterilization, whereas additives mixed homogeneously throughout the polymer matrix remain permanent. The exterior decorating phase was brief.